

THE CREATOR-CREATURE CONFLICT
Lesson 469– May 26, 2013

/WELCOME TO BARAH MINISTRIES

Good Morning!

Let's Make a Mental Shift

Good morning! Mark, Chapter 12, Verses 28 to 31 say...

/MAR 12:28-29

One of the scribes came and heard them (the other scribes and Pharisees and Sadducees) arguing (with Jesus), and recognizing that He (Jesus) had answered them well, asked Him, "What commandment is the foremost of all?"//Jesus answered, "The foremost is, 'HEAR, O ISRAEL! THE LORD OUR GOD IS ONE LORD...'"\

/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.'"\

/MAR 12:31

"The second is this, 'YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.' There is no other commandment greater than these."\

<WHERE IS YOUR SOUL TUNED?>

Bible study is a time of RENEWING, a time to intentionally learn all of the marvelous commands that unlock the spiritual blessings we have at our disposal. Romans, Chapter 12, Verse 2 says...

ROM 12:2

...(keep on) be(ing) transformed by (God in) the RENEWING of your mind...

In this time of renewing, God changes us. He changed us at the moment of salvation once and for all time, and He changes us moment by moment so that we reflect the resurrection life. In bible study...our knowledge is changed... our thoughts are changed...our actions are changed...and our Christianity is manifest, shining brightly for all to see. Welcome to the place where God the Holy Spirit enables you with power to "in humility receive the Word implanted, which is able to save your souls."

THE CREATOR-CREATURE CONFLICT

Lesson 469– May 26, 2013

/MUSIC AND REFLECTION

Be Occupied with the Person of the Lord Jesus Christ

Enjoy the Singing of His Praises

His Strength is Perfect\

As God prepares you for the RENEWING of your mind, let's listen to June Murphy worship our Lord in song...the opening song is HIS STRENGTH IS PERFECT.

/OPENING PRAYER

Let us pray...\

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

Help us to love as you love...

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 the building up of God's Royal Family. We are to recognize the established fact that the body of Christ is in unity, a unified force, in union with Christ and in union with each other forever and ever. I'm here to assist you in the development of a deep, intimate and personal relationship with the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Deep, intimate, and personal relationship demands intimacy, not separation. The doctrine of separation is another one of the spiritual coat hangers that you must discard from your spiritual closet. Whenever we are about to face a situation we don't like, or people that we can't handle, mostly because we are horrible at handling conflict...we invoke the doctrine of separation.

THE CREATOR-CREATURE CONFLICT

Lesson 469– May 26, 2013

Bible verses please? Or should I say, distortion of bible verses please? Our Lord Jesus Christ proved that the Zoe Life could overcome anything... including death...so why wouldn't we use the power of the Zoe Life and the enabling power of God the Holy Spirit in demanding situations? Philippians, Chapter 4, Verse 13...

/PHI 4:13

I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.\

God's will is that we handle tribulation skillfully. John, Chapter 16, Verse 33 says...

/JOH 16:33

"These things I (the Lord Jesus Christ) have spoken to you, so that in (union with) Me, you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world."\

First Peter, Chapter 5, Verse 10 says...

/1PE 5:10

After you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself perfect, confirm, strengthen and establish you.\

The Lord has made us residents of Satan's kingdom...Philippians Chapter 3, Verse 20...

/PHI 3:20

For our citizenship is in heaven...

We cannot escape the influence of the world. Yet we have the means to handle it... Philippians Chapter 2, Verses 14 and 15...

/PHI 2:14-15

*Do all things without grumbling or disputing; //so that you will prove yourselves to be blameless and innocent, children of God above reproach in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you appear as lights in the world... *

THE CREATOR-CREATURE CONFLICT

Lesson 469– May 26, 2013

Our separation from the world means acting out of our citizenship, in the Spirit, through our New Self, instead of acting out of the Old Self and the lusts of the flesh. We are to go into the fires of this life...the fires of relationships...confident that our God will orchestrate our success and that running and hiding like cowards isn't the Christian Way of Life. As Christians, we put our hearts on the line.

/TODAY'S STUDY

Unconditional Love is Commanded and Illustrated in the Word of God

We continue our study of the CREATOR.

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

Who is the CREATOR? The Lord Jesus Christ is the Creator. What time is it on the CREATOR CLOCK?

<CREATOR CLOCK SLIDE>

It's First Corinthians Thirteen O'clock on the Creator Clock as we continue our study of the CREATOR'S essence! 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 study of unconditional love is a focus to relationships. Relationships rest on the platform of unconditional love. In the wedding ceremony, we often hear an expression from the Anglican Book of Common Prayer...we vow a promise of union "until death do us part." What a powerful expression of commitment, and only with unconditional love can we fulfill it.

