

Messages from Revelation 4 of 16

The Health Message

#0465

Study Given by W. D. Frazee—May 25, 1973

Turn please to Revelation 14. This wonderful book of Revelation contains God's last message for this world. What a wonderful message it is. John says, beginning with the sixth verse:

“And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to Him; for the hour of His judgment is come: and worship Him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters” Revelation 14:6–7.

The particular message to the last generation focuses on the question of worship. Our worship is to be given to the Creator, the One who made the heavens and the earth. As we shall see in some future lessons, the third angel in the ninth verse, warns us against the false worship—the worship of the beast and his image, and the reception of his mark. Soon all the world will be worshiping the Creator or the creature, worshiping the One that made, or worshiping the something that has been made. It seems strange that anyone would turn from the worship of the Creator to something that the Creator made, doesn't it? Yet this has been the effort of the great enemy all down through the ages.

Last Friday night, we were studying this wonderful call to get acquainted with the handiwork of the Creator in order that our worship of Him might be more intelligent. To worship includes the thought of admiration, adoration. But we cannot worship One that we do not know, can we? Oh, that's impossible. Therefore the better we know Him, the better our worship can be, do you see?

How do we become acquainted with Him? Through His Word, He speaks to us, and in the things He has made, He reveals Himself to us. As we look at the beautiful flowers, the lofty trees, the glory of the sunrise and the beauty of the sunset, as we examine all these things that He has made, more and more we see what a wise Creator He is, how powerful He is, and how loving He is. And the more we see His wisdom and His power and His love the more our hearts go out in admiration, and adoration.

So to study the things of nature is a part of fitting us of that which fits us for true worship. “Worship Him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the

fountains of waters.” But friends, of all the things that the Creator made, the most wonderful is *man*. For God created man in His own image (Genesis 1:26).

Of all the works of God that we can study in this world then, the study of man himself, the study of anatomy and physiology, if you please, is the most important part of all nature’s study.

Now that has a very practical side. The better we understand how we are made, the better we can care for ourselves and keep out of trouble if you please. The better we understand how this machine was put together and how it operates, the better we can care for it, and the better it will serve us.

But oh my friends, tonight, I would direct you to something way beyond that and way above it as the *reason* for the study of how the body is made and how it functions. The reason is this, friend: Man is made in the image of God. Man therefore, is very dear to God. God looks after everything in creation. Not a sparrow falls without His notice. But of everything in earth and sea and sky, the most precious thing to God is man. You are precious.

And if you were ever tempted to doubt it, then think of Calvary. Remember those wounded hands that were mentioned in that beautiful message just sung for us. Yes, the hand that hung the world in space is the hand that was nailed to the cross for us. There He shows us what He thinks of man, and how valuable man is.

You know, when we go back to Genesis, and I invite you to turn to Genesis 2, I want you to see something very interesting here concerning the origin of man. What’s the material of which he’s formed? What’s the raw material? The dust of the earth.

“...the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground,
and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man
became a living soul” Genesis 2:7.

Now notice, man was formed, made of what? Of dust. Interestingly enough, the scientists today find in the human body the same primary elements that are found in the soil—carbon, hydrogen, oxygen, nitrogen, sulfur, sodium, potassium, and iron.

When we were boys, we used to take a magnet and run it through the dust. What do you pick up? Iron, little tiny pieces of iron. Of course, the way you and I get the iron in our body, we let the wheat plant get some of that iron or the strawberries or the tomatoes or beans get it, and we get it from the food.

My point is this, the primary elements that are found in the human body are also found in the soil; that’s where they came from. That’s where we get them day by day in our food—through the vegetable kingdom. Those elements are made ready for you and me to appropriate that our bodies may be built up day by day.

God started the process back there when He made Adam out of what? The dust. He did it right away; it didn't take years, certainly not eons. He did it in one day, on Friday, the preparation day, the day just before the Sabbath, as the first chapter of Genesis shows.

Now, think with me about this wonderful fact. When God took the dust and shaped it into a man-made in the Creator's image, He exalted matter to the highest point that it could be raised in creation. Let me illustrate that. Suppose that you were an atom of iron and could think. (We're just supposing here for a minute, you'll see what I'm getting at.) There you are, there in the dust of the earth. What would you be? Well, that's all you'll be forever if you stay there in that dust. What can you accomplish just lying there in the dust? But suppose the opportunity would come for you to become a part of a blade of grass, or a beautiful red strawberry, or a ripe, luscious tomato. Wouldn't that be quite an exaltation? Wouldn't you come up quite a bit then? Wouldn't it be more wonderful to be a part of a living, growing plant, than merely to lie there in the earth? You all see that, don't you? That is an exaltation of matter.

