

THE CREATOR-CREATURE CONFLICT
Lesson 486 – April 30, 2013

/Good Morning!

Welcome to Barah Ministries

Let's shift our minds away from the issues of life and focus on the message from God the Holy Spirit because that's what the bible tells us.

In Matthew chapter ten, verse twenty, the Lord says to us...

/MAT 10:20

"For it is not you who speak, but it is the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you\

If you're listening or watching then it must be an accident? You either typed in the wrong domain name or you forgot that Pastor Rory is taking a well-deserved vacation.

I mean seriously you must be a fellow truth junky. If you're tuning in right now then you're truly hungry for the word of God. You must know that God the Holy Spirit is the active voice of the believer. You must know and understand the essence of our God. You must also know that there is only one source of absolute truth...The Bible. Well if you don't know...now you know.

We come to bible study for RENEWING, to allow God the Holy Spirit to guide us by the Truth in the Word of God, so we can know the plan of God the Father, the unconditional love of His Son, and the amazing sacrifice of the uniquely born One, the Lord Jesus Christ on the behalf of all.

We come here because we know we don't have to clean up our sins and work to better ourselves. We know God does all the work from salvation on the cross to the renovation of our soul. Our free will gives us tremendous power and when we decide to be obedient to the plan of God that power becomes divine. The fact that you're watching or listening shows that you want to take full advantage of your union in Christ.

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There is no greater truth in the entire world — God Loves everyone. We read from the Word of God in John chapter 3, verse 16 the following precious words:

/JOH 3:16

“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life\

What a wonderful truth!!! The verse doesn't say that the great heart of God only loves Christians or religious people. The verse doesn't say that God only loves righteous people or churchgoers. The verse doesn't say that God only loves Bible-thumpers. The Word of God is clear that God loves “the world” (and that includes everyone). No matter who you are, God truly loves you.

/1st JOH 2:2

“And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world\

Jesus died on the cross for all humanity, because God loves the whole world. This means that God loves the murderer. This means that God loves the adulterer. This means that God loves the homosexual. This means that God loves the crooked politician and the corrupt banker. This means that God loves the vilest sinner and the worst criminal. This means God even loves you. This means that God even loves Deacon Elliott. Yes, God loves people! God loves all people, of all faiths, and all backgrounds.

He loves each and every one of us with a love that is without condition. He made the ultimate sacrifice so that we could have a relationship with Him. A relationship guided by Unconditional Love. A love that accepts imperfect people. It's a love for all. It's a love that accepts everyone and forgives everything. Three beautiful letters...A.L.L.

The Lord Jesus Christ gave so much to us when He obediently followed God the Father's divine plan.

/COL 1:13-15

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For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, // in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. // He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation\

/COL 1:16-17

For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through Him and for Him. // He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together\

I find a lot of comfort and security in those verses. Especially verse seventeen...in Him all things hold together. The uniquely born One holds all things together. He holds families, friendships, and ministries together. The Lord Jesus Christ holds relationships together and we know from Romans chapter eight verse twenty-eight that He produces our highest and best no matter what.

/ROM 8:28

And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to *His* purpose\

Part of our Lords purpose was for Barah Ministries to have unity. So we had a homecoming last week, our first ever Barah Ministries Homecoming. It was a really cool event. We had two days in a row of biblical workouts with the word of God. Thanks to everyone involved especially Pastor John and Pastor Rory. These two men pour their souls into the study of Truth and we reap the benefits. They have truly gone all in for the Lord Jesus Christ. We had a great homecoming because they work so hard on the behalf of us all.

Wait that's actually not true they didn't work hard for us at all. They didn't work because when you're doing what you love you never work a day in your life. I never thought I'd be quoting Confucius. Their unconditional love for God and for their congregations makes studying and teaching a pleasurable pursuit rather than a burden.

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It was a lot of fun to actually see our royal family who is spread across the United States and around the world. I enjoyed getting to know some of them on a more personal level. I do have one regret though. I wish we had more time. I wish I had more time to talk to more of my real family. I didn't have time to talk with everyone as much as I had hoped. I'm excited for the next homecoming because now I have faces with names and a more personal relationship with my Royal Family. I'm also happy to get more time getting to know my fellow believers in the Lord Jesus Christ.

