



## The Role of the Church in the Community Lesson 2 3Q 2016 Restoring Dominion

I received this email this week:

*I would like one case of The Remedy NT. I took more than half of the first box to church and they disappeared. I'm traveling to WA on the 29th and would like to take a bunch to family and friends there. Thank you so much for all you do to share the truth about who God is. I see this message changing people from the inside out that I thought would never change. Wow! Praise God from whom all blessings flow! This message is so transforming. Yet I see others who are so indifferent. So sad. We just keep sharing and praying for open hearts. Thank you. I'm also ordering your other books but see I can't do it all at once. Will be sending a donation to help with costs. May God's rich love be more real to you each and every day*

And also this email came in:

*A friend gave me a copy of "Healing the Mind". I am a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and an Elder in our assembly (Yahweh's Assembly in Yahshua" ... in the King James' English: "The LORD's Church in Jesus"). Much of what Dr. Jennings teaches parallels what I learned from the Director, M. K. Downing ("Doc") of the Family Communication Center in Fresno (now not in existence). He taught "the Event - Meaning - Feelings - Behavior Continuum", "the Love Process" and other teachings. I love the concept that it is reason and conscience that form the judgments we make (I recognize judgment on a scale with one end, "discernment, and the other, condemnation, the first, healthy, and the other, unhealthy). I agree that it requires both of these, working in harmony and in the truth found in Scripture to find True judgment and discernment. I would love to share some information and ask some questions of Dr. Jennings, if he is so inclined.*

This email came in this morning:

*My Brother's and Sister's at Come and Reason Ministry,*

*When I stumbled upon your ministry, I was in such turmoil. The seventh day Adventist church that I am a member of presents our God as a punishing revengeful dictator. I raised my son in this church teaching him and presenting this GOD to him. At age 21, my son left the church stating its no different than the world. You saved my life by introducing me to the true God. Your ministry is the remedy to all the false teaching in the world. it is my responsibility to ensure that I help with introducing the God of love and design law.*

*Can you please send me a case of the Remedy:*



## SABBATH

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What is dominion? Does it mean to dominate? Would it be that Adam was to be predominant? Or Adam was to be the dominant figure on earth? If Adam were to be predominant or dominate—prior to sin what would that have looked like? What actions might Adam have done? How would he have behaved? What methods would he have utilized?

Would he have acted like Jesus—Adam would have been predominant in service, in love, in protection, in wisdom, guidance, mercy, grace, freedom, always leading in SERVICE... giving of himself for the health of the rest of the planet?

Is that what you typically think of when you think of dominion and dominant?

What was Adam's dominion? Did Adam have dominion over nature? Did he have dominion over angels? Did he have dominion over Eve? What do you think Adam had the authority, ability to do prior to the fall?

While they remained true to God, Adam and his companion were to bear rule over the earth. **Unlimited control was given them over every living thing.** [What would that look like? Does it make a difference if one controls with a heart of love or a heart of selfishness? Do you think if they had control over every living thing, they also had control over non-living things like minerals and water and dirt?] The lion and the lamb sported peacefully around them or lay down together at their feet. The happy birds flitted about them without fear; and as their glad songs ascended to the praise of their Creator, Adam and Eve united with them in thanksgiving to the Father and the Son... {PP 50.2}

**The laws and operations of nature**, which have engaged men's study for six thousand years, were opened to their minds by the infinite Framer and Upholder of all. [What laws of nature are you aware of? Which have you found fascinating? Classic Newtonian physics, gravity, motion, friction, but also laws of magnetism, electricity, nuclear properties. All of these laws are fixed and don't change.

But what science has discovered is quantum physics. Now quantum physics is the law that basically encodes freedom of choice into the structure of the universe's fixed laws. It is the choice of the observer, the freewill agent that ultimately makes the reality occur. Computers work upon Newtonian physics, zeros and ones, our brains physiologically are working on Newtonian physics (blood flow, electrical signals etc), but our thinking, our minds—our souls are operating on quantum interactions.