God did that on the third day of creation week, as read there in Genesis 1:2. It is from the earth that all these plants came, and it's from the earth they all come now.

Now watch, suppose that that same atom of iron that you're imagining yourself to be, that can think, suppose it has the opportunity now to become a part of some creature that has a brain, something like a horse, or an elephant or a dog, or some other mammal. Do you see how much more exalted that creature is compared with the grass or the plant? The plant has to stay right there; the animal can move all around. The plant has no intelligence. But a dog or a horse, sometimes we see those creatures doing things that they almost seem almost human. Don't they?

And yet, friends, they have to have iron in their bloodstream to carry the oxygen to the brain so they can think. So that iron that was once in the earth, and now in the grass or a strawberry or a tomato, now it's a part of some animal—another great exaltation.

How much greater is a mammal, an animal that cannot only think like a horse or a dog might, but he can think on the moral level? He can commune with God. He can read the Word of God, he can get a message from Heaven. Dogs and horses don't understand a thing about the past history of this world. They know nothing about what's going to happen tomorrow. Am I correct?

Oh, friend, if you were that atom of iron, wouldn't it be the most wonderful thing you could think of to become a part of a living, thinking human being made in the image of the Creator? And do you see that at that point, God had raised matter to the highest possible point that He could in creation? For man was made in whose image? The image of God. What greater honor could God give to matter than to form it in His own image?

Then I ask you, what is the greatest appreciation that you and I can show to God? What is the greatest worship that we can give to God? Is it not to say, “Oh Lord, if You have made me in Your own image and given me the power of choice, then I shall honor You and show my thankfulness by seeking to work with You to keep the image that you made me in.”

Then I ask you this question: What would be the greatest insult that man could give to God? Would it not be to say, “I don’t like the way You made me, and I’m going to pervert, I’m going to twist, I’m going to mar, I’m going to destroy that image.

Can it be done? Has it been done? Yes, by millions of people.

If you were the Devil, what would you do about it? I’ll tell you what he has done about it; he’s been working with fiendish ingenuity for 6,000 years to get as many people in this world as possible to work with Him to destroy the image of God in humanity.

Turn now to John 10, I want you to see that. Jesus is speaking. He compares Himself to that tender Shepherd which our brother was speaking to us a few moments ago. And oh, what a tender shepherd Jesus is, but as a wise Shepherd, He points out the danger:

“The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly” John 10:10.

What’s the thief trying to do? Steal, kill, and destroy. Who is that thief? Satan. He’s working to destroy that which God created. Why? Because He hates the Creator. He hates everything that reminds him of the wisdom and the power and love of Jesus. The more a man is like his Creator, the more he becomes a mark for the Devil. The Devil sets in motion everything he can think of to try to destroy that man. And most of all he seeks—don’t miss this—he tries to get man to destroy himself. Do you know why? That’s the greatest insult that can be hurled at the Creator.

Think of it, suppose, and this is such a weak illustration, but you’ll see what I’m getting at. Suppose that someone who loves you very much should take years of preparation and make a beautiful home for you—a lovely mansion, beautifully landscaped grounds, a little lake there with a stream running into it and outside. All this should be designed in an appropriate location, and there it’s landscaped and everything beautiful. And now this friend says to you, “It’s all ready, now you move in.”

Wouldn’t it be a terrible thing to think that you would be inspired to go around with some kind of tool and began to break up the house and destroy the furniture? Wouldn’t it be a terrible thing to go through the garden with destructive tools and seeking to tear down everything that that friend had made?

Sometimes it's more subtle. Suppose that instead of just tearing everything up, suppose that you would go in there and change the entire pattern that the friend had made. Put ugly things instead of the beautiful. Twist and pervert that which had been designed with such a loving thought. This, I repeat, is what Satan has been seeking to get men to do for 6,000 years.

This is why we have the various drug poisons—tobacco with its more than 20 poisons. It was designed by the great enemy to divert and destroy. This wonderful man, made in the image of God, it coats the inside of the lungs with tar. It irritates the lining of the stomach, producing in some cases ulcers. It affects the heart.

Smoking is one of the big factors in coronary attacks. But most of all, tobacco affects the thinking up here in the brain. It interferes with the working of those ten billion cells. Of all the places in the entire human body, here particularly is the image of God. Here is where man thinks God's thoughts after Him. So Satan has worked upon plants like the tobacco plant and has caused them to develop these poisons which have that effect, so with tea and coffee with their caffeine.

Just yesterday I was looking at some very interesting pictures of spiders and spider webs. Doctor Harding out in our school of health at Loma Linda has experimented with these spiders, and he has found that by giving a spider a small amount of caffeine, that's the drug that's in coffee, similar to what it would be for a full-grown man to take just 2 cups of coffee, that spider is so affected by that tiny, tiny bit of caffeine that it cannot spin a proper web—it's erratic, mixed up. And do you know how long it takes for that spider to get over that one dose of caffeine? Four days. Four days before its web is back to normal. Think of it.

