

## **THEOS LOGOS**

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### **Session 8**

I show to show you the process and the continuing order of Creation. What God is telling us in the fact that He brought beasts to the field and birds of the air unto the man. He is saying that when I commenced my creative activity, the first thing that God created were elements. Let's call it wind and water and soil and rock. The elements of those things. That is the first thing He created, And they were helps. They were love companions with God. And God loved the planets and the moons and the suns and the stars created out of rock and soil with wind and water, environments or atmospheres. And God loved them, and they loved Him back. And there was a relationship between Creator and Creation. And it was good and God liked it. They were helps. God loved the worlds and the planets and the planets loved God back and there was real pleasure and real satisfaction in that, but they were not everything God could ever want or need them to be. So, there was a progression, and God created plant life. That's a progression of creation. And God loved the great trees and the grasses and the flowers. And they were truly love companions with God. God loved the trees and grasses and the bushes and the flowers and they all loved Him back. So, now there is a growing love relationship around the God of Eternity. He has worlds, planets to love and to Him back. And He has fantastic trees and flowers and grasses growing on these elements of the planets and they are loving God back as He loves them. And everything is going great. But alas they were helps and they were better helps than rock and soil and wind and water. But they were still not everything God could need or want them to be. So, God progressed to animals. And, God created animals in His creation. And they were wonderful helps.

And in my Sunday School class, when I can take months to go through this material, I say how many of you have ever loved an African violet? Do you know there was a fad there for a while, every lady had African violets on a shelf with ultra-violet lights and everything and every morning they'd get up and talk and say, come on, how's momma's baby this morning. And talk to the violets. But actually, a human being can have a love relationship with a violet and find satisfaction. But I'm so sure no violet was everything a human being could ever want or need as a love companion.

Then I say, have you ever loved a puppy dog? Yea, wow man, I have. I love dogs. Do you? Do you think a dog is a better love companion than a violet? Um? Scrooge said no.

God created a progressive creation. Elements of the world, fantastic forests, gigantic trees towering into the atmosphere about His planets. And He loved them and He walked among them and He visited them and a marvelous relationship of love between Creator and Creation. But it's as if Oh God sat down on a big rock somewhere and said, man this is better than being alone. These are truly helps for God but they are not meet. They are not good enough. And God contemplated taking an awful risk and decided not to do it. He contemplated a creature in the image of God. Something like Himself. That promise in the wisdom of the mind of God that it would absolutely actually be anything and everything God could ever want or need. And He could have an intimate love relationship that would be totally satisfying to the God of love. But He hesitated.

Up to this point, every act of creation that God has taken has been simply a creature that was programmed by instinct to always necessarily respond to God in love. Up to this point, God has created the elements of the world, wind and soil and rock and water. And God loved them, and they loved Him back. And then God proceeded to something even better than the elements. He created magnificent plants and He loved them, and they loved Him back. And it was marvelous. And God said, I can progress to animated things. Things with emotion. An animal. And so, He created animal life. And He loved them, and they loved Him back. And there's no problem because all of these creatures loved God in response automatically because they had too. They are programmed. When God loves them and immediately, they love Him back.

But God said that's not good enough. What if my mother loved me not because she chose to but because she had to? Suppose my wife loved me not because she chooses to love but because she was compelled by some force or power? What would that be like? What she be everything I need or want her to be as a help meet for me? No. And she is. God knew what He was doing when He designed woman for man. She is literally everything I could ever want or need her to be. It's true.

Up to this point, God loved all of these things and they always loved Him back without exception. But they loved Him back not out a free choice but out of a programmed have to necessity. They were creatures of instinct. Not creatures of will. And God thought about creating something that could love Him back, not because He designed it and created it to automatically respond to Him in love, but because it could choose freely whether it would or not.

I want to give you quick Biblical illustrations of this. As to the elements, Jesus was asleep in the boat one day and a great storm came upon. And His disciples were experienced fishermen, and they knew the lake. They know that storm was violent enough there was no escape. They woke the Lord up Who was asleep in the back of the boat, and they said, How can you sleep? Don't you even care that we're all going to die in this storm? And Jesus Christ stood up in the boat and He raised His Hand to the wind, and He said, Peace. And He put His Hand toward the sea, and He said, be still. And the wind ceased that there was a great calm. I want you to know what happened. The creation of the element of wind and water automatically necessarily responded to God in love. Whatever God says to an element, that element responds in immediate total obedience. It loves God.