Unconditional love is three-dimensional. We are to love God unconditionally. We are to love ourselves unconditionally. We are to love others unconditionally. Two of those we may readily embrace...loving God and loving others. But often, the one we have the most trouble loving unconditionally is ourselves. When we can't, we are often focused on what we think of ourselves and on what others think of us, and those perversions

THE CREATOR-CREATURE CONFLICT
Lesson 469– May 26, 2013

of thought distort living as whom we really are...the New Self...we choose instead to live in a false identity...a dead and crucified identity...the Old Self.

<JESUS RIO STATUE caption...Can you see the world as God sees it?>

Yet here's the question...how does God see you? There must be a match between how God sees you and how you see yourself. God loves you unconditionally. Unconditional love has no definition because God IS, in His Person, the very definition of unconditional love...First John, Chapter 4, Verses 7 to 11...

/1JO 4:7-8

Beloved, let us love one another (unconditionally), for (unconditional) love is from (the source of) God; and everyone who loves (unconditionally) is born (again) of God and knows God.//The one who does not love (unconditionally) does not know God, for God is (unconditional) love.

/1JO 4:9

By this the (unconditional) love of God was manifested (made clearly visible) in us, that God has sent His only begotten (uniquely born) Son into the world so that we might live (the Zoe Life) through (our union with) Him.

/1JO 4:10

In this is love, not that we loved God (unconditionally), but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.//Beloved, if (1) God so loved us (unconditionally, and He did), we also ought to love one another (unconditionally).

When we believers in Christ fail at using unconditional love in our relationships we are living in the Old Self Life. We are like the unbelieving spouse of a deceased believer who keeps going to visit his dearly departed at the cemetery. The unbeliever doesn't understand that the believing loved one is not dead...but indeed is face-to face with the Lord. Thus the unbeliever is wasting his time. We are wasting our time when we visit the cemetery of the Old Self Life instead of unwrapping the magnificence of God's gift to us...the New Self Life.

Unconditional love in the New Self Life is described this way...in First

THE CREATOR-CREATURE CONFLICT

Lesson 469– May 26, 2013

Corinthians, Chapter 13, Verses 4 to 7...

/1CO 13:4-5

*(Unconditional) Love is patient, (unconditional) love is kind and is not jealous; (unconditional) love does not brag and is not arrogant, //does not act unbecomingly; it (unconditional love) does not seek its own, is not provoked, does not take into account a wrong suffered... *

/1CO 13:6-7

*...(unconditional love) does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth; //(unconditional love) bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. *

/1CO 13:8

*(Unconditional) Love never fails... *

Now let's be clear on something...let's not get stupid about unconditional love...and a lot of Christians are just plain stupid about unconditional love... these verse do not say that unconditional love means making yourself someone's punching bag...it does not say that unconditional love subjects itself to molestation...it does not say that unconditional love settles for one sided relationships...but unconditional love does say put your heart in the battle.

I see wives, in marriages, work themselves into a frenzy over nothing...and then when they see their husbands calm and focused and working, a wife often believes that her frenzy will go away if she dumps her responsibilities and her frenzy onto her husband...so while he is in the middle of an important task for work, working out of a home office, she dumps an unexpected obligation on him. "Can you drop everything at a moments notice and pick up the kids because I am in a frenzy?" What's implied is, "If you do this, then I will love you more!" We all know that this is not unconditional love. This is self-centered love, the kind that destroys relationships.

Conversely, there is the husband who comes home after a hard day's work, goes right to the couch, and does not think that there is any responsibility to help out with the kids and the household after he gets home from work. Kids need their father, and a wife needs help after being around those

THE CREATOR-CREATURE CONFLICT
Lesson 469– May 26, 2013

Cretans all day, even if that help is just sixty minutes of silence away from them. It is equally self-centered and not unconditional love at all for a husband to pretend that his day ends when work ends.

We are often self-centered in our love...our conditional love is flawed and incomplete and natural (because it comes from our old identity...the Old Self). But unconditional love is a love that comes from our indwelling God, the Holy Spirit, and from our New Self, and it is perfect and complete and quite unnatural.

If we want our relationships to grow, they must grow on the platform of unconditional love, within the sphere of freedom, with the attributes of giving and forgiving being at the center of these relationships.

Take a five-minute break.

/BREAK

Isn't He

When I Think About Home

Welcome back. Turn in your bibles to Luke, Chapter 10, Verse 25...the Lord Jesus Christ illustrates unconditional love with a story...

/LUK 10:25

And a lawyer stood up and put Him (the Lord Jesus Christ) to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?"

Putting Jesus to the test indicates that this man, expert in the law (especially the Mosaic Law) was not asking the question seeking a sincere answer...he was rejecting Jesus...

/LUK 10:26

And He (the Lord Jesus Christ) said to him (the lawyer), "What is written in the (Mosaic) Law? How does it read to you?"

