

Hallowed

“Babylonian Hearts”

May 18, 2026

INTRO – Recap “Hallowed”

Matthew 6:9-10 *Pray then like this: “Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.¹⁰ Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.*

The Anti-Lord’s Prayer?

“We have always existed as intelligences, as spirits,” he says. “We are down here to gain a body. As man is now, God once was. And as God is now, man can become. If you believe it, then your genetic makeup is to be a god. And I believe it. That is why I believe I can do anything. My genetic makeup is to be a god. My God in heaven creates worlds and universes. I believe I can do anything, too.” **“Behold! Gordon Hall’s Millions Shall Make of Him a God,”** Arizona Republic, January 17, 1986, p. A2.

Gordon Hall’s delusion is only another expression of humanity’s primeval desire to displace God, even becoming as God himself.

*“And all man’s Babylons strive
but to impart
The grandeurs of
his **Babylonian heart**.”*

Francis Thompson, “The Heart”, *Poems of Francis Thompson* p. 267

Daniel 4:30 *and the king answered and said, “Is not this great Babylon, which I have built by my mighty power as a royal residence and for the glory of my majesty?”*

Acts 12:22 *On an appointed day Herod put on his royal robes, took his seat upon the throne, and delivered an oration to them.²² And the people were shouting, “**The voice of a god, and not of a man!**”²³ Immediately an angel of the Lord struck him down, because he did not give God the glory, and he was eaten by worms and breathed his last.*

Nebuchadnezzar/Herod/Gordan Hall all had the God Complex (Babylonian Hearts)...We do Not need history to understand this because we have this Complex too.

It is the normal state of the human heart to try to build its identity around something besides God. Spiritual pride is the illusion that we are competent to run our own lives, achieve our own sense of self-worth and find a purpose big enough to give us meaning in life without God. **Timothy Keller**, “The Freedom of Self Forgetfulness”, p. 13

It Started in Eden

Genesis 3:1-7 Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God actually say, 'You shall not eat of any tree in the garden'?" ² And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, ³ but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.'" ⁴ But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. ⁵ For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, **and you will be like God**, knowing good and evil." ⁶ So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. ⁷ Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

Genesis 3:23-24 therefore the Lord God sent him out from the garden of Eden to work the ground from which he was taken. He **drove out the man**, and at the east of the garden of Eden he placed the cherubim and a flaming sword that turned every way to guard the way to the tree of life.

God opposed this Human Condition of Self Glory... God does not sit idly by while humanity reaches for His throne....Drove the man out of the Garden from his Presence

Building Towers of Ego

Genesis 11:1-9 Now the whole earth had one language and the same words. ² And as people migrated from the east, they found a plain in the land of Shinar and settled there. ³ And they said to one another, "Come, let us make bricks, and burn them thoroughly." And they had brick for stone, and bitumen for mortar. ⁴ Then they said, **"Come, let us build ourselves a city and a tower with its top in the heavens, and let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be dispersed over the face of the whole earth."** ⁵ And the Lord came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of man had built. ⁶ And the Lord said, "Behold, they are one people, and they have all one language, and this is only the beginning of what they will do. And nothing that they propose to do will now be impossible for them. ⁷ Come, let us go down and there confuse their language, so that they may not understand one another's speech." ⁸ So the Lord dispersed them from there over the face of all the earth, and they left off building the city. ⁹ Therefore its name was called Babel, because there the Lord confused the language of all the earth. And from there the Lord dispersed them over the face of all the earth.

The ego is empty, painful, busy, and fragile. **Timothy Keller**, "The Freedom of Self Forgetfulness", p. 13

Case Study: Madonna said what?

"Our problem is not just in what we do but in what we are. Apart from new birth, I am my problem. You are not my main problem. My parents were not my main problem. My enemies are not my main problem. I am my main problem. Not my deeds, and not my circumstances, and not the people in my life, but my nature is my deepest personal problem." **John Piper**. Finally Alive (Kindle Loc. 713-716).

Jeremiah 17:9-10 *The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it?*
¹⁰ *"I the Lord search the heart and test the mind, to give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his deeds."*

God's Solution – Heart Transplant

Ezekiel 36:22-28 *"Therefore say to the house of Israel, Thus says the Lord God: It is not for your sake, O house of Israel, that I am about to act, but for the sake of my holy name, which you have profaned among the nations to which you came. ²³ And I will vindicate the holiness of my great name, which has been profaned among the nations, and which you have profaned among them. And the nations will know that I am the Lord, declares the Lord God, when through you I vindicate my holiness before their eyes. ²⁴ I will take you from the nations and gather you from all the countries and bring you into your own land. ²⁵ I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. ²⁶ And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷ And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.^[a] ²⁸ You shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers, and you shall be my people, and I will be your God."*

God opposes pride because pride destroys us. Not because He's insecure. Because He loves us too much to let us worship ourselves. That's mercy! Jesus did what Babylonian hearts never could. He Humbled Himself. "Christ: The Anti-Babel"

Philippians 2:3-11 *Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. ⁴ Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. ⁵ Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸ And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹ Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

Building Towers? Received the New Heart?