As to plant life, one day Jesus was hungry and they were on their way to the City of Jerusalem, and the Bible says, He came to a fig tree, and He sought a fig for His breakfast. And finding none, He spoke to the plant, to the fig tree, let no fruit grow on you henceforth forever. They went on in to the city and a few hours later they came back. The disciples trailing along behind Him. And came to the place where He had spoken to the fig tree, and the Bible says it was withered. And dead. You know what that fig tree was doing? Loving its God automatically without choice. Obedience to God is love to God.

As to animals. One day, Jesus said I want you to go into the City and I want you to find a colt tied whereupon never a man sat and I want you to bring him to Me, and if anyone asks you, say the Lord hath need of him. They found it just like Jesus said, and they brought the colt upon which never a man had sat, and they put Jesus Christ on him and He rode him into the City of Jerusalem

in the Triumphant Entry on Palm Sunday first, while everyone shouted Hosanna, because they thought now the prophecies of the goodies were coming to the people of God called Israel. But the point is that if you'd put yourself or me on that grown colt that never had a man on its back, it would have responded with buck and pitching, and you'd have been on your ear. But it didn't buck. It is because it was a creature of programmed instincts to always automatically respond to its God in obedience and submission.

God contemplated creating in the very image of God. Do you know what that is? God is a Spirit. The image of God is spiritual. God hesitated for a long time, but in Romans 8:18, we have a marvelous glimpse into the mind and the deciding power of God, in past-eternity, before any angel ever existed or any human being ever existed. I assure you, that no mere man like the apostle Paul could dare blaspheme and assume such a conclusion as his own. This is the Word of God, and God is sharing with us a conclusion He came to in past-eternity, in contemplating the possibility of creating in the very image of God. A creature of spirit. Romans 8:18 says this: *For I reckon I calculate in the processes of the perfection of the Divine Mind that the sufferings of...time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be...* God gives us a glimpse into the calculating power of the perfect mind of God, and He said I have weighed every possibility. If I actually take this step of creation and make something in the very image of God like Myself, and I have known of absurdity that the power it shall possess in the image of God will be used in the negative, and sin will be introduced into the Holy Creation of a Holy God. Sin will come. And all of the suffering that sin will parent, every undesirable of war and hate and injury and disease and death and grief and crying. It'll all come. And so God hesitated not to do it.

But after a period of time, God weighed every possibility and every degree of every suffering that any person would ever experience, and then He looked into the eternity beyond, post-sin eternity, and He weighed the suffering of time. Pre-sin eternity to post-sin eternity. And He saw all of the suffering of time. And He's the only one that would dare to have the right and the authority to so calculate. And He said, I have finally come to a conclusion. As bad as it's going to be, when I look beyond and see Me and creatures in the image of God enjoying a reciprocal love forever and ever, what I see out there in post-sin eternity makes all the suffering of time worth it. More than worth it. And in that conclusion, God acted in creating the first angel. All angels, I believe, were created simultaneously. Myriads of angels. So, God created in the image of God, and He called them angels. Later, this is material that we don't have time for today. He created a second creature in the image of God. He said, let Us make man in Our image, in the image of God made He them, both male and female made He them.

I want you to know, through angels, who are not programmed to respond to God automatically in obedience out of necessity but have the power of free deliberate decided choice as to whether they will love God or not. All angels have the power to choose whether they love God or not. The power to commit sin is the power to choose not to love God. Loving God is obedience to God. If God tells you to do something, you do it. Not because you're programmed out of an automatic response, but because you deliberate and decide, I'm going to do this. That is the most noble thing that a creature can be. You will never love God automatically. Every time you obey God, you will decide to do it.

The ramifications of what you are explain much of what the church teaches. You know what you are? I want you to say within yourself or even out – I am a creature in the image of God. I am a man. A human. Let me tell you what this means. It means two very significant things.

