

Sermon Transcript: Logos, Image of God

June 27, 2020

This man, Philo, also said that this image of God, this Son of God, is the High Priest of God. Amen.

And he said that what is on earth is a model or a copy of what is in heaven. Amen.

Well this man of God, he said a whole lot more and we're going to learn more today what he said. Amen.

Let me move my computer over there before I shout myself out and use up all my energy.

I feel my bones aching so I'm about to get the computer over here next to the pulpit.

God is good and I never did call him to talk to you because I was running out of mouth.

Where's my, uh, here it is.

There was a few minutes to finish getting set up.

We are slow over here in these southern Appalachian Mountains.

We are slow hillbillies.

We should have somebody else sing us, hey honey, why don't you sing us a song.

You can do it.

You've done that before.

Let's see what this plug is, I'm going to move it, radio, I don't know where everything is.

Her new phone, by the way, is a special thing.

It don't fit no other phone I've got, no other cord.

So only this cord for her phone.

I've got to call him to talk to you, I don't know what good to do.

Well your phone is dead.

Well if anybody wants to broadcast, they will just turn on the radio station, amen, to get it talked to you today, if it's not one thing or another, the devil is always chasing me.

Oh Lord Jesus Christ, God help me Father, please help me, Lord please help me.

Lord help me Father, praise Your holy name, You're so good to us.

Father I need your help with my stomach right now.

My body and all the attacks of the enemy against me I rebuke in Jesus name.

I stand here as victorious in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, under the blood of Jesus filled with the power of the Holy Ghost and in the name of Jesus, amen.

I come against everything that's trying to come against me, I come against everything that's trying to come against this ministry.

We are victorious in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, our Lord, our Savior, our King and our God.

Praise the name of Jesus, praise the name of Jesus Christ.

Thank you Father for this message that has been prepared for us, thank you for continuing to teach us and please help us now Lord to understand better today than what we did yesterday.

Please help us to continue to grow in your light, in your goodness and in your righteousness and in your power and in your authority.

May you shine through us into this dark world, please bless the witnessing of all our brothers and sisters, please bless our pastors in Algeria and our Deacon in United Arab Emirates and our brothers and sisters in Australia, South Korea, South Africa, Australia, America and across the world.

God please help our brother in Jamaica and God please help all our brothers and sisters wherever they may be.

We pray Lord your spirit and your will prevail in this service and in the rest of this sermon in Jesus name, so be it, amen, amen.

Praise Jesus.

Let me look at my notes here.

The printer was messing up really bad today and everything else, if it's not a phone, a printer or something else, I hate electronics, I'll tell you. These electronics are killing us.

It will be a great day of deliverance when we can go somewhere and be freed from the bondage of telephones and computers and internet.

It will be a great day of deliverance and I understand when people want to preserve the works on electronic format and take it in on MP3 player or laptop or something, I understand those desires, but I want you to also understand that the Word of God should be engraved into our hearts and minds and I don't want people sitting around in the wilderness, in the future, in the great tribulation, still tied to the very wicked evil things that we are in bondage to right now. The songs and the words of God and the sermons and the notes and everything should become part of who we are.

The Word of God is a living Word, it's not paper, it's not computer chips and computer profiles, it's real life and it is real humans and it is real emotions and it is real feelings and it's a living Word, amen.

And every brother and sister in the Lord should fully learn, fully learn without having need to look it up.

Everything I preach, everything I teach, everything I preach and everything I teach and everything I've written, you should be able to speak forth to another person because I don't want you to believe my teachings just because I say so.

There is one element of the fact that you should believe the Apostle of God for what he says that is true but then on the other side of the coin you should accept the truth and know it and believe it and understand it not only because I said it but because it's true, amen.

And if it be true and if it be God's Word then it should be part of our breath, part of our image, part of our thinking, what we think about, what we meditate upon day and night as the Scriptures tell us that we praise him and meditate upon his law and meditate upon his commandments, meditate upon his ways as we lay down at night.

Our first thoughts when we wake up in the morning should be on the Lord, being thankful that God has raised us from another night's sleep, death, coma, that we have resurrected another day every day and our last thoughts at night to comfort us and help us sleep better should be God's refuge, God's protection, God's covering over us, amen.

And we should be praying unceasingly, meaning throughout the day always talking to the Lord as we walk down the hallway, as we're sitting at the desk, as we're grocery shopping, as we're driving, as we're walking, as we're exercising, that our minds go right back to God whatever we are doing, that in all things we give glory to God and bring up his name and praise him and think about our brothers and sisters in the different nations and bring up their names in prayer as we commune with the Lord, amen.

The teachings of the Lord should be part of who we are and we should be able to, even without looking in a book, be able to explain to someone in a very good way, in a easy way, why the seventh day is the seventh day, why the commandments must be kept, why the holy days must be kept, why the Antichrist is Assad and what prophecies are going to happen and

how to prove them from the Bible, who Israel is in the Bible, all these things, because really all these things are simple, they are simple things.

I understand that it takes time to learn all of the teachings when you first come into the truth. It takes time to read all of the website and learn all of it.

Sometimes you've got to read an article two or three times, I know that, but as you read it each time, as you listen to it each time, it should become more and more a part of you so that once you get into the wilderness that you will not be spending your time on a computer when you could be spending your time gathering wood, which will be extremely important and will be a major task.

I'm afraid that many people do not understand, do not comprehend is the better word, the difficulties of surviving in the wilderness.

I would encourage people to watch a TV show on the Discovery Channel and you can find old repeats across the internet of a show called Naked and Afraid.

It's an excellent show, a very good show, and very educational about the difficulties of living in the wilderness, off the grid, without having electricity, without having a lot of supplies.