/MUSIC AND REFLECTION

Be Occupied with the Person of the Lord Jesus Christ
Enjoy the Singing of His Praises\

So let's listen to June Murphy as she reminds us that suffering is part of life but that it is never in vane. She says that when you suffer, suffer for Jesus name, consider it an honor, do not disdain. This song ties back to Romans chapter 8, verse 28 where all things including suffering work together for our good. The song is When You Suffer...

/June Murphy – When You Suffer\

/OPENING PRAYER

Let us pray...\

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

Thank you for another opportunity to speak from my Pastor's pulpit.

Thank you for doing some much work on our behalf so that we can have a relationship with you.

Help us to use your unconditional love with God, others and even ourselves.

I pray that you strengthen those enduring health issues and comfort those dealing with abusive relationships.

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I pray that you push the new man in each of us to step outside of our comfort zone and have real divine impact in our time on earth.

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

/WELCOME TO BARAH MINISTRIES

Deacon Denny Goodall\

Welcome to Barah Ministries. My name is Deacon Denny Goodall. You're listening to lesson four hundred and eighty six of the CREATOR versus CREATURE Conflict series. Welcome to a ministry designed for people who want to develop a deep, intimate and personal relationship with the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Welcome to a place where you can let your guard down and build up your love for God and for everyone in your life.

/Today's Study

Unconditional Love Allows Us to Achieve What Satan Never Could\

My introduction hinted at my main message. You see God is love. He is the source of all love. As I said He loves the whole world and wants us all to have an eternal relationship with Him. Our gracious God knows we're not perfect by any means. He knows we're going to do stupid things each and every day. Yet He remains. We don't ever have to fear because God is waiting right outside the door.

Just as Revelation chapter 3, verse 20 reminds us...

/REV 3:20

'Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and will dine with him, and he with Me\

The basis of life is a relationship with God...whether we like it or not. So the smart option is to open that door.

Relationships in general are hard and can be difficult at times. How about God and Satan? Satan rejected the authority of God and

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attempted to be like God. Or how about God and Adam? Adam was willingly disobedient to God's plan. What was the response of God? God forgave them. He welcomed them back by giving and forgiving.

We have the freedom to take advantage of the work of our CREATOR on our behalf. He volunteered His spiritual life as a sacrifice for anyone that believes. Even though we may reject and deny Him He still has unconditional love for everyone. He wants a relationship with us. God wants us to have an amazing life in time and eternity. We can have an amazing life when we have a relationship with God and can give, forgive, and love without conditions in a free and graceful manner. A relationship with God is the basis of Human life.

Shallow, intermediate, and deep relationships will litter our lives if we are unaware of the unconditional love that is available from God because He is LOVE.

That's not my opinion that's 1 John chapter 4, verse 8...

/1 JOH 4:8

The one who does not love does not know God, for God is love\

Now I don't mean that kind of love where you say sure he's forgiven for drinking out of the milk carton. I mean that kind of love where they do something really hurtful and yet you can still forgive them with grace and freedom. I would wager a lot of money that almost everyone here has had someone...not replace the toilet paper roll...while no one else is home. I mean you fill in the cheeks...I mean the blanks...that's not a happy ending.

But seriously or now I'm joking but can you forgive real abuse, could you pardon an adulterous admission or how about murder...What if someone killed a family member. If you can forgive with grace and freedom then you can love without conditions. Unconditional love is the basis for relationships.

Now if a relationship with God is the basis of life and unconditional love is the basis for relationships. What does that make your focus in life?

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Well for Satan his focus was to be like God. A relationship with God was not on the agenda. He wanted to get rich quick. Well we can do what Satan wanted to do.

Lets take a five-minute break and hear June sing Count It All Joy. This song continues the theme that God works all things together for good. Even things that seem unfixable have a silver lining.

