

THE CREATOR-CREATURE CONFLICT
Lesson 463– May 12, 2013

/WELCOME TO BARAH MINISTRIES

Good Morning!

Let's Make a Mental Shift

Good morning! Ephesians, Chapter 1, Verses 3 to 6 say...

/EPH 1:3-4

*Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us (believers in Christ) with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in (union with) Christ, //just as He (God the Father) chose us (to be) in (union with) Him (the Lord Jesus Christ) before the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless before Him (the Father). In (unconditional) love... *

/EPH 1:5-6

*He (God the Father) predestined us to adoption as (adult) sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will, //to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He (God the Father) freely bestowed on us in the Beloved (the Lord Jesus Christ). *

Our God and Father loved us unconditionally even before creation itself... and by a divine plan He gave us a series of spiritual blessings and a life of abundance. Today we come to partake of one of those blessings, the Word of God, which showers our souls with calm and resolve and wonder.

<WHERE IS YOUR SOUL TUNED?>

Bible study is a time of RENEWING, a time to intentionally learn all of the marvelous spiritual blessings we have at our disposal. We're here so...

EPH 4:23

...that you be renewed (by God) in the spirit of your mind...

This time of renewing is a time to let yourself be changed by God. This time of renewing is a time to shift your focus away from your sins that lead to death and toward Christ and His resurrection life. In bible study our knowledge is changed...that renewing changes our thoughts, giving us new thoughts to think...and those new thoughts show up in the form of a manifest Christianity that shines brightly for all to see. Welcome to the

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place where our Mentor and Teacher, God the Holy Spirit, uses His enabling power to prepare you to “in humility receive the Word implanted, which is able to save your souls.”

/MUSIC AND REFLECTION

Be Occupied with the Person of the Lord Jesus Christ

Enjoy the Singing of His Praises

Song for Mama

Boys2Men\

Happy Mother’s Day! As God prepares you for the RENEWING of your mind, let’s hear a tribute to mothers...a SONG FOR MAMA.

/OPENING PRAYER

Let us pray...\

We’re grateful Heavenly Father for the privilege of studying the absolute truth...the Word of God...

Thanks for giving us mothers as the visible manifestation of your unconditional love...bless them and keep them and exalt them, and let their importance ring out in a world that disdains their contribution to the development of the minds and the bodies and the spirits of our children...

We ask this through the power of God the Holy Spirit...in Christ’s name...Amen.

/WELCOME TO BARAH MINISTRIES

Rory Clark

Pastor-Teacher\

Welcome to Barah Ministries. My name is Rory Clark. My spiritual gift is Pastor-Teacher, a gift given to me by God for your benefit, for the building up of God’s Royal Family into a unified force, and to assist you in the development of a deep, intimate and personal relationship with the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. What is a deep, intimate and personal relationship with Christ?

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/A DEEP INTIMATE AND PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD
An individual involvement with God...intended just for you...planned by God in eternity past...a relationship containing the elements of dependence...independence (because you have free will)...and interdependence...a relationship extending far beneath the surface of things...a close, warm, intricate and familiar association suggesting privacy and a connection with the divine.\

/TODAY'S STUDY

Mothers are a Manifestation of Unconditional Love

We continue our study of the CREATOR.

<CREATOR VS. CREATURE CONFLICT 21 C's SLIDE>

Who is the CREATOR? Turn to Hebrews, Chapter 12, Verse 1, which offers us insight...

/HEB 12:1

*Therefore, since we (believers in Christ) have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us (watching us from the Supreme Court of Heaven), let us (believers in Christ) also lay aside every encumbrance (the weights) and the sin (nature) which so easily entangles us (blocking our progress on all sides), and let us run with endurance the race (of our lives) that is set before us... *

Angels in heaven are watching us as lower creatures and are “rubbernecking” to see how we run the race of our lives so they can learn from us...we believers have become a spectacle both to angels and to mankind...we are to be...

/HEB 12:2

...fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

We fixate on the Lord Jesus Christ, our Creator...He is the example we watch for how to live the resurrection life...and when this life seems to be too much to bear, we simply remember all He endured and it edifies our souls and makes our struggle seem not so difficult to bear...Hebrews,

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Chapter 12, Verse 3...

/HEB 12:3

For consider (keep on thinking about) Him (the Lord Jesus Christ) who has endured such hostility by sinners against Himself, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart (fainting in your souls).\

Welcome Royal Family of God to your source of nourishment and your source of stability...a place to remind you to fix your eyes on the example... and to never take your eyes off of the Christ with whom we have much to do. Tick Tock...what time is it on the CREATOR CLOCK?

<CREATOR CLOCK SLIDE no dial>

It's First Corinthians Thirteen O'clock on the Creator Clock! First Corinthians, Chapter 13, Verse 13 says...

/1CO 13:13

But now faith, hope, love, abide (in the sphere of) these three; but the greatest of these is (unconditional) love.\

Our subject is unconditional love and what a great day to discuss it... Mother's Day. Our Lord, Jesus Christ, the author and perfecter of our faith summarized the "seeming" complexity of the Word of God into absolute simplicity in Mark, Chapter 12, Verses 28 to 31...turn there please...