And yes, it's a man and a woman, and sometimes a lot of men and women, and sometimes it's one man or woman, they change it up, who are naked in the woods or in a desert or somewhere or in the mountains or somewhere with nothing but only three items that they will allow them to bring, only three items.

And a lot of these people are experts, experts on how to survive in the wilderness.

They've read all the books, they've watched all the videos, they've had time to prepare before they went, they even know where they're going before they go, so they can even research the plants of that nation, the plants of that area and the animals and all that.

They can practice and they can plant it, but when they get there, some of these grown men, macho men, are crying in only two days' time.

I watched an episode last night, I believe it was, maybe not last night, but a few nights ago, where this woman went in there and she had been on the show before, and her partner, the one guy that came in with her, he left in two days and he was crying, and then she came back on the show another time in another nation trying to survive somewhere else, and the same thing happened in two days, this new guy was crying and left the show in only two days, and both of these were macho men who was all geared up and knowledgeable about how to survive, but in two days' time, these men were crying. It's not going to be as easy as people think.

We are spoiled to death with computers, with internet, with TV, with electronics, electricity, running water, toilets.

We are spoiled to death, and we can read all the books and all the articles and watch all the videos we want to, but once we get in there, you ain't going to have time to play or just sit around and do nothing.

It's not going to be vacation.

It's going to be work, work, work, work, from the time you get up to the time you go to bed.

It's going to be serious business of life or death.

It's going to be a whole lot more difficult than a lot of people think.

Now, yes, God will help us if we are obedient to Him, but I want you to also understand, I've said this before a long time ago, and it needs to be said again, that if we make it into a place of hiding, a place of safety where God is protecting us, it won't be just a reward.

It won't be heaven yet.

It won't be paradise yet.

It won't be because that we were good enough, but rather it will only really be by the mercy of God, and we will still have a lot to learn.

We will still have a lot to repent of.

Every one of us, even the people that think that they are the most perfect, those are the ones that have the most to repent of, amen.

The more you think you got it right, the more you need to repent.

We have to humble ourself before the Lord, amen.

God is so good, and when we get into the wilderness, our trials and our sufferings will not stop, but will continue.

They'll just be different trials and different sufferings for the most part, but we will still have trials and sufferings and learning lessons and learning how to repent and humble ourself, amen.

God is good.

Yes, amen.

We'll need that seventh day of rest, Kiki said, after working all week.

We will really value the seventh day of rest, amen.

Now let's move on to what the sermon is supposed to be about today, and that is the logos, the image of God, amen.

Let's see, let's go to, let's open up the New Testament.

Let's go to the book of Colossians 1.

Page 214, in my copy here, your copy might be a page or two different according to what year you got your copy, but page 214, Colossians chapter 1, like that.

Let's start in verse 12, now let's back up a little bit more.

Let's start in verse 9, let's start in verse 9, Colossians 1, verse 9.

"For this reason also, since the day we heard of it, we have not ceased to pray for you and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will and all spiritual wisdom and understanding."

So Paul prayed that the people at the town of Colossia, however it be pronounced, I know that's wrong, but it's good enough, that they would be filled with wisdom and knowledge and understanding, amen.

Verse 10, "So that you would walk in a manner, a behavior worthy of the Lord, to praise Him, to please Him in all respects, in all ways, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of Theos, strengthened of all power according to his glorious might for the obtaining of all steadfastness and patience." Amen.

So his prayer for these people would be that they be strengthened of all power.

Not that they be weak, not that they would faint, but that they would be steadfast, amen.

Not fall away, not be weakened, but be steadfast and strong in the Lord.

Verse 12, "Joyously giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in light, for he rescued us from the domain (or the bondage or control) of darkness and he transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son."

We got transferred from one kingdom to another kingdom, amen.

Praise God.

14, "In whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. He is the image of the invisible Theos, the first born or the first begotten, the first conceived of all creation," all creation, even

before the sun, the moon, and the stars, amen.

And as we said last week, that is a new understanding for us, is that in one sense, that image of God was created or had a transformation, a manifestation for the first time.

At some point of time, God would have said to Himself basically that He needed an instrument of Himself, a vessel, a robe, some way that He can touch men and speak to men in a way that they would be able to understand and not die, amen.

And so there was that moment of first manifestation of a part of Himself, amen.

So He became a firstborn of creation, amen.

Now He is, it says here in verse 15 also, He is an image.

So that creation, that Son of God is the image of God.

I believe it says this, I'm sure it says it, I know it says it, and at least one other place in the Bible, maybe two or three other places, amen, maybe more.

So let's read a little bit of what Philo said.

Now Philo wrote the Book of Hebrews, and he also wrote the Wisdom of Solomon, and I believe the Wisdom of Solomon was the last book of the Old Testament, and Hebrews, I believe, was probably the first book that was written of the New Testament, having written both Old and New Testament, this man, Philo.

But in addition to those two books, he also wrote what we call the Works of Philo, which has multiple manuscripts that are not in the Bible.

And one of those is called On the Creation, where he's speaking about the creation, and that's the first book, if you find a paperback or a hardback copy of his Works of Philo, this will usually be the first book in the front of the book, it's called On the Creation, speaking about the creation.

In section 6 and section 7, it speaks about the logos, the image of God, and it explains it like this on page 5 and 6 of my copy.

It says in verse 24, and these are the words of Philo, it says, and if anyone were to desire or want to use more undisguised terms, he would not call the world, which is perceivable only to the intellect, anything else but the reason of God, let me say that again.

If anyone were to desire to use more undisguised terms, he would not call the world, which is perceivable only to the intellect, anything else, he would not call the world anything but the reason of God, or the reasoning of God.