Now when you add the tobacco and the coffee and all the different things that are being poured into the human body today through the lungs and through the stomach, do you see who's behind all this? The thief, he has come to steal and to kill and to destroy. Why? Because he hates God.

Now in our text tonight, we noted the three angel's messages in this last generation is:

“Fear God, and give glory to Him; for the hour of His judgment is come: and worship Him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters”
Revelation 14:7.

If I'm worshiping Him as the One who made the waters, will I pollute the waters? If I'm worshiping Him as the One that made the heavens, will I pollute the air? If I'm worshiping Him who made the earth, will I destroy the earth? No, I'll work with Him to conserve, to preserve all that He made. Are you with me?

But oh, if that's so, if I'm interested in not polluting the water, and not polluting the air, and not destroying the earth, with how much more interest, with how much deeper and closer interest will I come to the study of this body? For a while, God

made the earth and the air and the water, the birds and animals; He lavished His special care and special attention on what? On this body made in the image of God.

Turn now to 1 Corinthians 6, I want you to notice something:

“What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?” 1 Corinthians 6:19.

You are not your own? Why not? Oh, you didn’t make yourself; He made you. Now the 20th verse:

“...you are bought with a price therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God’s”
1 Corinthians 6:20.

A number of years ago, a boy who lived along a little river whittled out with care a little boat. He painted that boat red. He made some little sails on the boat. How he used to enjoy playing with that little whittled out boat that he painted red down along the stream.

One day the little boat got away from him. Oh, how he cried as he saw it being carried down the river. He ran, but he couldn’t get it. Away it went, and he saw it no more.

Some weeks later, he was with his father downstream. They went to a little town down the river. In the window of a shop, he saw his little boat. Somebody had rescued the little boat, and this man was selling it in his shop. It was a lovely little red boat with white sails.

He ran in and said, “Oh, that’s my boat.”

“Well,” the man said, “I paid so much for it here, and it’s for sale.”

The boy was so anxious to get it. What do you suppose he did? He bought it. Wouldn’t you? And when he carried it home, he said, “Little boat, you’re twice mine. I made you, and I bought you.”

My dear friend, as Jesus puts His arm around you tonight, He says you are twice Mine. I made you, and I bought you.

What was the price? The precious blood of Jesus. Ye are bought with a price. Tell me, friend, are you worth what He paid? He says you are. I accept His evaluation. What do you say?

But listen, and don’t miss it, the value was not established at Calvary. The value was established at creation. The cross shows us how valuable man was. He

did not become more valuable because of the redemption price. He was already of *infinite* value. That's why God paid so much to get him back.

Did you know you were worth that much? Oh, friend, when a man sees that he can't poison his lungs with tobacco. He can't irritate his stomach with alcohol and harden his liver with it. He'll delight in the exercise that will strengthen his body, and get the rest that his tired nerves need. He'll rejoice to take the water that keeps his system flushed. He'll enjoy taking the good food, the proper selection in moderation; getting the very best food possible—what for? He's working with God to preserve something of infinite value.

Do you see that this lifts the whole question of health to the highest pinnacle? Do you see why we have medical missionary work? Do you see why we have health reform? It isn't just to avoid heart attacks and high blood pressure; that's good. But it's to worship Him that made heaven and earth, and the sea and the fountains of waters. It's to show our admiration of the One who formed us in His image.

And it's to express our appreciation of His love in dying for us upon the cross to buyback what had been lost through sin. Thus creation and redemption combined to show us how valuable man is, and how important it is to work with God to preserve what He made.

Now, one more thing, if I'm that valuable to God, what about you? Are you valuable too? Oh yes. Then if I love my Lord enough to worship Him by seeking to take care of my body, what will I do to help you take care of your body? I'll do everything I can. Is that right? What for? For love's sake, because I love *you* as one of infinite value. Because I love the One who made you. He's your Creator. He's my Creator. He's your Savior. He's my Savior. He's my Father and He's your Father, and we're brothers. Do you see, friends?

Oh, this lifts medical work, the physician's work, the nurse's work—everyone who helps take care of sick people—far above the ordinary professional level. It makes it a calling equal to the Gospel minister, for the physician and minister and nurse and Bible workers are alike engaged in working with God to restore that image which sin has perverted and twisted and marred.

Oh, what a glorious destiny is given to you and me, friend. I thank God for His love, don't you?

[Testimony service follows]

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W. D. Frazee Sermons
435 Lifestyle Lane, Wildwood, GA 30757
1-800-WDF-1840 / 706-820-9755
www.WDFsermons.org
support@WDFsermons.org