1. Permanent conscious active existence. You do exist as I do. Our conscious active existence will never stop. You will exist consciously and with the power to act for all of the endless eons of eternity to come, you will exist. That's awesome.

Let me tell you something else. You got your seatbelts fastened Chris?

2. Permanent, now I could say eternal but that wouldn't be strictly true. Permanent capacity to commit sin.

You know when I told you that God can sin, I want you to understand that it is inherent. That means a necessary part of. And inalienable – that means it can never be taken away. It is inherent and inalienable in every created spirit. That we have permanent existence and permanent power to commit sin. We'll never lose it. We'll never lose the power to commit sin.

I've stated it this way because it is a shock statement. I said it first in the presence of my superiors in the church. Ministers. Superintendents. I will be able to sin in Heaven. After they picked their teeth up off the floor of the car where I said it, we had a great discussion. I will be able to sin in Heaven. I will have the ability to commit sin.

A moment ago or earlier, I said this, God can commit a sin and the cross screams that fact. I promise you there would be no such thing as the Cross of Christ if it is not true that God can sin. And will through that extreme in order to act and not sin.

I want to say now, I will be able to sin in Heaven. But if I'm in Heaven, I never shall. There is something that will bring under positive permanent control of my capacity to commit sin. I think we're going to close on that. Hell screams the fact of your permanent power to sin. If that were not true, I assure you there would be no hell. If God could just annihilate us and remove us to where we could never sin, He would do that rather send us to hell. Permanent conscious active existence. We will always exist aware of our surroundings and able to act upon decision. Therefore, hell is an absolute necessity for those of us who refused to bring this capacity under positive check and permanent control.

There is one thing and one thing alone that can do that. It is not a religious experience. It is not the new birth. Jesus said in John 8:31-32 - *Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. They answered him, We be Abraham's seed, and were never in bondage to any man: how sayest thou, Ye shall be made free? Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin.*

Then said He unto those Jews which believe on Him, If you continue in My Word, then are you my disciples indeed and ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free. They said unto Him, we ain't never been slaves to any man. How sayeth thou then we shall be made free? They

thought He meant physical bondage to a master. He didn't mean that at all. For His response to their question was this, Verily, verily, I say unto you, he that committeth sin is the slave of sin. He wasn't talking about physical bondage to a human master. He was talking about spiritual bondage to a spiritual enemy. He was talking about being made free from sin by the power of knowing the truth.

Then He made an astounding statement about hell and Heaven. The servant, now that's the man that sins, the servant abideth not in the house forever, but the son abideth ever. If you're going to be inside of God's creation for all of eternity to come, Him loving you and you loving Him back, it is going to be because you made a decision about repentance and a receiving of Christ by faith and a continuing as a faithful disciple in what He says until you come to the place to where you know the truth and you no longer sin against your Heavenly Father through knowing the truth. It is the truth of God that checks your power to commit sin. Once you know and understand God in that way, you will choose to go against Him and you will be acceptable for His eternity, because He has said, and I'm going to close with this scripture. And I have never made a presentation without it. So I'll say it. I'll get it to you in a minute. It is a classic scripture.

Nahum 1:9 - And here's what it says: *What do ye imagine against the LORD?* What do you think God is doing? *he will make an utter end:* Now God is making an utter end of something. And I know what it is. It came once. God is dealing with it painfully and patiently. But He is going to be rid of it. And then the third part of Nahum 1:9 says this: *affliction shall not rise up the second time.* God is removing all sin one of two ways. The first entirely preferable. For you to come to know Christ as your real Savior and to continue with Him until you have a knowledge of the truth that positively checks your power to disobey Him and causes you to choose to obey Him. Then He can let you into His cleansed restored creation in Eternity knowing full well that you will not be the breakdown of His promise in Nahum 1:9 and you be the source of a second introduction of sin in His cleansed restored eternity. If you're going to be with God in eternity, you are going to prove through the power of Jesus Christ that you have checked your awful power to choose against Him and you have conformed your power of choice with Him and you will follow Him faithfully as He gives you the grace.