So he is calling the creation, the world, the reasoning of God.

In other words, the fruit of God's thinking, that God had to think it before he created it, and everything you see is evidence of God.

Everything you see is evidence of God's existence, it all came forth from him, from his thinking, from his planning, from his voice, from his breath, from his being.

And it says, already occupied in the creation of the world, for neither is a city, while only perceivable to the intellect, anything else but the reason of the architect, who is already designing to build one perceptible to the external senses, on the model of that which is so only to the intellect.

So in other words, he's saying God is an architect, who would have to picture it in his mind, what he is going to create.

And when he does create it, the creation is a model, a image, of what he had already imagined in his mind, amen.

Verse 25, this is the doctrine of Moses, not mine.

Accordingly, he, Moses, when recording the creation of man, in words which follow, asserts expressly, that he was made, that he, Moses, was made in the image of God.

And if the image be part of the image, then manifestly so is the entire form, namely the whole of this world, perceptible by the external senses, which is the greater imitation of the divine image than the human form is.

It is manifest also that the archetype seal, which we call that world, which is perceptible only to the intellect, must itself be the archetype model, the idea of ideas, the reason of God.

Now, Philo is very difficult to understand because his language is so college.

His language is too educated, too highfalutin, and it can really, really, really be confusing.

And this is why even the college-educated trip over his words.

Even the college-educated trip over his words and do not understand and confuse what he is speaking, amen.

But that God, through the logos, through Jesus, through the Word of God that was with God and was in God, through the Word of God created all things.

John 1 and Colossians 1, all both teach us these things, that through Jesus, God created the world, amen.

So Jesus, we know the whole of God is Jesus, but the part that came to earth as Jesus, that was born as Jesus, when he was at the beginning with God, even though the whole of God is Jesus, the part that became the Holy Ghost is what we call the Word.

And that part that became the Holy Ghost that we call the Word of God in Greek is Logos.

And that part of God was an image of God, and it was the thinking of God, it was a logical reasoning of God.

It was God's own imaginative thought of how he would create the earth and then bring it forth into being, amen.

Just like we do have not only our flesh, but we also have our psyche and also our energy body as well, our spirit.

So we have our spirit and our soul, and those are different.

We have our psyche and our spiritual plasma body as well.

So God is the same, because we are made after his image, not only after his characteristics and mind frame, but even God has different aspects of his soul, of his being.

Now it says here in Philo that the reasoning of God is the idea of ideas.

Now there may be some people that will eventually listen from the mountains of Tennessee that don't know what idea is, because idea is not what we say here in the mountains of Tennessee.

We never ever, ever say idea.

We only say ideal, so it's different of language, depending on where you were born and raised.

But idea is when you have an ideal or idea of a good thing to do.

I have an ideal, I'm going to go to the store today, because that would be a good ideal before they close tomorrow or something like that.

A lot of other places, they will say idea, whereas here in the mountains of Tennessee, they would say ideal.

Now when I looked up the word ideal or idea to where it comes from, and I was shocked at the origin of this word.

It is Greek, and that was actually written like that in Greek.
It wasn't a different word, it wasn't pronounced or written or spelled any different.
This word has stayed the same, pretty much, except for your different dialects or different languages, but it has stayed the same for thousands of years.
Idea means the archetype, it's a concept of a thing in the mind of God.
It is based a lot in Plato, a Platonic ideal, a word in philosophy.

So this was mind-blowing that the origin of this word is Plato and Philo and philosophy and the Greek world of philosophy, of an ideal, or idea, of a concept in the mind of God.

Wow!

There's something else, isn't the word spelled like icon?

Yeah when we get into, no, that's where it comes from or something like that.

When I looked at the Greek in Philo, no, that's image, it's icon, so that's different.

So in idea, it is definitely idea.

So this is mind-blowing.

Let's see what else it says here.

And the idea taken from Greek idea, meaning form, the form, the look of a thing.

What? What? Baby! What?

Idea means image.

What?

I cannot contain myself.

Idea is a mental image.

It is the look of something, it is the fashion of something, it is the nature of something, it is the, to actually see, it comes from the root of meaning to see.

I never knew this.

How come nobody told me this? Amen?

I don't teach Greek anymore. Amen.

If you have an idea or ideal, then you have a mental image of a plan, you have a mental image.

That's what it means.

So Philo said that God is, or that the reasoning of God, the image of God, the Son of God, is the idea of ideas, meaning the image of images.

He is the image, he is the architect of all images, he is the architect of everything you can see or imagine. Amen.

This is so good.

Now let's read what else Philo said.

Same book, chapter 7, verse 26 on.

Moses says also, quote, in the beginning, God created the heaven and the earth, unquote, take in the beginning to be, not as some men think, that which is according to time, for before the world, time had no existence, but was created, time was created, either at the same time of it or after it for some time, since time is the interval of the motion of the heavens.

There could not have been time before the motion began.

But it follows of necessity that it received existence simultaneously, it therefore follows also of necessity that time was created either at the same moment with the world or later.

Go on to verse 27.

But if the beginning spoken of by Moses is not to be looked upon as a spoken of according to

time, then it may be natural to suppose that it is the beginning according to number that is indicated so that in the beginning he created, is evident to first of all he created.

In other words, he's saying it'd be better to say first of all rather than in the beginning because beginning has a more context of time and there was no time, so it'd be better to say first of all he created the heaven.

For it's natural in reality that should have been the first object created, being both the best of all created things and being also made of the purest substance because it was designed to be the most holy abode of the visible gods who are perceptible by the external senses.

Now when it says visible gods, I think that should be probably translated better and probably talking about angels and then the main part of God and then the logos.

