

**ROMANS**  
**Lesson 200–June 7, 2015**

**Welcome To**  
**BARAH MINISTRIES**  
**a Christian Church**  
**Rory Clark**  
**Pastor-Teacher**

Good Morning!

Welcome to Barah Ministries...a worldwide Christian Church based in Mesa, AZ...my name is Pastor Rory Clark.

When I was in college, I fell on my head playing basketball. I was “low bridged” by another player, and I came crashing down on my head and neck. Concussion. To make a long story short, I had amnesia for two full days. The only thing I could remember was the phone number of a friend. The dorm mate who took me to the hospital and the friend who was called were able to inform my mother that I was hurt. To this day, I don’t remember my mother being with me in the hospital, nor do I remember how she reacted to the whole incident. For a period of time, I had forgotten who I was.

So it is with believers in Christ. The Lord allows us, during a good part of our lives, to learn who we were “in Adam.” Romans, Chapter 5, Verses 19a...

ROM 5:19a

*...through the one man’s disobedience the many were made sinners...*

That’s who we were “in Adam” ... sinners. Romans, Chapter 7, Verse 18a...

ROM 7:18a

*For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh...*

The Lord allows us to go through a life of turmoil and struggle and failure to learn about our “in Adam” self. But that is not who we believers are. At a point, God the Holy Spirit starts teaching us who we are “in Christ.”

ROM 5:19b

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*...even so through the obedience of the One (the Lord Jesus Christ) the many will be made righteous.*

Colossians, Chapter 2, Verses 8 and 10...

COL 2:8

*See to it that no one (no false teacher) takes you captive through philosophy and empty deception, according to the tradition of men, according to the elementary principles of the world, rather than according to Christ.*

The only philosophy a Christian adopts is the one that is consistent with his New Self.

COL 2:9

*For in Christ all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form...*

The Lord Jesus Christ is the unique person of the universe...

COL 2:10

*...and in union with Him you believers in Christ have been made complete, and He is the head over all rule and authority...*

As we learn who we are in union with Christ, God the Holy Spirit is working the newness of the New Self into our character...Second Corinthians, Chapter 5, Verse 17...

2CO 5:17

*Therefore if anyone is in Christ, and all believers are, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.*

Now is the time when we must forget who we were “in Adam” and we must stop trying to live who we were “in Adam,” trying as we might to master SIN and the LAW and THE FLESH...we must now live our life “in Christ” and learn who we are today. Welcome to a place where the Word of God helps you do just that.

**MUSIC AND REFLECTION**

*Be Occupied with the Person of the Lord Jesus Christ*  
Enjoy the Singing of His Praises

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*INDESCRIBABLE*

*Chris Tomlin*

Let's enjoy the opening song INDESCRIBABLE by Chris Tomlin.

**OPENING PRAYER**

*Let us pray...*

We're grateful Heavenly Father for the privilege of studying the absolute truth...the Word of God...

Thank you for doing everything for us...and I do mean everything...thank you for unfolding Your intricacy and the detail of Your plan right before our very eyes...than you for having the very hairs on our head all numbered...

Orient us to Your will...use us the way you want to use us...direct us into the works which You planned for us a billion years ago...help us to produce the fruit of the Spirit that advances Your cause in Satan's kingdom.

We ask this through the power of God the Holy Spirit...in Christ's name... Amen.

**TODAY'S STUDY**

**It Was HIM All Along**

Stop for a moment and take a look at your successes. How did they happen? It's one of the questions my students in my consulting practice. "What is your greatest accomplishment?" I answer, "I don't look at life that way." But I didn't know why I answered the question that way. Now I do. Can't wait to tell you about it.

**THE OFFERING**

Deacon Denny Goodall

Let's give you a chance, now, to present your offering before God as your gift to the almighty. This is the time when you get to make a sacrifice on behalf of all the people around the world that can't afford to pay to study the

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Word of God. Your generous contributions make it possible for them to learn about the Lord Jesus Christ free of charge by means of internet teaching or by means of face-to-face teaching.

Let's remember to give with the motivation suggested in Scripture

2CO 9:7

*Each one must do just as he has purposed in his heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful (grace oriented) giver.*

Let's welcome up Deacon Denny Goodall.