Now the church today offers eternity with God to sinning Christians. Christians who knowingly choose to violate God's will in their life. That is totally irrational forever unscriptural and the Holy Spirit has never witnessed to such ever in all of history. Sin is a deadly serious reality. Christ is a real power for victory over it. But you better be learning the truth and I had better be learning the truth. It changes the way we live. Only truth will do that. Striving and struggling won't. The battle is not to quit sinning. The battle is to know the truth. That's the only battle you've ever been in. The vast majority of God's people are losing that battle. They are not progressing in the knowledge of God. They will not enjoy eternity with Him. It's really true.

The singular purpose of God in eternity, the Eternal Purpose of God is to love and be loved not out of mere programmed instinctive necessity as does the elements and the plants and the animals in God's creation. But by free deliberate decided choice. That is the Eternal Purpose of God, That is the one thing that God did not have in pre-sin eternity that He shall have in post-sin eternity. And they are called helps meet for God. Intimate love companions that will be forever. Everything that God could ever want or need them to be. Helps meet for God.

The singular eye of God. What He has fixed His gaze upon and once you know that and believe that, everything else will be illuminated. And when I say nothing but the truth of Christ will check my capacity to sin, that is undeniable in the light of beholding the singular purpose of God. To love and be loved not merely out of programmed necessity but by free deliberate decided choice. And I'm going to ask every one of us to choose to obey God in the nobility of the image of God that you are. You choose. You must make a choice. You must deliberate. That means give consideration to it. Make your choice and then die before you change it.

This church is striving and struggling to offer the truth as it really is and it will make you free. You will be free from the slavery of sin and safe for God's cleansed eternity through the truth.

Everybody want to see.... Let me tell you what is happening to the church today. There has been a dangerous incredible shift in the center of the church.

### **ILLUSTRATIONN 7.**

What is absolutely right is that God be right in the middle of everything the church does teaches, etc. Then there should be angels who preceded us in creation and are fully equipped to satisfy th Eternal Purpose of God. To love and be loved not out of programmed instinctive necessity but by free deliberate decided choice. Angels have the power of sin. And were the first sinners. And then man. In true theology, man's place is beyond the angels in importance and significance. God is most important. Angels are next in importance and man is last.

What has happened in the church of Jesus Christ today is man and God and angels out on the periphery. Anytime there is a shift from God being in the center of beliefs and activities, there is a dread ruin. Let me say this, you can analyze the theology of the church and the teaching of your church today by simply asking a question concerning every teaching of what you've heard last night and today or what you'll hear in any church ever. You can say: How does this teaching affect the Purpose of God, His need, desires, plan, concerns, hope. If you'll put everything you're taught in your church to this test. How does this affect the Purpose of God, His needs, His desires, His plans, His concerns, His hopes. Nothing matters but what affects God. But the church today says how does this affect me? How does this affect my family? How does this affect our church? What does this do for missions? What does this do for our evangelism program? Our, me, my. But no thought about how it affects God.

Let me ask you, once saved always saved. Because someone honestly and sincerely made their way down the aisle of an evangelical bible-preaching church and knelt at an altar of prayer and wept and repented of sin and received Christ as their personal Savior through faith, and that seals their eternal destiny to Heaven forever regardless of how they conduct themselves and their moral choices toward God from that point forward. They are going to go to Heaven anywhere. Now how does that affect my hopes, my desires? I'm for it. But how does that affect God's Purpose, God's plan, God's hopes, and God's desires. Does that mean that He's going to take a person that runs the risk of second introduction of sin into His cleansed restored creation in eternity? Certainly not. And their power to choose against God and commit sin is not brought into check in this life

would somehow magically be brought into check in the next? That's strange. You see if you'll examine every teaching of the church with God in the middle rather than man.

In Romans. I want to read in Romans 1 and that will be it for today. Look at Romans 1 with me. Now this is a sad commentary that constantly recurs in all of human history. I'm going to begin with verse 21 of Romans chapter 1.

