

ROMANS
Lesson 274–April 17, 2016

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

Good Morning!

Welcome to Barah Ministries...a Christian Church based in Mesa, AZ...my name is Pastor Rory Clark. At Barah Ministries we are “pursuing the truth through the study of the Word of God.” Because of the internet, a gracious provision from our omnipotent God, the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, Barah Ministries has a worldwide reach and an intimate impact on lives. Thank you Lord for providing a way for anyone with internet access to be reached with Your Word.

Let’s begin this lesson with a few announcements.

BARAH MINISTRIES ANNOUNCEMENTS

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Next Deacon’s Meeting
April 30
7:30A-10:00A

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

The Next Lord’s Supper Celebration
May 8, 2016

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Coeur d’Alene Bible Conference
Coeur d’Alene, Idaho
August 5-6, 2016

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Evening Lesson Only
6:00P-7:30P
August 7, August 21, September 18

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

New York – Pennsylvania Conference
Traditions at the Glen
Johnson City, New York
September 16-17, 2016

BARAH MINISTRIES LESSONS ARE ON!

- On Video
- On Audio
- On Readable Notes
- On the Radio
- On the APP

It's never been easier to have the Word of God at your disposal all the time. Video lessons, audio lessons and notes you can read are on the Barah Ministries Website...barahministries.com...we're on the radio at KXEG 1280AM - The Trumpet on Sundays at Noon in Phoenix...and the radio lessons are on line at 1280KXEG.com. The Barah Ministries APP is downloadable at Google Play, at the Windows Apps Store, at the iTunes Store, and from the Barah Ministries website. Barah Ministries lessons are ON! You can have all of the Word of God all the time from Barah Ministries!

PRAYERS

Barah Ministries Prayer Request Group

Join me in prayer directed at all the intercessions and all the petitions of the people visiting the Barah Ministries Prayer Request Group.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

John Miller
April 14

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Dana Youngs
April 16

MUSIC AND REFLECTION

Be Occupied with the Person of the Lord Jesus Christ

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Enjoy the Singing of His Praises

COME SEE A MAN
June Murphy

As we prepare our souls for worship, let's enjoy June Murphy, singing
COME SEE A MAN.

OPENING PRAYER

Let us pray...

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

Thank you Father, for the wonderful way we have been created in Your likeness – for the amazing way You make our bodies and our minds function...

Help us to use the gifts you have given us to have a deeper understanding of You...of Your thinking...of Your will...of Your ways...and of Your Person...teach us what You want us to do in the places where You have planted us...help us, day by day, to fix the eyes of our hearts and the burning of our desire toward knowing You and obeying You...use our hands and feet to carry others...show us, through the enabling power of Your Holy Spirit, how to walk in the path that You have set for us without straying...encourage us with Your unconditional love to keep on coming to You for the answers...

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

TODAY'S BIBLE LESSON
An Adventure Into the Mind of the Lord

I wonder what it would be like to just spend one day on the earth living it the way God wants me to live it. It would be an adventure into the mind of the Lord...First Corinthians, Chapter 9, Verses 16a...

First Corinthians 2:16a

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For who has known the mind of the Lord so well, that he will be able to instruct the Lord?

I have not known the mind of the Lord so well that I could instruct myself much less Him.

I have spent over 8500 hours studying and teaching the Word of God in the last seventeen years. Every day seems like a battle. And when I assess my conduct in light of the Word of God...in light of the things God expects from me...I count myself as a miserable failure, even though being a failure is not my desire. Every threat to living in and sharing in the victory the Lord has achieved for me at the Cross seems to defeat me. Most often, I prefer feeding the lust of the flesh rather than walking by means of the Spirit. Just for one day I would love to live a life as if I were reflecting everything that is in God's head...as if I could actually be an imperfect man in a body of corruption... "the flesh" ... and yet still live out a life in which biblical knowledge becomes the wisdom that powers a life of obedience. That is not my life experience. Is it yours? Isaiah, Chapter 55, Verses 1 to 9 say...

Isaiah 55:1

"Ho! Every one who thirsts, come to the waters; and you who have no money come, and buy and eat. Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost."

Yes...that's what I want...I want to get without giving...yet to do so would not at all reflect the Lord. He gives...He does not talk to us about getting.

Isaiah 55:2

"Why do you spend money for what is not bread, and your wages for what does not satisfy? Listen carefully to Me, and eat what is good, and delight yourself in abundance."

What do you want to get from the things you do? When you smoke, what is it that you seek? When you drink, what is it that you seek? When you engage in illicit sexual activity of the mind or of the body, what is it you seek? When you see yourself as righteous...better than others, what is it you seek? Quite often we spend on things that are not at all genuinely satisfying. We go to the well again and again seeking, but we never find what we are

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looking for.