Quantum entanglement is that two particles are in relationship regardless of distance in space and time and requires no physical link. This is a Biblical principle, we are all one body in



Christ; we are being built together in a temple for the Lord. This is very consistent with quantum mechanics. An interesting study to demonstrate the quantum connection that can exist between people was done. They took two individuals who meditated together and placed them in a faraday cage (which blocks all electromagnetic energy). This allowed them to form a bond, a connection. Then they separated the two into separate faraday cages in separate rooms, there was no connection physically or environmentally, and all electromagnetic emissions were blocked by the faraday cages. Then they shone a light into the eye of one of the meditators. The part of the brain that light up in that person's brain also lit up in the other meditator's brain, even though no sensory stimulation was provided to the second meditator.<sup>1</sup>

Quantum mechanics can give some insight into why persons have been able to “know” when something bad has happened to a loved one miles away, or how people can be benefited by prayer. Our thoughts actually do change reality. We were created to, as free moral agents exercise our individuality to impact and direct the world around us. This has all been infected and perverted, but the basic design laws and protocols upon which God constructed it all remain. It is coming back into unity with God that we experiencing healing of our minds and become more capable of exercising our abilities in harmony with Him and His design. continuing on with the quote.

...They [Adam and Eve] held converse with leaf and flower and tree, gathering from each the secrets of its life. [what does this mean? Did they merely observe and learn by observation, or was there interaction, conversation? Could Adam and Eve instruct the plants, grow in this direction, put a flower on the third stalk on the left, reabsorb the second branch and grow it three inches further down?] With every living creature, from the mighty leviathan that playeth among the waters to the insect mote that floats in the sunbeam, Adam was familiar. He had given to each its name, and he was acquainted with the nature and habits of all. God's glory in the heavens, the innumerable worlds in their orderly revolutions, "the balancings of the clouds," **the mysteries of light and sound**, of day and night--all were open to the study of our first parents. On every leaf of the forest or stone of the mountains, in every shining star, in earth and air and sky, **God's name was written**. [what does it mean God's name was written? Is this similar to Romans 1:20 that God's divine nature is seen in what he has made? What is name? Character and so is God's character of love seen throughout all creation? How and why? What is God's core central character? Love, and how does love operate? Giving, and in nature is all of it constructed to operate in love, in giving?] The order and harmony of creation spoke to them of infinite wisdom and power. They were ever discovering some attraction that filled their hearts with deeper love and called forth fresh expressions of gratitude. {PP 50.3}

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<sup>1</sup> Dean Radin, "Testing Nonlocal Observations as a Source of Intuitive Knowledge," *Explore* 4, no. 1 (2008): 25.



**So long as they remained loyal to the divine law, their capacity to know, to enjoy, and to love would continually increase.** [Why? Is it, that as long as they stayed loyal they kept their golden security cards with access passwords that gave them access to the heavenly data base to continue to learn? But if they were disloyal God would cut them off from access to the celestial library? No, what happens to our ability to learn when we believe lies? Think about it. Imaging going back to the Dark Ages/Middle Ages and try to teach a person the truth about bacteria during the Black Death. What might have happened? Would the people have been open to truth? Would the clergy have been open to truth? What happens today when people believe so strongly that God must punish and kill the wicked? Do they lose the ability to assimilate new truth? Yes, so once they believed Satan's lie their minds became infected with fear and selfishness, and their knowledge base became corrupted with distortions] They would be constantly gaining new treasures of knowledge, discovering fresh springs of happiness, and obtaining clearer and yet clearer conceptions of the immeasurable, unfailing love of God. {PP 51.1}

So, with all of this in mind, before they sinned what might they have been able to do with their dominion on earth?

- Could they walk on water?
- Could they command the sun to stand still?
- Could they move objects with his mind – an axe head to float?
- Could they command the trees and flowers and vines to grow in any direction they wanted?
- Could they redirect rivers and streams?
- Could they communicate with the animals?
- Could they fly or teleport from place to place – like Satan taking Jesus to the pinnacle of the temple?