/MAR 12:28

One of the scribes came and heard them (the Pharisees and Sadducees, and other Scribes) arguing, and recognizing that He (the Lord Jesus Christ) had answered them well, (the scribe) asked Him, "What commandment is the foremost of all?"\

This was a request to boil all of Scripture down to one thing...it's a typical legalistic, immature, although well meaning request, to box the law of liberty into something that is easy to do...a box that is easy to check off...

/MAR 12:29

Jesus answered, "The foremost is, 'HEAR (LISTEN), O ISRAEL! THE LORD OUR GOD IS ONE LORD...'"\

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Stop talking so much Israel...Scribes...Pharisees...Sadducees...

/MAR 12:30

“...AND YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND, AND WITH ALL YOUR STRENGTH.”

All in! No toe in the water, check the box spirituality...

/MAR 12:31

“The second is this, ‘YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.’ There is no other commandment (request to free will) greater than these.”

Unconditional love cannot be contained...by summarizing the entirety of Scripture into two requests, the Lord’s simplicity blew the minds of His questioners...they realized that legalism could not contain the depth of the Lord’s unconditional love for His creatures...they realized that the freedom provided by unconditional love calls us all to a standard of living that legalism could never hope to attain. In just a few words, the Lord jettisoned all the attempts of tradition and ascetic sacrifice to obtain the favor of God...and called those who relish legalism to the freedom of absolute truth. Today, many seek to ignore the entirety and the enormity of the Christian Way of Living and to reduce it to its parts. Yet life cannot be ingested in this way. Galatians, Chapter 5, Verses 13 and 14 say...

/GAL 5:13-14

For you were called to freedom, brethren; only do not turn your freedom into an opportunity for the flesh, but through (unconditional) love serve one another.//For the whole (Mosaic) Law is fulfilled in one word, in the statement, “YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.”

What is the one word? LOVE. Unconditional love. If we learn anything from our mothers, we learn unconditional love. Look at Romans, Chapter 13, Verses 8 to 10...

/ROM 13:8

Owe nothing to anyone except to love one another (unconditionally); for he who loves his neighbor (unconditionally) has fulfilled the law.

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/ROM 13:9

For this, “YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT ADULTERY, YOU SHALL NOT MURDER, YOU SHALL NOT STEAL, YOU SHALL NOT COVET,” and if there is any other commandment, it is summed up in this saying, “YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.”

/ROM 13:10

(Unconditional) Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore (unconditional) love is the fulfillment of the law.

Like Christ, many mothers manifest unconditional love. Mothers seldom focus on our deficiencies...our sins...they see us as we could never see ourselves...in a perfected state...this is divine vision embodied in humans. Look at John, Chapter 13, Verses 34 and 35...as the Lord prepared His apostles for His departure to the Cross and to heaven, He instructed them concerning unconditional love...

/JOH 13:34

“A new commandment (request to free will) I give to you, that you love one another (unconditionally), even as I have loved you (unconditionally), that you also love one another (unconditionally).”

/JOH 13:35

“By this (display of unconditional love) all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have (unconditional) love for one another.”

Unconditional love is ALL OVER THE BIBLE! And unconditional love is deep within the hearts of the Mothers of the world. First Corinthians, Chapter 13, Verse 1...

/1CO 13:1

If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but do not have (unconditional) love, I have become a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal.

In other words...if I am in church every day...if I am studying the bible every day...if I am taking notes during every lesson word for word...if I am evangelizing incessantly...if I am praying up a storm...if I am donating every penny of my money...but in all of this I don't have a mother's

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unconditional love toward others, then what? First Corinthians, Chapter 13, Verse 2 says even...

/1CO 13:2

If I have the gift of prophecy, and know all mysteries and (know) all knowledge; and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing.

Yes...without unconditional love I am NOTHING! Why? Because unconditional love is the supreme Christian virtue. It is the absolute reflection of the only God. First Corinthians, Chapter 13, Verse 13...

/1CO 13:13

But now faith, hope, love, abide (in the sphere of) these three; but the greatest of these is (unconditional) love.

There is something that happens to a woman after she has a baby. It's called unconditional love. Take a five-minute break and we'll talk about it.

/BREAK

Voice of Truth

When I Think About Home

Welcome back!

There is something that happens to a woman after she has a baby. She loses her mind. She makes an other-centered commitment that can't even be described. So it is with unconditional love. There is no other love that rivals a mother's love except the love that dogs have for humans. Isaiah asks about a mother's love in Isaiah, Chapter 49, Verse 15...

/ISA 49:15

"Can a woman forget her nursing child and have no compassion on the son of her womb?"