Isaiah 55:3

“Incline your ear and come to Me. Listen, that you may live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, according to the faithful mercies shown to David.”

The Lord promises us blessings...what kind of people would we be to turn them down? Yet often we get so enamored with receiving that we fail to realize that reflecting our Lord is done by giving...not merely through the giving of spiritual advice from the Word of God but giving by bringing what we have and giving it away to take care of the needs of the moment.

<SKINNY MARIE IN PHILLY>

Isaiah 55:4

“Behold, I have made Jesus Christ (of David’s seed) a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples.”

Isaiah 55:5

“Behold, you will call a nation you do not know, and a nation which knows you not will run to you, because of the Lord your God, even the Holy One of Israel; for He has glorified you.”

Oh, if our lives could be the same...if we could call and all the nations would run to us and hear us and listen to us because of our splendid example. Now a word to unbelievers...

Isaiah 55:6

“Seek the Lord while He may be found; call upon Him while He is near.”

The judgment day comes like a thief in the night...it comes suddenly and by surprise...so we encourage the unbeliever to repent before it is too late.

<MY UNBELIVING FRIEND>

Isaiah 55:7

“Let the wicked (a term for unbelievers) forsake his way, and let the unrighteous man (a term for unbelievers) forsake his thoughts; and let him return to the Lord, and the Lord will have compassion on him, and let him return to our God, for the Lord will abundantly pardon.”

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Why is the Lord so wonderful? He describes the wonder of Himself in Isaiah, Chapter 5, Verses 8 and 9...

Isaiah 55:8

“For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways,” declares the Lord.”

Isaiah 55:9

“For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts higher than your thoughts.”

We continue our study of the fourth passage of Romans, Chapter 8, which extends from Verses 26 to 30...let's review the passage...

Romans 8:26a

In the same way we groan within ourselves (Romans, Chapter 8, Verse 23), waiting eagerly for our adoption as adult sons...waiting eagerly for the redemption of our bodies...and waiting eagerly for the freedom of the glory of the children of God...

Romans 8:26b

...just the way we groan...God the Holy the Spirit, who is called the “first fruits” of our salvation, groans, to help our weakness; for example, we do not know how to pray as we should...but God the Holy Spirit Himself personally intercedes for us in prayer with groanings too deep for words...

Romans 8:27

...and God the Father, who keeps on searching the hearts of all those who pray, knows what the mind of God the Holy Spirit is (through His groanings which cannot be uttered in words), because God the Holy Spirit intercedes for the saints...for all believers in Christ...according to the will of God the Father.

Romans 8:28

And we know that God the Father causes all things to work together for good to those who love God the Father, to those who are called according to the Father's purpose.

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Romans 8:29

For those whom God the Father foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, so that the Lord Jesus Christ would be the firstborn among many brethren...

Romans 8:30

...and these whom God the Father predestined, He also called; and these whom God the Father called, He also justified; and these whom God the Father justified, He also glorified.

Our focus in this lesson will be on Romans, Chapter 8, Verses 28 and 29. As we look at these two verses, we'll be taking an adventure into the mind of the Lord. And I think what we'll find, that will be interesting, will be the things these verses don't say, more than the things the verses do say. Let's take a quick music break and then we'll come back to the passage.

MUSIC BREAK

SING, SING, SING

Chris Tomlin

TODAY'S BIBLE LESSON

An Adventure Into the Mind of the Lord

Welcome back! Romans, Chapter 8, Verses 29 and 30...

Romans 8:29

For those whom God the Father foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, so that the Lord Jesus Christ would be the firstborn among many brethren...

Romans 8:30

...and these whom God the Father predestined, He also called; and these whom God the Father called, He also justified; and these whom God the Father justified, He also glorified.

These verses take us back to the beginning not a beginning...because the Lord has always existed, and there never has been a time when the Lord didn't exist. Thus the Lord has no beginning and no ending. And when we go all the way back to that time divorced from time...what did the Lord

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want for you, the believer in Christ? He wanted you to know how special you are to Him, and He explains it through the apostle Paul with the seven things highlighted in Romans, Chapter 8, Verses 29 and 30. Let's let God explain Himself to you...let's take a journey through His mind...

Foreknow

For those whom God the Father foreknew...

First and foremost, I, your God, knew you in a deep, intimate, and personal way all the way back in the beginning not a beginning. There has never been a time I didn't know you by name, and there never will be a time when I don't know you by name. There never will be a time when everything about you isn't in my mind. You are always a concern for me and I consider Your problems to be my responsibility. Perhaps what I said about my Son, in First Peter, Chapter 1, Verse 20 will help you understand what I mean...