Did Adam prior to his fall have dominion over the forces of nature?

Read second paragraph, “Not only man...” What do you hear in this passage? What does it mean, “paying the penalty of sin”? Is this different than paying a legal penalty? Does the author here say “legal penalty”?

- So, what is the penalty of sin? Death,
- Why is death the penalty of sin?
- Why is death the penalty of taking a cyanide tablet, or cutting an artery and letting your blood bleed out, or tying a plastic bag over your head, or destroying your kidneys with poison?
- Why is death the penalty of such events?
  - Because each of these events violate God's design for life, and another word for design—is law. God's law is the protocol upon which life is built, and violations result in death, unless something is done to restore one back to harmony with design.

So, why did Christ have to pay this penalty?



- Level four and below thinking:
  - because justice requires punishment
  - because the law must be enforced
- Level five and above thinking:
  - It was the only way to eliminate the infection of fear and selfishness which now was the predominant principle, driver, motivator in every single human being, and simultaneously restore God's law of love back into the species human.

In dying Christ—destroyed death, destroyed him who holds the power of death and destroyed the devil's work (2Tim 1:10, Heb 2:14, 1Jn 3:8). In other words, the penalty was paid not as a legal payment, but as the price required to fix what was broken in humankind.

It would be like saying to someone who was dying of renal failure, that the person who donated a kidney paid the price to save them. Yes, the person who gave a kidney they did pay the price to save them, but it wasn't a legal price, it was the price their condition required.

Once Adam sinned, what was required for human beings to be saved?

- The restoration of trust—which required what? Truth to destroy lies, did Jesus pay the price to reveal the truth about God, Satan, the nature and character of sin? Absolutely, but what else was required?
- A new nature, a human nature free from fear and selfishness, a human nature not contaminated by sin—Jesus became part of this humanity, took upon Himself this terminal condition (He became sin though He knew no sin) and in Jesus the law of sin and death was destroyed and replaced by the law of life. When? In Gethsemane and the Cross, when Jesus exercised His human brain to love and say no to selfishness, dying on the cross eliminated the infection, and prior to the Cross Jesus experienced the temptation of what our fallen nature does. Jesus in Gethsemane experienced the temptation to save self—but after His death at the cross, when Love won, Jesus arose in a humanity that can never be tempted again. Jesus is the Remedy! Jesus fixed what Adam broke!
- Yes, Jesus paid a price, but it was the price reality, the condition itself required, not some legal imposition of punishment.

## SUNDAY

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Read first paragraph, “Someone recently...” How would you answer this person's questions?

First, what happened in history that contributed to thinking people giving up a belief in God?

It was when Christianity presented God through the lens of imposed law, with legal requirements and coercive enforcement. This resulted in all kinds of teachings that were nonsense, contradictory to reality, contradictory to common human decency and presented a god not worthy of worship. And since the truth about God was at that time in history not presented clearly, thinking people rejected the



idea of God and came up with evolution as something much more reasonable than the Dark Ages dictator god.

Yet, moving away from worshipping a false god construct to no god, still doesn't bring peace to the soul, doesn't provide answers to these big questions. How would you answer the questions in the paragraph?

What was God's purpose/s in creating human beings? Here is an historic quotation from the book *Education* p. 15:

In order to understand what is comprehended in the work of education, we need to consider both the **nature of man and the purpose of God in creating him**. We need to consider also the change in man's condition through the coming in of a knowledge of evil, and **God's plan for still fulfilling His glorious purpose** in the education of the human race. {Ed 14.4}