**THE OFFERING**

Deacon Denny Goodall

Barah Ministries Financial Policy

Even though we are sanctioned by God to charge for the many things we provide so you can worship God, we choose not to exercise our right. Therefore no price appears on any material from Barah Ministries so that anyone who desires biblical teaching may have it free of charge.

Barah Ministries Financial Policy

Even though the materials we provide are free of charge, they are not free of cost. We appreciate it when the Word of God motivates you to give financial support so as to provide biblical teaching, both for yourself and for others. Please be generous in your support of God's work through this ministry.

**OFFERING VERSE**

EPH 4:16 (New Living Translation)

*He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love.*

**OFFERING SONG**

*I WORSHIP YOU*

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*Mercy Me*

**TODAY'S STUDY**  
**It Was HIM All Along**

We're studying the third passage of Romans, Chapter 7...Verses 14 to 24...here's what it says...

ROM 7:14

*For we know that the Mosaic Law is spiritual, but I am of flesh, sold into bondage to sin.*

ROM 7:15

*For what I am doing, I do not understand; for I am not practicing what I would like to do, but I am doing the very thing I hate.*

ROM 7:16

*But if I do the very thing I do not want to do, I agree with the Mosaic Law, confessing that the Mosaic Law is good.*

ROM 7:17

*So now, no longer am I the one doing it, but sin which dwells in me.*

ROM 7:18

*For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh; for the willing is present in me, but the doing of the good is not.*

ROM 7:19

*For the good that I want, I do not do, but I PRACTICE the very evil that I do not want.*

ROM 7:20

*But if I am doing the very thing I do not want, I am no longer the one doing it, but sin which dwells in me.*

ROM 7:21

*I find then the principle that evil is present in me, the one who wants to do good.*

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ROM 7:22

*For I joyfully concur with the law of God in the inner man...*

ROM 7:23

*...but I see a different law in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin which is in my members.*

ROM 7:24

*Wretched man that I am! Who will set me free from the body of this death?*

In the first three verses of this passage, Paul says, “I do what I hate. I can’t overcome evil on my own by using human power, which is really no power.” Romans, Chapter 7, Verse 14...

ROM 7:14

*For we now know that the Mosaic Law is spiritual, but I (Paul) am of flesh (I am carnal...I am in a body with indwelling sin and I am not spiritual...I am not mature), (I am) sold into bondage to sin.*

Paul is a believer in Christ who is trying to be something he is not...a person who can live up to the standards of the LAW. At this point in his life, it is apparent to Paul that he has not been delivered from the power of the flesh. Why? Mostly because He is trying to beat the flesh on his own. And he finds he cannot deliver himself from its power. Romans, Chapter 7, Verse 15...

ROM 7:15

*For what I am doing (my outer game), I do not understand; for I am not practicing (in my outer game) what I would like to do, but I am doing the very thing I hate (to do...I am not living the REAL inner game...the spiritual inner game that I want to live).*

ROM 7:16

*But if I do the very thing I do not want to do, I agree with the Mosaic Law, confessing that the Mosaic Law is good (that it is holy, it is righteous, and it is from God).*

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Paul is saying, “If the law says don’t covet...and if I don’t want to covet...then I agree with the law that coveting is not good. Then I covet...I am doing the very thing that I don’t want to do...coveting. But I still have a part of me that says the law, which asks me not to covet, is correct. What’s going on here?” What’s going on is that Paul is doing what he hates, and he is unable to overcome evil in his own power.

Stay in your places please, and let’s take a music break. The words are on the screen and in your notes.

**MUSIC BREAK**

*OUR GOD IS AN AWESOME GOD*

*Rich Mullins*

**TODAY’S STUDY**

**It Was HIM All Along**

In the next four verses of this passage, Paul says, “I can’t do anything good. I can’t accomplish.”

ROM 7:17

*So now (my insight is), no longer am I the one doing it (the sinning), but indwelling sin in me is doing the sinning.*

Paul has correctly identified the fact that there is a difference between who he is and indwelling sin, “the flesh.” Paul is not engaging in self-justification here. The indwelling sin IS doing the sinning. The New Self is not doing the sinning, because the New Self does not sin...First John, Chapter 3, Verse 9...

1JO 3:9

*No one who is born (again) of God the Father practices sin, because God the Father’s seed abides in him; and the one born again of God the Father cannot sin, because he is born of God the Father.*

Isn’t that amazing. Your New Self CANNOT sin. Sweet! For Paul this was an intimate discovery...a man getting to know himself. God wants us to know the total depravity of the Old Self. Romans, Chapter 7, Verse 18...