First Peter 1:20

For the Lord Jesus Christ was foreknown before the foundation of the world, but has appeared in these last times for the sake of you...

I knew you before the foundation of the world, and I knew everything you would chose and decide. I especially knew you would believe in the Son for your salvation, and I knew I would have to find a way to ensure your sins were paid for.

Predestined

...He also predestined...

Not only did I know you...I knew everything about you including everything you would ever need. So I worked out all of the details of your life, and put everything in place to ensure that you had a destiny that is befitting one of My servants. Luke, Chapter 14, Verses 28 to 30 highlight my thoughts about you...you are the tower...

Luke 14:28

For which one of you, when he wants to build a tower, does not first sit down and calculate the cost to see if he has enough to complete it?

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Luke 14:29

Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who observe it begin to ridicule him...

Luke 14:30

...saying, 'This man began to build and was not able to finish.'

You never have anything to worry about. I have placed your life on a firm foundation and I have ensured in advance of creating you that you would have everything you need.

Conformed

...to become conformed to the image of His Son...

It was not my intention that you be “Christ-like” as so many people like to say. You are not an imitation! It is my intention that you be EXACTLY like Christ in every way...not through some self-righteous attempt on your part to contort yourself...but by the working of God the Holy Spirit to make you EXACTLY like Christ in every way.

You are to be holy, blameless, beautiful, graceful, humble, patient, alive, faithful, truthful and loving, EXACTLY like Christ in every way.

First-born

...so that the Lord Jesus Christ would be the firstborn among many brethren...

There is the first-born Son...all others are adopted...you are the adopted adult son of a king. Like Christ, you will always occupy the highest position at the table of a feast...you will always be with Christ at the table. You have all the privileges that Christ has through your union with Him. Hebrews, Chapter 2, Verses 9 to 15 highlight my thinking on the matter...

Hebrews 2:9

But we do see Him who was made for a little while lower than the angels, namely, the Lord Jesus Christ, because of the suffering of death, crowned

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with glory and honor, so that by the grace of God the Father, He might taste death for everyone.

Hebrews 2:10

For it was fitting for God the Father, for whom are all things, and through whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to perfect the author of their salvation through sufferings.

Hebrews 2:11

For both the Lord who sanctifies and those who are sanctified are all from one Father; for which reason the Lord is not ashamed to call them brethren...

Hebrews 2:12

...saying, “I (the Lord Jesus Christ) will proclaim Your name to My brethren, in the midst of the congregation I will sing Your praise.”

Hebrews 2:13

*And again, “I (the Lord Jesus Christ) will put My trust in God the Father.”
And again, “Behold, I (the Lord Jesus Christ) and the children whom God the Father has given Me.”*

Hebrews 2:14

Therefore, since the children share in flesh and blood, the Lord Jesus Christ Himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death the Lord might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil (Satan)...

Hebrews 2:15

...and might free those who through fear of death were subject to slavery all their lives.

I made it possible for you to have all the privileges of a first-born without being first-born.

Called

...and these whom God the Father predestined, He also called...

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After knowing you intimately, setting aside everything for your success, and giving you all the privileges of a first-born...I called you over to take advantage of the privileges, knowing in advance that you would respond positively to the call. Second Thessalonians, Chapter 2, Verse 14 says...

Second Thessalonians 2:14

It was for this God the Father called you through our gospel, that you may gain the glory of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Justified

...and these whom God the Father called, He also justified...

Because you have believed, I have declared you as righteous...sin is no longer master over you...you are not under the Law...you are under grace...and now as you sit before me...I am free to call out your name over and over again, as one who is eternally saved and totally precious in my sight.

Glorified

...and these whom God the Father justified, He also glorified...

I placed you in Satan's kingdom as your training ground. The world hated you and did everything it could to ruin you, which I would never allow to happen. Colossians, Chapter 3, Verse 4...

COL 3:4

When Christ, who is our resurrection life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory.

...your end is glory. The world will get to see how magnificently you are made. You will be revealed as mine...and you will be the way I always planned that you would be.

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

Acts 16:31

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

Acts 4:12

“And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given to mankind by which we must be saved (except the name of the Lord Jesus Christ).”

Revelation 3:20

Behold, I stand at the door of your soul and I keep on knocking; if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, (maybe you will and maybe you won't...you have a choice) I will come in to him and will dine with him, and he with Me.

Acts 2:21

‘And it shall be that everyone who calls on the Person of the Lord Jesus Christ for salvation will be saved.’

CLOSING SONG

GOD’S PROPERTY

June Murphy

CLOSING PRAYER

Let us pray...

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

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