So Philo kind of thought of the logos as being a separate God in one sense he did and in another sense he did not believe that because he understood that the image of God was exactly that, the image of God, of his own self.

So he understood the singleness of God, a one God, but he contradicted himself a few times with using the plural form of God unless it was translated wrong, I still have to do more research, but he definitely believed in one God, but contradicted himself in using the plural form of God at times unless that is a mistranslation.

Then verse 28, and if the Creator had made everything at the same moment, still those things which were created in beauty would no less have a regular arrangement for there is no such thing as beauty in disorder, but order is a due consequence and connection of things, present and subsequent, if not in the completion of a work, at all things in the intention of the maker, for it is owing to order that they become accurately defined and stationary and free from confusion.

29. In the first place thereof, from the model of the world, perceptible only about the intellect, the Creator made an incorporeal heaven and an invisible earth.

And in the form of air and of empty space, the former of which He called darkness, because the air is black by nature, and the other He called the abyss, for empty space is very deep and yawning with immense whiff.

Then He created the incorporeal substance of water and of air, and above all He spread light, being the seventh thing He made.

And this again was incorporeal, and a model of the sun, perceptible only to intellect, and of all the light-given stars, which are designed to stand together in heaven.

Now I know that's difficult to understand, but He's right.

He is right on almost everything He says.

In Genesis 1, in a certain verse He said, let there be light, and yet that was not the same day that He created the sun and the stars.

That was a different day later on.

And I've always pointed that out for a long time, that is, for a long time I've pointed that out, that there was light that God did create before He created the sun.

I said that was not the sun because that was a different day.

So here Philo says that that light He created on the previous day was a model or a foundation for the sun that would come, amen, and that makes complete sense.

That God was making air and water and oxygen and atoms and foundations and glue and ingredients.

He was gathering His ingredients and making His ingredients, and then put it together.

That makes complete sense.

The creation did not come in one second in a big bang the way people think.

It did not.

God created the light and the water and the air and the pot to put everything in of the abyss before He put all the ingredients together, amen.

And even in these six days of creation, that was a remodeling of the earth, which I don't know whether Philo understood that or not, but it don't matter, but we don't know how He would have done it even before that.

But either way, in these six days of recreation, He was gathering ingredients and gathering different things to bring everything back in order from where the devil had brought forth chaos, things had to be done in steps, or at least He chose to do things in steps.

Now there's much more, but I don't want to drag too long about that.

Let's go on about image down here to the next step about image.

So from this, we started with Colossians saying God or Jesus is the image of God.

So then I read you how Philo said that this logo is the word of God is the idea, which is we learned the idea means image, a mental image, a spiritual image, amen.

So now let's study about the word image itself.

The word image itself comes from Greek 1504, which is, how would you say that again, Jared?

Icon, which makes complete sense, amen, icon, image.

Now that has many different definitions.

It can be a statue, something that somebody makes, a picture, but it also has a definition of a resemblance, a likeness of something.

Help in Strong's Concordance and in thayers or thayers, a Greek lexicon, both confirm that not only can an image be something that is made by mankind, but it actually can be a reflection or a, it may not say the word reflection, but that's what it means in a different word, a seminal, a likeness of something else.

A representation of something else, a similarity in likeness, visible, visible conformity to the object, adds to the idea of likeness, the suggestions of representation or likeness or manifestation.

Now that comes, that was 1504, now that has a root of 1503.

Then this is really amazing, when you look at the root word of 1503, where it comes from, it comes to the idea of a copy, a copy of something.

So when we say that Jesus was an image of God, then we can say that Jesus was the likeness and the copy and the reflection of God, amen.

He was still God, but he was the outward manifestation of that, of God's being, that would be a stretched out arm basically of how he would deal with mankind, amen.

Now let's look at some examples of this word image 1504 in the Bible.

And like I said, it's going to have different definitions.

Let's go over to the book of Romans, let's start in Romans, and let's start in Romans 1:23, in Romans 1:23 page 163, that mankind exchanged the glory of the incorruptible Theos for image in the form of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed animals and crawling creatures.

So in other words, in the context it's talking about people making statues and worshipping statues and pictures of animals and people and the creation.

And we know that they, people worship the sun, the moon, the stars, the creation of birds, the wolves, they worship everything people do.

And all of those is in exchange for the glory, the glory of God.

And I think of glory, I also think of an image, of a radiating image of God.

I think of a fire of God, I think of something being transmitted from the very presence of God, the breath and the fire and the flames of God.

And there is change in this beautiful image of God for the image of something that is not as beautiful.

But as Philo said, it's only with the intellect, with your mind, that you can see the world.

So people are worshipping what they can see.

Now if we worship the image of God, that's okay because we are worshipping God, His image, His glory.

But when we worship creation, then we are exchanging God for having false gods. Amen.

And the same is true of the Christmas tree, the Easter bunny rabbit, Easter eggs, Halloween, all these things.

We are exchanging, or those people do, exchange the power for invisible God and the image of God and change that for images of things that they see here on this earth.

Then we go over to chapter 8, Romans 8, one of my favorite chapters of the Bible.

Romans 8 verse 29, for those whom he foreknew, he also pre-surveyed to become conformed to the image of his son, so that he would be the firstborn among me brethren.

Jesus was the firstborn among me brethren.

But we are to be more and more like the image of God.

We are supposed to copy Jesus Christ in every way possible, amen.

So many people over the years, when I wanted them to rebuke somebody, judge somebody, disfellowship from somebody, the response many times was, I can't do that, I'm not Jesus.

And that's a ridiculous excuse.

Just because you're not Jesus doesn't mean that you can't stand against sin, that you can't stand against wickedness, that you can't correct somebody that is out of order.