When Adam came from the Creator's hand, he bore, in his physical, mental, and spiritual nature, a likeness to his Maker. "God created man in His own image" (Genesis 1:27), and **it was His purpose that the longer man lived the more fully he should reveal this image--the more fully reflect the glory of the Creator**. [what is the glory of the creator? It is His character of love; what then would it mean to more fully reflect his glory? how would this happen on earth if Adam and Eve had not sinned?] **All his faculties were capable of development; their capacity and vigor were continually to increase**. Vast was the scope offered for their exercise, glorious the field opened to their research. The mysteries of the visible universe--the "wondrous works of Him which is perfect in knowledge" (Job 37:16)--invited man's study. Face-to-face, heart-to-heart communion with his Maker was his high privilege. Had he remained loyal to God, all this would have been his forever. **Throughout eternal ages he would have continued to gain new treasures of knowledge, to discover fresh springs of happiness, and to obtain clearer and yet clearer conceptions of the wisdom, the power, and the love of God. More and more fully would he have fulfilled the object of his creation, more and more fully have reflected the Creator's glory**. {Ed 15.1}

But by disobedience this was forfeited. **Through sin the divine likeness was marred, and well-nigh obliterated**. Man's physical powers were weakened, his mental capacity was lessened, his spiritual vision dimmed. He had become subject to death. Yet the race was not left without hope. By infinite love and mercy the plan of salvation had been devised, and a life of probation was granted. **To restore in man the image of his Maker, to bring him back to the perfection in which he was created, to promote the development of body, mind, and soul, that the divine purpose in his creation might be realized--this was to be the work of redemption**. [Does this sound like a legal solution, or an actual healing solution?] This is the object of education, the great object of life. [Is this what Christianity has been teaching or instead a legal system devoid of God's healing grace?] {Ed 15.2}



**Love, the basis of creation and of redemption, is the basis of true education. [What does this mean? Love the basis of creation—does this mean something more than emotion, is love functional, operational—how does love operate or function?] This is made plain in the law that God has given as the guide of life. [What law do you think is being referred to here? What do you think this author will cite next as the law God gave as a guide to life?]** The first and great commandment is, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind." Luke 10:27. To love Him, the infinite, the omniscient One, with the whole strength, and mind, and heart, means the highest development of every power. **It means that in the whole being--the body, the mind, as well as the soul--the image of God is to be restored.** {Ed 16.1}

How many preachers have diverted minds away from the law of love to the 10 Commandments and a system of fear and behavioral conformity?

Again does that sound like a legal payment solution or a healing of our actual being back into harmony with God's original design for humankind?

So what was our purpose? To be godlike—literally, to be like Him in our being, our thoughts, actions, understanding, functioning, in all that we do to be like Him!

How does this purpose get derailed? By sin—and how does God's redemptive plan get derailed? By legal theologies that obstruct His healing plan!

## **MONDAY**

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Read first two paragraphs, "The biblical word..." So Adam and Eve were given authority, dominion and were to exercise power over the earth—what kind of power? How were they to wield power?

Would Adam and Eve, in a world before sin, use power to force others into compliance with their will? Would they have used compelling power?

Would there be lessons that would be learned about God in how Adam wielded power—in a world without sin? What lessons might be learned?

What about when Adam and Eve discussed a project—would they consult with their dog or cat or rhino or elephant in the planning? Why not?

Which is the bigger intelligence and knowledge gap, the gap between you and your dog, or the gap between you and God?



So, do we gain insight into why God didn't consult with His creation when He went about His creative plans? Is it because God is selfish and exclusionary or is it because created beings cannot communicate on the level of the Godhead, we cannot even comprehend it?

Does the earth's eco systems teach us anything about God? how what?

## TUESDAY

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What do you understand boundaries to mean? What are the purposes of boundaries?

In God's design are boundaries intended to restrict, enslave, trap, or imprison?

What are the purpose of boundaries? To protect—always to protect! And to liberate—how?

- Would a river, even in Eden, have boundaries—why, what happens when a river floods over its boundaries?
- Does the Bible describe God's law as the law of liberty—how?

Let's read Galatians 3:19-25 from *The Remedy*:

<sup>19</sup> If God promised to heal us, then what was the purpose of the law? It was added because of our sin-sick state—our darkened minds and the rapid rate at which we were destroying ourselves—in order to diagnose our condition and teach us a healthier way to live until the only true cure, Jesus (the promised One) had come. God communicated this law through angels, and then through Moses as an intermediary to the people...

