

Anthropology, Companion Bots, Transhumanism, and What Lies Ahead

Dr. Brandon Steenbock | Center for Apologetics and Worldview Conference | June 25, 2026

Opening: The Tower of Babel (Genesis 11:4)

- Babel is not just history — it is an archetype of every human effort to make a name for ourselves apart from God.
- AI promises to overcome the separations God made at Babel: language, distance, limitation.
- The question before the Church: How will we respond?

Notes & Questions

Part 1: Transhumanism and AI

- Transhumanism seeks to direct human evolution, overcome human limitation, and build a better humanity.
- AI is the central tool of the Transhumanist dream — our technology, our neural network, our "children."
- Even the generation raised on this technology senses something is off. There is an uncanny valley in what Transhumanism offers.

Notes & Questions

Part 2: Humanity Defined by Jesus Christ (Colossians 1:15–17)

- Jesus is the Image of God. Because we are made in the image of God, our humanity is defined by Jesus.
- To be human is to be like Jesus: Righteous (moral agency), Loving (self-giving, sacrificial), Authoritative (ruling creation on God's behalf).
- Test case — Companion bots produce the outputs of love with no lover behind them. They cannot value, cannot sacrifice, cannot be faithful.

Notes & Questions

Transition: Humanity Still Needs Hope

- Transhumanism misdiagnoses the problem. Our limitations are not the disease — our sin is.
- No technology can remove sin, guilt, or the corruption of the fall. The counterfeits deepen the loneliness they promise to cure.
- We need more than capability. We need a Redeemer.

Notes & Questions

Part 3: Hope Found in the Resurrection (Colossians 1:18–20)

- Only the Gospel deals with the root cause. Christ's resurrection is a truer hope than anything Transhumanism offers.
- Our destiny is not a change of our humanity, but its restoration — conformed to the glorified humanity of Jesus.
- The Church's mission: use every tool, including AI, in view of the resurrection and for the advancement of the Gospel.

Notes & Questions

Conclusion: "Come, let us make a name for Jesus"

- Keep Christ and his resurrection first. Know our humanity, and behave as humans.
- Be on guard for worldly deceptions like Transhumanist thinking.
- Seek first the Kingdom — and use the tools to advance it.

Notes & Questions