What is the police supposed to do? Amen.

If the police, if somebody robs a bank, does a policeman say, I can't do nothing about it because I'm not Jesus?

God gave us authority on this earth, every one of us.

He gave us authority to stand against wickedness, every one of us.

And especially when we say that we are saved, if we are a follower of God, if we are a Christian, if we are a true Christian, that we are a follower of Jesus Christ, then we have real and extra authority over everything on this earth.

And we should copy the image of Jesus Christ even as He did His Father, amen.

We should be the hands and feet and eyes and mouth and ears of God upon this earth right now. Amen.

Jesus went back to heaven and sat down on the right hand side of the Father, literally.

We, now that Jesus has sat down and taken His seat, we are responsible.

It's time for His children to grow up and be mature and do our work and be responsible in every possible way, amen.

As your parents get older and older and older, they start sitting down and it becomes the children's time to be the leaders of the next generation, amen.

When I was a kid and even when I was 20s and 30s and 40s, as each decade went by, I sit and listened to the older people teach and preach.
Some of those are now dead.
Some of those are now retired.
Some of those are now only God knows where, I don't know where they went.
But now, it has been for the last 14, 15 years, however long it's been, that it was my turn to be a leader and a preacher and to be a leader for other people.
And now, I'm getting older and slower, so much slower.
And now, it's the time for the younger generation to toughen up, stand up and take their place and be the next leaders.
I look at the pastors in Nigeria, one of them is only 25 years old.
To me, that's very young.
But when I was 21, I was a leader of a business and could hire and fire people.
People, especially men, yes, they need to start young.
There's nothing wrong with being a young leader.
You have to start young so you can get everything under your belt, make all your mistakes, learn all your lessons the hard way.
And then as you get older and the next lesson and the next mistake and the next mistake and the next lesson and the next mistake and the next lesson, you become tougher, more mature and more wise, more understanding of things.
Wisdom comes with age, amen.
And Paul prayed and we should all pray that we become filled with wisdom, knowledge and understanding, amen, and discernment, amen.
And we should copy Jesus Christ, who was a mature man, and I believe it's the book of Ephesians that says that we should, that he brought us, the apostles and the prophets and the evangelists and the pastors and the deacons and the teachers, until we come into the full measure of the statue, the image, the likeness, the measure of maturity and strength and knowledge and wisdom of Jesus Christ.

He is our model, He is our arch type, and we should look upon Jesus and copy Him, how even in the midst of the storm, He was sleeping as a baby in the bottom of the boat.
And all these strong men came crying and yelling and screaming, we're going to die, but Jesus, He would have slept through the whole thing if it wasn't for those wimps, amen.
And they were strong, masculine fishermen.
We should copy Jesus in being fearless and bold, amen, and having great authority, and the Bible says that the people were shocked or amazed with what authority that He taught in.
He didn't teach in suggestions, He taught in authority, amen.

Now here in Romans 8 verse 29, this says, "For those whom he foreknew, because he foreplanned us," look at that verse 29, "for those whom he foreknew, he also pre-surveyed." When you survey a land, you go out there with a measuring machine with a special of binoculars and everything, special glasses, and they can see over a long distance, and they measure the line, and they get the line straight, and they see where the property stops and where it begins, amen.
And God determined before the foundation of the world, he determined what our names would be, where would we be born, amen.
And some of our skills and so forth, he would have pre-surveyed, and where we would go, he

would have pre-surveyed.

To become conformed to the image of his son, we need to be conformed to the image. Now the image here is what I've been talking about, but there's another secret word here. I love secret words.

And that would be the word conformed, and that one is Greek 4832, Greek 4832, conformed. And that means, see if I can pronounce this halfway and then let my brother Jared correct me, symmorphos, pretty close to it maybe, symmorphos, and when I think about that, a symmorphos, I think of body transformer, symmorphos, to, what's that other word?

To synthesize into something else, great, y'all don't know that word, I'm not saying it very far off, synthesize, something like that, into from one thing to another.

Brittnei, you're a scientist, come on honey, help me.

So symmorphos to, why are we, that's why we need more brothers and sisters here, because I need help.

So pray for more brothers and sisters locally, because I need help.

And so we are being transformed, would be another way to translate that, from one thing into another thing, but when that happens, you take its identity, you take its shape, its form, its image, amen, we're not just going to just act like him, but also look more like him, even as we get older we do look more and look more like our parents, we do, especially men look more like their dads, and women look more like their moms the older they get, and the more you act like them too, the older you get, you can't help it, that's just a curse he put on all of us.

But we can undo part of it, but not all of it, no way.

But we are going to look a whole lot more like God than what you think, the Bible says that we will be brighter than the stars, amen, and that we will look like Him, amen, it says we will look like Him, and we are being transformed day by day, the Bible says, as we continue to look at Him, pay attention to Him, listen to Him, talk with Him, commune with Him, getting to know Him, adapt into Him, we're being transformed as this body dies, as this body decays, as we get older and older and this body falls apart, but spiritually we're becoming more, hopefully spiritually, and in the plasma and in the psyche both, we're becoming more and more and more like Him, amen.

And let's look at another place where we can see this 4832 about transform or conformity, and that is, is it Philemon or Philippians that we were looking at?

Philippians, you think it might have been?

One only has one chapter, Philippians.

Okay, Philippians 321. Page 213.

Philippians 3 verse 21.

Philippians 3 verse 21 says, "Who will transform," Jesus will transform, "the body of our humble state into conformity with the body of His glory," meaning His fire.

We are made out of light, energy and electricity, but once we lose this body that we're in bondage to, we're going to explode into suns. We're going to be bright and powerful and hot on fire. Amen.