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ROM 7:18

*For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh; for the willing(ness to do good...the wish to do good) is present in me, but the (actual) doing of the good is not (present in me).*

Paul wants to do good but he realizes he cannot carry out his desire. The thing that once owned us as a slave...the thing that was once our sovereign...indwelling sin...is still wooing us back, asking us to listen to it. Indwelling sin is fighting for our attention, and will be for the rest of our lives. So here is what Paul knows...“I can’t beat evil... I can’t do anything good.” Do you know that about yourself as well? You can’t beat evil...you can’t do anything good. When you realize the depth of that, you start to realize that everything you have...everything you have ever had...comes from God. Wow. Philippians, Chapter 2, Verse 15...

PHI 2:15

*...for it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure.*

We have been under a delusion for a really long time that our will is doing the work in our lives. But it can’t. God is doing the work in us. Romans, Chapter 7, Verse 19...

ROM 7:19

*For the good that I want, I do not do, but I PRACTICE the very evil that I do not want.*

Paul’s counterfeit inner game...his “fleshly” game...is no good...he knows he needs outside help to overcome it, because he is not able. When you realize that you are not able, there is nothing for you to do. When you are not able, you don’t need help, you need a substitute. It was Him all along. When you realize that you are completely powerless, you don’t try to help. Have you realized that about yourselves yet? Have you realized that you are not self-sufficient. It was Him all along. We don’t need God’s help. We need Him. Romans, Chapter 7, Verse 20...

ROM 7:20

*But if I am doing the very thing I do not want, I am no longer the one doing it, but sin which indwells me (is doing it).*

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Conversely we must understand our powerlessness on the other side. We can't do the evil either. Indwelling sin is the power that is doing the evil. When evil touches our lives, we have become dependent on an evil force that is more powerful than our helplessness. That won't play in a court of law, but it is true in the spiritual realm. We can't tell the judge, "I didn't kill that guy. Indwelling sin did." You're going to jail! Romans, Chapter 7, Verse 21...

ROM 7:21

*I find then the principle that evil is present in me, the one who wants to do good.*

Here is a graphic illustration of what Paul means.

<SPIRITUAL LIFE PROGRESSION CHART>

ROM 7:22

*For I joyfully concur with the law of God in the inner man...*

In my mind, the law of God rules...

ROM 7:23

*...but I see another different law in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin which is in my members.*

In my body, in my "flesh," the law of sin rules.

Waging war in Verse 23 is a military term...there is a battle for control of the soul between the law in our bodies and the law in our minds. We are powerless against indwelling sin, "the flesh," if we go up against it with human power.

ROM 7:24

*Wretched man that I am! Who will set me free from the body of this death?*

Paul admits to the defeat of human power. Paul expresses his frustration that he can't do it. He would much rather be self-sufficient. "I want to do

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it, but I can't. Why... why...why?" Paul describes indwelling sin as the body of sin and the body of death, meaning the body bringing sin and the body bringing death.

**Powerless means no power.**

It was Him all along. Anything good that has happened to us has come as a result of God doing His works through us. Any evil that we have done is a result of indwelling sin overpowering us to do evil. We sit between the two governing powers...our only power is consent. We say "yes" or "no." It's sobering to realize how powerless we really are...yet we are grateful to the God who keeps on pouring enabling power into us. We look forward to learning more about that power and how to use it every moment.

**When the Lord Jesus Christ  
Promises Salvation, It's a Guarantee!**

ACT 16:31

*"Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and everyone in your household who also believes."*

JOH 14:6

*Jesus said to doubting Thomas, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through believing in Me."*

JOH 3:36

*He who believes in the Son has eternal life (the ZOE life); but he who does not obey the (command to believe in the) Son will not see (the Zoe) life, but instead the wrath of God the Father abides on him."*

**CLOSING SONG**

*HOW GREAT YOU ARE*

*June Murphy*

**CLOSING PRAYER**

Let us pray...

THANKS  
INTERCESSION

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PETITION

And we pray that You continue to open the eyes of our heart with Your Word so that we can be obedient to the path You have set for us...and so that we can see the course You have us on. We ask this through the power of God the Holy Spirit, in Christ's name, Amen.

Thanks for coming!  
Thanks for watching!  
Thanks for listening!

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