<sup>21</sup> Is the written law, then, somehow in opposition to the promises of God? Of course not! The written law was simply a tool to diagnose our sickness and lead us to God for healing. If the written law could somehow cure the infection of selfishness and promote life, then healing would certainly have followed the giving of the law.<sup>22</sup> But Scripture is clear: All humanity is infected with selfishness and is imprisoned by this terminal condition. It is by trust that we experience the only cure, the One promised—Jesus Christ—who was given to humankind as the Remedy to this terminal condition.

<sup>23</sup> Before Christ came, we were quarantined by the written law—restrained from continual self-destruction—until Christ procured the only true cure.<sup>24</sup> The written law was provided as a safeguard to protect us and lead us to Christ—the Great Physician—so that we might be restored to unity with God by trust in, and partaking of, Christ.<sup>25</sup> Now that trust in God has been restored—and we are set right in heart, mind, and character, and again practice God's methods—we no longer need the law to diagnose our condition or lead us back to God.

What is the purpose of the written law? To protect and lead us back to Christ for true healing. Then if this is its purpose, for whom was it written? 1Tim 1:8-11:



<sup>8</sup> We know that the written law is a diagnostic instrument for the soul, and it is good if used properly.<sup>9</sup> We also know that this diagnostic tool was not made for the spiritually healthy, but for those who are selfish in character, those who are spiritually diseased, who don't know God, who don't love others but kill their fathers and mothers, the ill at heart, murderers,<sup>10</sup> sexual perverts and adulterers, human traffickers, liars, deceivers, and for everyone and everything else that is out of harmony with God's design for life or<sup>11</sup> doesn't harmonize with the incredible truth about God's character of love that he has entrusted me to share. (*The Remedy*)

It is just like MRI machines, they were not made for people with perfect health. the MRIs were made for people with sickness, to expose the disease—but the MRI has no power to heal. Likewise, the 10 Commandments were given as a protective hedge and diagnostic tool, but they have no power to heal.

So, then, how does the law provide freedom? Because if we live in harmony with the law (God's design protocols) we are healthier, in every way, and health is liberty and freedom, just ask anyone who has lost their health:

- If a person has smoked heavily and has bad lung disease, have they lost liberty?
- If a person has lived a sedentary lifestyle and eaten fatty foods and has heart failure, have they lost liberty?
- If a person has murdered someone, and even if not caught have they lost liberty? Do they live in fear, maybe on the lam?
- If a person has an addiction, have they lost liberty?
- If a person rejects love and lives selfishly have they lost liberty? Why? Because they are imprisoned with their fears, doubts, insecurity, perceived threats, and ultimate their fear of death.
- Fear paralyzes, love sets free!

Only returning to God, our Creator and His principles (i.e. law) of love do we find our highest fulfillment and true freedom. Everything deviant from God's design enslaves!

Bottom section—what are some specific boundaries we need to respect in regard to others—while we won't dig into personal lives, what about in the church?

What about Romans 14:5 is there a boundary in this verse we need to respect?

One man considers one day more sacred than another; another man considers every day alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind.

What is the boundary? We present truth in love and leave others free—we don't set ourselves up as judges of another person's conscience or their service to God.

Remember man looks on the outward appearance, but God looks on the heart.



Jesus told the story of the good Samaritan, why did Jesus pick a Samaritan to tell this story? What was the Jewish attitude toward the Samaritans?

So, what about this parable, in answer to who is my neighbor, perhaps we could say, who is a Christian—

A ship was sailing from US to England and hit an iceberg. The ship is sinking and people are frantic for seats on the lifeboats. The last lifeboat is about to be lowered over the side, completely full, when a child is discovered still on the sinking ship. A priest refuses to give up his seat, a pastor and theology professor also refuse, but a homosexual man, who lived an active homosexual life, gets off the lifeboat and gives his seat to the boy. Who, in the parable is the Christian—the one who is like Christ?