It's mind-blowing to think of us that way, but the Bible teaches that in many places.

It says, "Who will transform the body of our humble state into conformity with the body of His glory by the exertion of the power that He has even to subject all things to Himself." Amen.

We are going to be subjected unto him and brought back into unity with him.

I know that it's easy for people to accuse me of New Age theology and call me a Gnostic and

everything else. I know it's easy. And I never, when I was in my 20s, even 30s, even 40s, I would have never thought I'd be standing here and teaching things like this. It's amazing how far God has brought all of us. Amen. And he had to do it one day at a time, one week at a time, one month at a time, one year at a time, but there are some people coming into the ministry where all of this was already established. It's going to be more difficult for them to embrace such deep things of God because it's scary. And it's easy to fall for these false accusations. Well, that's just Gnosticism or that's just witchcraft and that's New Age. It's easy to believe those lies.

It's easy to believe those lies that I believe that the congregation of God has the discernment that this is just absolutely the truth that we also are the sons of God and we are gods and we are images of God and we're becoming conformed to him more and more every week, every month, every year. We need to seize the power that comes with that. Amen. What good would it do to have big muscles and not use your muscles? Amen. We don't want to just look big and muscular and powerful and full of fire and look strong. We need to be able to use our spiritual muscles when the time comes to use it. Amen. The reason why a man should work out and be strong is so he can beat somebody up when it comes time to beat somebody up, to defend himself, to defend his children, to defend his wife, to defend his other wife and his other wife and his girlfriend and his mistress and all of his children. That's why a man should be strong and muscular is, to defend all of his girls and to be the man of the house and to wear the pants and to arrest Antifa and Black Lives Matters. Amen. Men have got to be men to seize the power and authority of leadership that God gave us. Amen. It's not about just looking good.

So what good would it be to look more like Jesus if we don't exercise the power and authority that he gave us? Amen. We need to be rebuking people when necessary. Not everybody, not every time, not every day. We need to be people of gentleness at the same time and understanding and patience and warm suffering. But there is a time for rebuke. And as the world gets more and more and more wicked, there are more and more of those times when we must stand up and rebuke wickedness. Amen.

We should not be afraid of that. We should not be afraid of losing family or friends.

Amen. We must, man and woman and child, must stand up against wickedness and use the power that God gave us. Even a child, even a little girl, can use the power of God that is inside of her to cast out demons. In fact, my experience with children is I would rather a five-year-old child to pray for me or lay hands on me than I would an adult. Amen. I believe in the power of God in the faith that is in those little children. Those little children, when they believe something, they believe it with all of their hearts. Amen. And I would rather rely upon the prayers of a child.

Amen. So there are also good aspects of being like the little children as well. But we don't want to be childish in our actions and our ways. So there's good and bad characteristics. God is so good.

And let's look at 1 Corinthians 11. This is going to be good. 1 Corinthians 11.

1 Corinthians 11 verse 7, page 185.

1 Corinthians 11 verse 7.

For a man ought not to have his head covered, since he is the image and the glory of Theos. But the woman is the glory, or the image, of men.

Now, Paul was talking about his customs.

Verse 2 says, Now I praise you because you remember me in everything and hold firmly to

the customs or the traditions as I deliver them to you.

And even the last verse or somewhere else later in this chapter, he also says that it is customs and traditions he's talking about. So, this verse, when he's talking about a man should not have a hat on at church, that is not true. Because God commanded the priest to wear a hat in the temple of God. So Paul was wrong. Amen. And so Paul God commanded men to wear hats. But that was for the priest. And that was old covenant. We don't have to wear a hat in church anymore. We're not commanded to wear a hat in church. But it just shows you how Paul was not right about everything. And he was going by his custom. But that is a side point. My point in this verse is this, is that it says that the man is the image of God. Amen.

And the glory of his. But the female is the glory of a man. Now, both men and women both are the image of God. Amen. But in another aspect, another way of thinking, it is absolutely true that the woman is the image of the man or the glory of the man.

Because God made Adam first. And then he made the woman from the body parts or the DNA or the DNA of man. So the woman is the image of man. Amen. That's interesting because I've always been taught that the man's nipples are there only because of the woman. But the truth is the woman's nipples are there only because of the man. Because the woman is a copy of the man.

Amen. The woman is the copy of the man. So we've been told a lot of things wrong. Amen. But the woman, if we are all to copy Jesus Christ, because we are his copy, then the woman should also need to copy the man. Amen. If she is made after our image, then she should copy us. And that is why God put women, not just the curse, not just what Eve did, but women need to be under the leadership of men.

Be under the leadership of men because they are the weaker vessel in many, many ways, not just smaller muscles, but many other ways. About fear, about letting emotions control them by letting themselves get caught up in their emotions. These are weaknesses that God created them with on purpose. Amen. But if the woman is under the man's leadership, copying him, learning from him, even as Jared with me, learning from me, even you from learning from me. If the woman will learn from the man, which they are supposed to do, amen, they're supposed to learn from their husbands. And not just doctrine and spiritual things, but about being fearless.

Amen. And it's a difficult thing for a woman to completely overcome, especially when you've got even men are wimps today. But if the man would grow up and be bold and be a real man, then the woman copying him would be able to not be as fearful and grow out of a lot of that fear.

And a lot of that fear is, I'm just going to say it because of the truth, fear is the negative form of childishness. Fear is immaturity. Children, the one bad thing about children is they're scared of everything, of the dark, scared of the dark. There's a boogeyman in the closet, there's a boogeyman under the bed. Amen. Some are scared of strangers if they're not used to being around people, shy, bashful.