/BREAK

June Murphy – Count It All Joy\

Welcome back. I love that line...Compared to the eternal weight of glory, nothing measures up in this life. That line gives us a glimpse into how much power we really do have.

So back to it...that's right we can do what Satan wanted to do, but was never able to do. Are you thinking...who wants to achieve anything that Satan wanted? Are you thinking that Deacon Denny has finally snapped and is talking crazy? No laughing Elliott. He already thinks I'm crazy.

You see Satan wanted to be God. He thought he could shortcut his way to power and fame. Satan was the first creature to want it all without all the work. Well our God in His perfect sense of humor gives the Church Age believer the means to get rich quick. There is no work necessary on our part. The Lord Jesus Christ finished all the work on the Cross so that all we have to do is believe in Him. We say yes and we win. We say yes and we have what Satan always wanted. We get to see what it's like to be God.

The difference is Satan didn't want to experience any hardships or suffering. He wanted to be a leader that didn't experience rejection, or disrespect. He wanted the easy route to success. Well we have the easy route guaranteed by the substitutionary spiritual death of the Lord Jesus Christ. However God does want us to experience the hardships and pitfalls of life. He wants this because adversity and prosperity teach us what it's really like to be God.

God created Satan and gave him tremendous blessings. I mean if you read Ezekiel chapter 28, verse 13 we get a preview of how God

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blesses His creatures.

/EZE 28:13

"You were in Eden, the garden of God; every precious stone was your covering: The ruby, the topaz and the diamond; the beryl, the onyx and the jasper; the lapis lazuli, the turquoise and the emerald; and the gold, the workmanship of your settings and sockets, Was in you. On the day that you were created they were prepared\

I don't even know what half of that stuff actually looks like but it sounds shiny and expensive. God didn't stop there he put Satan on the mountain of God and let him walk among the stones of fire. I don't know about you but I'm staying put on the mountain of God.

Yet Satan rejected God. Did God get emotional and abandon Satan? Did He kill Satan as He could have? Nope and Nope God forgave him and offered him more if he returned to fellowship with God. God forgave and intended to give in grace and freedom.

Satan rejected the reconciliation offer but he didn't stop there he continues to be a thorn in the side of God.

Now put yourself in God's sandals...what would you do if you found out someone you love had rejected your relationship? What would you do if your spouse admitted she had an affair? Would you forgive like God and then offer more to them if they remained? Would you say hey I know you cheated but I forgive you and how about a new Mercedes Benz? Well that's what God did. If you live unconditional love than you can feel what it's like to be God. Unconditional love allows you to forgive. Unconditional love knows that people are not perfect and will eventually do something stupid to sabotage their relationships.

Romans chapter 7, verse 19 confirms the self-sabotage...

/ROM 7:19

For the good that I want, I do not do, but I practice the very evil that I do not want\

Most people say their first reaction would be to ask for a divorce.

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While their family members pile on a verbally and sometimes physically attack the person. We all know that's not how God who is unconditional love would respond. A marriage can survive this situation if the partners can love without conditions.

We all have feet of clay and will most likely annoy, bother or deeply hurt those people closest to us. The sooner we realize no one is perfect including ourselves the sooner we can live a life of freedom.

So a close friend of mine confided in me that his wife had cheated on him. He was a flood of emotions. (Anger, sadness, shock) I asked him what he did. He told me that he forgave her on the spot. I asked was it because she came clean and was honest? He said no and got choked up. After a short pause he said that's what God would do. I said wow I'm sorry to hear about that but you're display of unconditional love is awesome.

Now my friend's not a real talkative guy but he needed to let someone know of his pain. So I tried to just listen but I had to ask how they where doing now? I got another short pause...then he said she moved out. Now I didn't know what to say but...wow...I'm sorry. He told me she couldn't forgive herself.

Even though God forgave her and as well as her husband she couldn't forgive herself. Isn't that what we do? We struggle to let go of situations or things where we have wronged someone or let them down. Why is it easier to be mean than to be nice?

This story has a happy ending though...my buddy continued that his wife moved out, but only for one night. She stayed at her parents and came home the next day. He told me that their relationship had moved to a whole new level. They were in love again and understood what really matters in life. Relationships with loved ones. The cherished each other more because they stopped focusing on their respective flaws.