The Lord took the lawyer right onto his own playground...the Law...the Mosaic Law...which we know brings out the sinfulness and the inability of mankind to keep it...

THE CREATOR-CREATURE CONFLICT

Lesson 469– May 26, 2013

/LUK 10:27

And he (the lawyer correctly) answered (from Old Testament Scripture), “YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD (unconditionally) WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR STRENGTH, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND (Deuteronomy 6:5); AND (you shall love) YOUR NEIGHBOR (unconditionally) AS (you love yourself) YOURSELF (unconditionally...Leviticus 19:18).”

/LUK 10:28

And He (the Lord Jesus Christ) said to him (the lawyer), “You have answered correctly; DO THIS AND YOU WILL LIVE.”

Car wreck! The man knew he was not doing this. He had trapped himself with His own questions and the Lord had helped him to see it marvelously. But the man was not willing to admit his shortcomings in these two areas to the Lord.

/LUK 10:29

But wishing to justify himself (because he was not living these commands perfectly), he (the lawyer) said to Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?”

During arguments, I love watching people shift the focus to other issues. Evidently Jesus did, too, because He quickly shifted the conversation to a different, yet related issue.

/LUK 10:30

Jesus replied and said, “A (Jewish) man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among robbers, and they stripped him and beat him, and went away leaving him half dead.”

The road to Jericho was treacherous...3000 feet straight down over about a seventeen miles stretch...well know to be the hangout of hoodlums.

/LUK 10:31

“And by chance a (Jewish Levitical) priest was going down on that road, and when he (the priest) saw him (the wounded man), he (the priest) passed by on the other side.”

THE CREATOR-CREATURE CONFLICT

Lesson 469– May 26, 2013

/LUK 10:32

“Likewise a Levite (a Jew and a priest’s assistant) also, when he came to the place and saw him (the wounded man), passed by on the other side.”

/LUK 10:33

*“But a Samaritan (an enemy of Jews), who was on a journey, came upon him (the wounded man); and when he (the Samaritan) saw him (the wounded man), he felt compassion... *

/LUK 10:34

*...and (the Samaritan) came to him (the wounded man) and bandaged up his wounds, pouring oil and wine on them; and he (the Samaritan) put him (the wounded man) on his own beast, and brought him (the wounded man) to an inn and took care of him. *

The Samaritans were hated by the Jews because they were half-breeds...half Jewish and half Gentile. The hatred between the two is equivalent to the hatred and mistrust between Jews and Arabs today. Or it would be like a black man in the south helping a Ku Klux Klansman who was in full regalia. It just didn’t happen.

/LUK 10:35

“On the next day he (the Samaritan) took out two denarii (two days wage) and gave them to the innkeeper and said, ‘Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, when I return I will repay you.’”

/LUK 10:36

“Which of these three do you think proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell into the robbers’ hands?”

/LUK 10:37

And he (the lawyer) said, “The one who showed mercy toward him.” Then Jesus said to him, “Go and do the same.”

Holy “eek balls” Batman! Unconditional love means giving to those who are in need...and simultaneously to keep yourself out of harms way in the process. The Lord knew this man, an unbeliever, could not do this...nor would he. In Luke, Chapter 6, Verses 27 to 36, our Lord commands us to love unconditionally...

THE CREATOR-CREATURE CONFLICT

Lesson 469– May 26, 2013

/LUK 6:27-28

“But I (the Lord Jesus Christ) say to you who hear, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you//and bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you.”

/LUK 6:29-30

“Whoever hits you on the cheek, offer him the other also; and whoever takes away your coat, do not withhold your shirt from him either.//Give to everyone who asks of you, and whoever takes away what is yours, do not demand it back.”

/LUK 6:31-32

“Treat others the same way you want them to treat you.//If (1) you love those who love you (and of course you do), what credit is that to you? For even sinners (unbelievers) love those who love them.”

/LUK 6:33-34

“If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same.//If you lend to those from whom you expect to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners in order to receive back the same amount.”

/LUK 6:35-36

“But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for He Himself is kind to ungrateful and evil men.//Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.”

When we love as we are commanded to love, unconditionally, our lives will be the illustration. Galatians, Chapter 5, Verses 22 and 23...

/GAL 5:22-23

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, //gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

The Holy Spirit is the one who gives us the victory over our flesh, by giving us His power to help us love unconditionally. Against the fruit of the Spirit...there truly is no Mosaic Law...a formula like legalism has no chance

THE CREATOR-CREATURE CONFLICT

Lesson 469– May 26, 2013

against the Spirit. If we are to love unconditionally, it must come from the heart.

/CLOSING SONG

How Great thou Art \

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!

THE CREATOR-CREATURE CONFLICT
Lesson 469– May 26, 2013

www.barahministries.com