Fear is immaturity. Amen. And we need to be mature about being bold. Men are more mature in many different ways, even though the video games and the movies and the music and the magazines and all that junk has made men in our modern times to be wimps. But that's not the natural state of man. The natural state of manhood is strength and boldness, what they now call toxic masculinity. That is our natural form that God created us in after his characteristics, after his image. And the woman must, over time, by learning from men as

their examples and look into Christ as well, grow out of their fear, out of their depression, stop allowing emotions to control them, get their heads together, think more logically, think with more reasoning, and control what comes out of their mouth and how much they open their mouth, and be submissive to men in all of that while gathering their strength for the kingdom. So that once they get into the fullness of the kingdom and they are released from their servitude to men, that they will explode into a flaming star. Amen. After they've kept their mouth shut that long, they will definitely explode. And I think Kiki would even agree and laugh right along with me about that. Amen.

I love my sisters in the Lord. We need our sisters. We men depend on them as well. Amen. You can't live with them, you can't live without them. We're cursed with that too. But we need our women and women need men. We need each other. Amen. And we both need to grow up and we both need to mature.

In this society both men and women both are wimps. We all got to grow up, we all got to mature to the image and conformity of what Jesus Christ was and is. Amen. So I didn't know I was going to preach half of this, but God is good. Amen. I've got so many windows open on my computer.

But one of these days I won't have to worry about printers and computers anymore. Amen. Look at chapter 15. We're almost done. I'll let you go in a few minutes.

Chapter 15 verse 49.

1 Corinthians 15. This is the resurrection chapter verse 49. "Just as we have born the image of the earthly, we will also bear the image of the heavenly." You see over and over and over the Bible teaches that we are going to look like God. Amen. We're going to be bright, shiny, powerful, hot on fire for the Lord in the fullness of the kingdom in paradise once we get past the physical earth.

We are spirit beings. We are gods. We are spirit beings. We've got to get over this fleshly mindedness and physical mindedness. Being so physically minded and being so physically minded is a great bondage and hindrance to us. And one of the ways of getting free from this physical thinking, this physical bondage, one of the ways is by freeing yourself of legalism about wearing clothes and stuff like that. I am a naturalist, which means that I believe in nudity. I believe both men and women of all ages should be able to go anywhere, anytime, naked, butt naked, anywhere. I believe naked, butt naked, anywhere. Because that is the way God made Adam and Eve without sin. They had no sin and they were not ashamed. They were not embarrassed. And God did not look upon their nudity as being shameful, embarrassing, sinful, naughty, nasty, or any such thing. It was totally innocent. And every one of us are born into this world naked. And we see the little boy and the little girl completely naked. And it's not sexual. And it's fine. And nobody's embarrassed. And we see the dogs and cats running around naked. And we see their penis. And we see what they've got. And nobody's embarrassed. And nobody says anything about it. It's nothing. But people are programmed, brainwashed, to think that our bodies are nasty and disgusting. And that is a form of bondage that makes us immature. People that think that men can't go shirtless. That is an immature thinking.

It's immaturity. That they are embarrassed by men's nipples. That is like a child once they start getting programmed. Amen? Once they start getting programmed. But before the children are programmed, the child would not think anything about a man or a girl or a woman, anyone, being shirtless.

They would not think anything about it. It would be natural to them. I've seen lots of little girls that are five, six, seven years old, seven, probably eight, nine, ten years old, running around shirtless. I've seen it before. And nobody was saying nothing. Nobody. In public. Nobody was saying nothing. Because they looked just like a boy at that age. Amen? But once they get programmed and brainwashed, all of a sudden, all of a sudden, what was fine, what was innocent, what nothing was wrong with, is suddenly nasty and disgusting and abominable. How's that? It don't make no sense to men. It don't make no sense to God either. We've got to get over this legalism and bondage. Amen? Of clothes. And once you get all that past you, then your mind starts to open up.

Just like we accept it burning candles and we accept it burning incense. It is a step toward greater spiritual growth. And when you get rid of your clothes, it is a step toward greater spiritual growth. Now, most of us, we don't have perfect bodies. But it don't matter.

It doesn't matter how much you weigh, in one sense. I know we all should get fit. We should try to be our bodies. We should try to whip our bodies into shape as much as we can. Yes, for our own health.

But we all, like I said, we look like our parents. The older we get, the more we're going to look like our parents. You can't escape the DNA of your body shape. Some people look like their parents.

Some people are going to be overweight because their parents were, or because of the medicine you take, or because of whatever other condition. There are certain things of this flesh we can't escape yet. Amen. And therefore, we have to accept that about yourself, about me, about everybody, that we would see naked, is because some people can't help their shape and their size.

So we have to be careful not to be judgmental. Don't assume that they're lazy just because they're overweight. They could be taking medicine. They could have knee problems that prevent them from exercising. They could have genetics from their parents. There's all kinds of reasons why a person might be out of shape. Amen. And we have to accept that everybody is unique. Everybody is an individual. And we should appreciate each other for who we are on the inside. And our clothes, they are nothing but a useless, vain mask to camouflage who we really are on the inside.

Amen. When we wear a shirt, that gives us an artificial boldness.

Artificial boldness. We're hiding behind an armor that really don't give us any protection. It can be cut or tore very easy. It's not a very good armor, but we hide behind the armor of cloth.

And it gives us an artificial sense of security.

And I believe when the Great Tribulation comes, that a lot of our pants and shirts and underwear and socks and shoes, they are going to get ripped and tore to pieces. Thank God. In the wilderness.

I believe in the wilderness and the Great Tribulation, we'll be freed from computers, from electricity, from internet, from telephones, and we'll be freed from all kinds of things.

And from clothes. I understand that in certain climates, the clothes will be more important.