- By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.” Jn 13:35
- Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends. Jn 15:13
- This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers. 1Jn 3:16

## WEDNESDAY

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What is the responsibility of human beings to care for the earth? Do we have a responsibility to care for the lower life forms? Do we have a responsibility to not pollute?

What has contributed to the massive pollution in the world today? When did pollution start?

Historians suggest pollution began with the industrial revolution, when items we use became increasingly disposable and prepackaged. Commercialization, with branding and packaging to enhance marketing, with disposable packages has contributed to huge garbage and waste in our societies today.

Studies found that in America, the average American throws away between 4.4 and 7 pounds of trash per day. That is basically one ton of trash per person per year we throw away—this is non-recyclable waste.

## THURSDAY

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The Restoring Role of the Church—what do you understand the role of the church to be?

- Would it be to convert people to a particular denomination?
- Would it be to get people to behave in certain ways?
- Would it be to get people to participate in certain rituals?
- Would it be to get people to attest to certain creeds?
- Would it be to help restore the image of God in humanity?

Is the church to be involved in helping restore the image of God in humankind?



How? What actions specifically can the church take to help restore the image of God in man?

- Present the truth about God's character of love, His methods of love, His law of love in the setting of the Great Controversy over His character
- Schools to educate people, so they learn in the right context
- Present reality, design reality, not imperialism
- To minister God's love in helping others—missions, health care, community services etc. etc.
- To create places of community where we can worship and fellowship and live lives in harmony with God's design

Dark section 2/3 of the way down the page, "How did the apostle John describe the reason Christ appeared on this earth?"

- The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full. Jn 10:10

How do we have life to the full? Only restored back to harmony with God's design!

- The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work. 1Jn 3:8

What is the devil's work?

The life of Christ is to be revealed in humanity. Man was the crowning act of the creation of God, **made in the image of God, and designed to be a counterpart of God; but Satan has labored to obliterate the image of God in man, and to imprint upon him his own image.** Man is very dear to God, because he was formed in His own image. . . {LHU 48.2}

Jesus destroyed the devil's work, how? By restoring God's image in humankind!

## **FRIDAY**

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discuss question 3



## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

*The God-Shaped Brain* is now available in Korean and is available at this website: [http://book.naver.com/bookdb/book\\_detail.nhn?bid=9519886](http://book.naver.com/bookdb/book_detail.nhn?bid=9519886)

***The Remedy* – Dr. Jennings’ New Testament Paraphrase**—FREE for ios and android systems.

***The Remedy***—Is Now Available in Print Version in the US. We have printed 10,000 to give away and will reassess demand for them after those are gone. We are shipping a small number to Canada and Australia. **How to get copies:** In the US email [orders@comeandreason.com](mailto:orders@comeandreason.com) with a valid US postal address; In Canada email [canada@comeandreason.com](mailto:canada@comeandreason.com) and in Australia/New Zealand email [Australia@comeandreason.com](mailto:Australia@comeandreason.com) and request the number you want and we will ship them to you. If you are giving them away please give them only to people who want them. In other words, don’t put one at every seat in the church, or place setting at a potluck, or car in a parking lot. Such distribution methods result in vast numbers being thrown away. Let people know they are free and allow them to take one if they want too works best.

**The Journal of the Watcher is now available as a HARD COVER book at Amazon** as well as a movie in itunes for everyone without ios or android in itunes. It is also available as an APP for Apple and Android devices.

**Thursday, June 9 at 1:30 PM Eastern Time** Dr. Jennings will appear on the *Lifestyle Magazine* show, “Healing The Mind” that he recorded previously. It is scheduled to air on the Trinity Broadcasting Network (TBN). Keep in mind that TBN can preempt the show at their discretion.

**October 14-16:** Dr. Jennings will be speaking at the Drakensville, South Africa Campmeeting.

**October 19, 20:** Dr. Jennings will be speaking in Ladismith South Africa (venue to be determined)

**October 21, 22:** Dr. Jennings will be speaking in Cape Town, South Africa