*Because that, when they knew God, I want you to understand that. They had the knowledge of God they glorified him not as God, The term "glorified" here means they did not put God in His rightful place. They did not put God where He belonged. The church today does not have God at the center. They had Him off-center. We are not giving God His rightful place in our beliefs and in our actions. Because that when God's people had the knowledge of God, they did not put God in His proper place. They glorified Him not as God. neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, Nothing is more foolish than to put God off-center. And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, Now, they changed the glory. They changed the position. They did not give Him His rightful place. They changed His place. They changed the Glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to a corruptible man. They put man in God's place. And when you do that, you're on the downward road of degeneration. and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things. Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves: Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen.*

Now, there is a shift. They glorified Him not as God but became vain in their imagining, professing themselves to be wise, they became fools and changed the position, or the glory of God, and put a man or a beast or a bird where He ought to be. They changed the truth of God which is ever God-centered into a lie, which is not the truth of God and worshiped the center of their truth system and served the creature in the center more than the God who was now off-center. And if the church is not extremely careful, the whole program and attitude and direction of the church of Jesus Christ is more for man than it is for God in your moment of history. Anything that does not have God in the center as to His Purpose, His desires, His needs, His hopes, His concerns has something else as the object of their purpose, their hopes, their desires, their needs, their fears.

If you'll examine today's theology in the light of God-centered theology, you will be alarmed beyond your imagination. We live in the most dreadful days that men have ever lived. In relation to truth. The truth is being changed into a lie. As a result, we are worshipping and serving a creature more than we are worshipping and serving the Creator.

I never know how to end one of these things. I'd say that's pretty good timing. It's 4:00 o'clock. I love you. This material is dangerous. God wrote to the apostle Paul am I become your enemy because I tell you the truth? Jesus said to His best disciples, I have yet many things to say unto you but you are not yet able to bear it. And I pray and hope that we have not said something that you are not yet able to bear. And that it would alienate you from us from the truths that we want to share with you. There's always a risk.

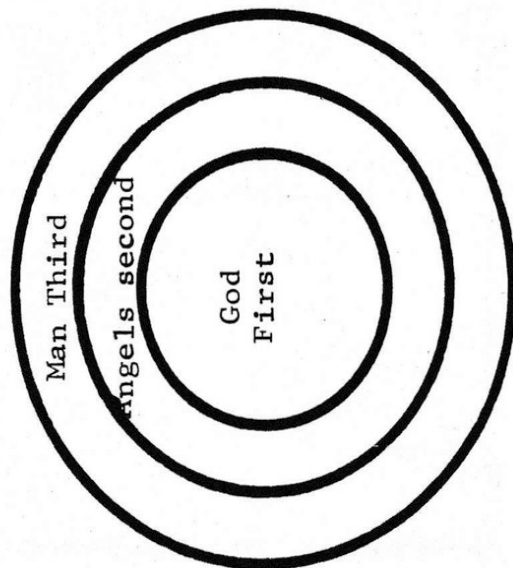
Thank you and God Bless you and we love you. Anything questions you have, God gives us the grace to answer them. Please be prayerful and serious about what we have exposed you to in these 9 hours of work. Let's stand.

Lloyd leads in prayer.

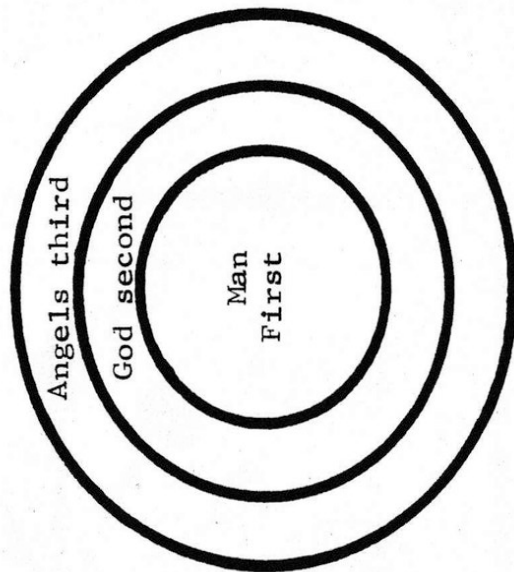


Illustration 7

God's Priorities



Laodicea's Priorities



GOD-CENTERED OR MAN-CENTERED  
Who is considered first in every teaching and action?