Here in the wintertime, it gets harshly cold in the winter here. So in the wintertime, we need to bundle up, have plenty of clothes. But when the summer comes, I am stripping. And if you don't want to see my penis, then turn your head, because I am stripping when I get in the wilderness. Amen. Because I will be free from the police, free from man's corrupt government and corrupt laws, and I will be free to serve the Lord and look more like He did on the cross, completely naked. He was born naked, Jesus was. He was baptized completely naked, and

He was crucified completely naked. And if that was wrong, to be naked in public, He would not have allowed that to be brought upon His body.

As the Bible says, that He surveyed, pre-surveyed ahead of time, what would happen here on this earth. He planned how He would die, it was written in the Bible how He would die, all of it. He knew exactly every detail of His death. He could have at any time said, no, that's dirty, that's shameful, that's not right, that's not respectable, but He never said that. He died on the cross as a perfect example for us to not be ashamed of your nudity. We are being conformed to look more like Him in every aspect. If you think about men in Bible times, a lot of them did not wear shirts at all. In fact, during many generations of the Bible, the majority of the population were completely naked at all times. That's a fact of history. Because people were poor, you couldn't run to the store to get clothes. What food you did have had to be used to buy real necessities that really mattered. And it was really only the rich that would wear clothes, and the leaders that would wear clothes, and even men was very only scantily dressed. But the general population, all throughout, through the Bible, most of those people you read about in the Bible were naked, except for only when they had to put on some really good armor for war.

And of course, a lot of them were leaders and a lot of them was rich. A lot of the men and women of God was rich, so they would have had clothes at certain times. But when you read about them in their poverty, they would have been naked. So we got to get over that, and I believe it's important. I believe it's important. I do believe that the measure of maturity that we need to be turned to Spirit is a much greater measure than what anybody else is going to tell you.

I know I'm probably, I'm probably the only one, unfortunately, that would tell you the truth about the seriousness of how far you got to get spiritually, mentally, emotionally, in order to be turned to Spirit.

You're not going to be turned to Spirit. God will not turn you to Spirit until you reach a great and perfect level of maturity. Amen. It's a process. That's why there's two resurrections. That's why there's a thousand years and a hundred years. It's a long process. It takes time. Amen. And Kiki has a good point that the third world, they're ahead of us in that way.

A lot of people down in South America and parts of Africa, parts of Asia and India, you'll find a lot of people going barefoot constantly and shirtless constantly and women's shirtless and they don't think of it as being dirty or nasty or anything. They don't think of it that way. It's just the way they was born and live and they're not programmed through modern Western society. Amen. So, I believe that a lot of people are much better off being born in poverty and staying in poverty their entire life, even though it's a struggle to live and survive in Africa and South America. I believe it's a blessing from God for those people. Those nations are cursed, but those nations are also blessed at the same time.

They're cursed because of the sins of Ishmael and Isaac, but they are blessed under Abraham.

They did receive some blessings, some blessings from Abraham and just the mercy of God. Amen.

And God is not willing for anyone to perish, but for all people to come to everlasting life, but for all people to come to everlasting life, regardless of race, color or language. He wants everybody to come to everlasting life and he gives mercy to the poor. And I believe the poor are the most blessed people in the world. Amen. I believe the more poor you are, the more blessed you are, the more happy you can be if you're content. And I know that the struggles

are very difficult. I know, I know, but the struggles are very good for us as well. Amen. God is so good and I appreciate my brothers and my sisters in the Lord that don't run away from God's truth. I'm so glad that you are strong enough and mature enough to take strong the language so that you can grow in the truth even more. Amen. Please pray for all the people that are coming into this ministry because they have not had all the foundations, not all the same foundations that we have had over the past few weeks and months of growing in the truth about this. So it'd be more difficult for certain people. So please pray, pray, pray, pray, pray. Do some really long prayers. Some of your prayers need to be 30 minutes, even an hour.

And I understand that not every prayer can be that long. Some prayers 5, 10, 15 minutes. But we also need some prayers that are like 30 minutes and 45 minutes and an hour, really long prayers. We've got a lot to pray about. We have a whole lot to pray about and we need to pray fervently with tears pouring our hearts out to the Lord for our brothers and sisters across the world. Amen. Does anybody got anything to say? Got anything, Jared?

Okay, I'm still working on the Philo article.

Seems like I'm never going to get, I'm so worn down. I'm so exhausted and you know I've been struggling with my stomach for four, maybe five days now. And I got to get that article done and the divorcing from unbelievers. I got to get that article done and work on the AOB and all kinds of stuff. So I appreciate your extra prayers for my strength and energy and my wife very much needs your extra prayers as well for encouragement. And we need your extra prayers for more brothers and sisters to be brought here locally. And I've been praying also for you, every one of you, to have more brothers and sisters for you too. We all need more brothers and sisters. None of us can do this by ourselves. I need more help. You need more help. We all need more help. Every one of us.

So let's pray every one of us in unity for more brothers and more sisters, for Meekness, for Kareem, for Ajay, for Kiki, for Brittnei, for Jared, for myself, for all of us, for others. Amen. Adri down in South Africa could use another brother in Borden up in France. And I got an email from Jonathan. Help me remember, Jared. I'm behind on my emails to Jonathan. And don't forget our brothers and sisters in Algeria. Amen. And brother BJ in India, he could definitely use some more brothers and sisters for him. Peter over in Australia as well. So let's lift each other up in prayer. Good night, Sister Kiki. Good night, A.J. And have a wonderful day, Kareem. And have a wonderful day or evening over there Meekness.

And let all of you go and grab either some sleep or something to eat. And all of this in Jesus' name. Amen.

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