As I thought about that my friends situation I couldn't help but think that he knows what real unconditional love is. He knows what it feels like to be God and have someone reject you all while you still love them. But more so God doesn't focus on our flaws either.

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That's why God wants us to experience life. He wants to share everything with us. Just like the Lord Jesus Christ had to endure human life so do we. So we can see through His eyes and know what unconditional love really is.

No matter what happens to you in your life God allowed it and He is always right there with you. Suffering is always followed by a wave of blessings. As long as you stay connected to the vine.

/JOH 15:7

"If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you\

We can be content in all circumstance because the word of God says so in First Peter chapter 1, verses 6 and 7...

/1 PETER 1:6-7

In this you greatly rejoice, even though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been distressed by various trials, so that the proof of your faith, *being* more precious than gold which is perishable, even though tested by fire, may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ\

Our God can turn around a seemingly trying event in the snap of a finger. In the case of my friend...overnight Or how about the thief of the cross next to the Lord Jesus Christ.

All that he wanted was a five-finger discount and he ended up on a cross marked for death. There is no chance he thought there was a way out. However little did he know his way out was hanging right next to him?

In Luke chapter 23, verse 42 and 43 we hear the plea of the thief and the response of TLJC.

/LUK 23:42-43

And he was saying, "Jesus, remember me when You come in Your kingdom!" And He said to him, "Truly I say to you, today you shall be with Me in Paradise."\

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So this is another ostensibly bad situation that ends in paradise. There are so many more as well.

People often say. “Why doesn’t God care?” But the real question is why don’t we care? Why don’t you care? Everybody asks why doesn’t God care when something tough happens in his or her life. But do you care when you see somebody stopped on the side of the road? Do you stop and help? What would you do if you saw someone being harassed in public? Do you stop and help?

God does. God cares for each one of those people do you care? God cared enough to volunteer His spiritual life for us. The uniquely born one was the only perfect payment. He freely, readily and cheerfully substituted His spiritual life so that we could have a life beyond this human life. We say yes to His hard work on our behalf. But do we say yes to hard work on His behalf? As believers we are called to help one another. If you focus on unconditional love and overlook the faults of people you can care for anyone.

I can’t help but think of driving in traffic is the perfect test of unconditional love. I don’t know how it is in Pennsylvania, Texas, or Washington but in Phoenix there are some horrible drivers. We may not want to but we are forced to deal with them. Try some unconditional love instead of the double back flip and I guarantee your drive will be ten times more pleasant.

Calm down Deacon Caleb I wasn’t going to tell them how you drive like an eighty year old. Woops...sorry

So as we listen to the last song by June Murphy remember that we’re all in the same game, just different levels. Dealing with the same hell, just different devils.

This third song reminds us that God will never leave our side and He will lead us to our Destiny.

/CLOSING SONG

June Murphy - Destiny\

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CLOSING VERSES

/PHI 4:11-13

Not that I speak from want, for I have learned to be content in whatever circumstances I am. I know how to get along with humble means, and I also know how to live in prosperity; in any and every circumstance I have learned the secret of being filled and going hungry, both of having abundance and suffering need. I can do all things through Him who strengthens me\

/JAM 4:7-8

Submit therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and He will draw near to you\

/JAM 4:10

Humble yourselves in the presence of the Lord, and He will exalt you\

/2 COR 4:14-15

Knowing that He who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and will present us with you. For all things are for your sakes, so that the grace which is spreading to more and more people may cause the giving of thanks to abound to the glory of God\

So let me close in prayer.

/CLOSING PRAYER

Let us pray...\

Father in Heaven; thank you always giving us what we need.

Thank you for doing all the hard work to allow for the forgiveness of sin.

Thank you for giving and forgiving in grace so that we are free to

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have a relationship with you.

I pray that you help us to live what we have learned and have peace and happiness even in the hardest of times..

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 giving!

Thanks for coming!

Thanks for watching!

Thanks for listening!

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