A mother's love is "stupid love" because it is sacrificial love...unconditional love is the love that leaves you feeling like a fool for the sacrifice because it is so total. To be sure there are mothers who do not fulfill the role that was built into them...mothers who do not display this unbelievable form of love

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which often we call maternal instinct...it's almost inconceivable to us when we see mothers who abandon this high calling...this protective love...which makes women crazy enough to think they have to protect their offspring from a father who is performing the normal course of discipline with his children...mothers have an insane love for children...now imagine if this love I describe that mothers have is one billionth of the unconditional love our God has for us...and it is that...just one billionth of the love God has for us...how much, exactly, are you loved by God? Let me repeat that...how much are you loved by God?

As Christians...if we don't understand unconditional love first and foremost in the innermost being of our souls...even if we study the bible in every detail forever...we will never understand a thing. Unconditional love is revolutionary.

There was a moment this week when I sat at my desk, in the silence of the middle of the day, when everyone else was going about their business...and I cried every tear out of my tear ducts. I cried so much that there was not a tear left to cry. The thought that came after the tears, from the depth of me, was the expression of regret to my God...“God I'm sorry that I didn't do it all your way.”

This is the regret I have in this life...I wish I had done everything God's way. I know He doesn't hold this failure against me...but this is my testimony...I wish I had done everything exactly the way He told me to...I wish I was His obedient son in every single matter...because I have a God who would never give me a false instruction or lead me astray in any way...a God who loves everything about me...a God who sees the depth of my depravity yet loves me the same...and never changes toward me...and He gave us Mothers to give us a glimpse of the depth of this unconditional love.

A funny thing...when I am studying a topic, the first thing I like to do is to define it so I have a basic understanding of it. If you notice, I have yet to define unconditional love. Why? It can't be define. The bible doesn't even define it. Yet the bible describes it perfectly...In First John, Chapter 4, Verse 8...

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/The Lord Jesus Christ IS love.

1JO 4:8

The one who does not love (unconditionally) does not know God, for God is (unconditional) love.

Unconditional love cannot be defined...it is a Person...the Lord Jesus Christ.
The Lord Jesus Christ IS love.

Imagine, believers in Christ, that the Lord Jesus Christ was still resident here on earth...imagine that everyone knew where He lived...and imagine that one of His believers, YOU, killed five thousand people at a mall with a machine gun. Reporters would make a beeline to His house to get His opinion on the situation. They would shove microphones at His mouth and ask for His opinion in an attempt to discredit Him and to discredit Christianity. You've seen it before...

/JOH 8:3-4

The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman caught in adultery, and having set her in the center of the court, //they said to Him, “Teacher, this woman has been caught in adultery, in the very act.”

/JOH 8:5-6

“Now in the (Mosaic) Law Moses commanded us to stone such women (to death); what then do You say?” //They were saying this, testing Him (the Lord Jesus Christ), so that they might have grounds for accusing Him.”

What would the Lord say about you, His believer who had just killed 5,000 people? Would He respond like the mother of the Boston Marathon bombing suspects?

/A MOTHER'S LOVE

The mother of the Boston Marathon bombing suspects insisted Thursday that her sons are not responsible for the attack...“America took my kids away from me,” she said. “I’m sure my kids were not involved in anything.” When she said this, 31 marathon victims were still in the hospital, one in critical condition.\

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A mother's love is insane. What would our Lord say about you? He would likely say this...

“It's unfortunate that this has happened. If My believer is found guilty, there are laws in place to handle this situation and to see that the world's justice is done. As for Me, I will not condemn My believer. On a Cross, I paid for all this believers transgressions, and I see this believer as holy, as blameless, as a priest, as a saint, and an ambassador, with absolute righteousness and in union with Me. I will not turn My back on this believer in word or in deed under any circumstance. I have no further comments.”

The Lord Jesus Christ would express the sentiments of Second Timothy, Chapter 2, Verse 13...

/2TI 2:13

If we are faithless, He (the Lord Jesus Christ) remains faithful, for He cannot deny Himself (His own righteousness in us).\

Mothers and dogs are the closest we get to this mind blowing, insane, stupid love that transcends the boundaries of legalistic attempts to describe it. Legalism may teach us about God, but it fails miserably at helping us to know God as a Person and to actually have a relationship with Him. A mother's love helps us to know God, because mothers are a manifestation of God's love.

Thank you God, for giving us mothers, so that we might get to know You for who You really are. Happy Mother's Day to all the Mom's out there, from Barah Ministries and from the Lord Himself.

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/CLOSING SONG

I Am\

CLOSING VERSES

/PHI 1:6

For I am confident of this very thing, that He (God the Father) who began a (divine) good work in (the creation of) you will (keep on) perfect(ing) it until the day of Christ Jesus.

/PSA 37:1-2

Do not fret because of evildoers, Be not envious toward wrongdoers.//For they will wither quickly like the grass And fade like the green herb.

/PHI 4:7

And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard (garrison) your hearts and your minds (for those of you) in (union with) Christ Jesus.

/CLOSING PRAYER

Let us pray...\

THANKS
INTERCESSION
PETITION

And we pray that you continue to shape the messages from this pulpit that are an accurate reflection of your person, your thinking, your work, your reputation and your essence..we ask this through the power of God the Holy Spirit, in Christ's name, Amen.

/Thanks for coming!
Thanks for watching!
Thanks for listening!

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