

**ROMANS**  
**Lesson 168 – February 8, 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.

Today we celebrate The Lord's Supper, our monthly expression of gratitude...a time when believers in the Lord Jesus Christ look back to the Cross to remember the ultimate sacrifice that the Lord accomplished on our behalf. The Lord Jesus Christ was wounded for us...His body was broken for us. First Peter, Chapter 2, Verse 24 says...

1PE 2:24

*...and the Lord Jesus Christ Himself bore our sins in His own body on the Cross, so that we believers in Christ might die to (the sovereignty of) sin and so that we might live to righteousness; for by His wounds you were healed.*

The Lord Jesus Christ's blood was shed for us. Ephesians, Chapter 1, Verse 7...

EPH 1:7

*In the Lord Jesus Christ we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace...*

The Lord Jesus Christ was crucified for us. Galatians, Chapter 3, Verse 13...

GAL 3:13

*Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law, having become a curse for us—for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree"—*

The Lord Jesus Christ's Work on the Cross is the ONLY perfectly satisfactory payment for our sins. First John, Chapter 2, Verses 1 and 2...

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1JO 2:1

*My little children, I (John) am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, and we all do, we have an Advocate with God the Father...Jesus Christ the ONLY righteous One...*

1JO 2:2

*...and Jesus Himself is the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only (as believers in Christ), but also for those of the whole world (unbelievers as well).*

God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ loved us unconditionally. Romans, Chapter 5, Verse 8...

ROM 5:8

*But God the Father demonstrates His own unconditional love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners (and while we were ungodly, unrighteous unbelievers), Christ died for us.*

The Lord Jesus Christ gave His Person as a free gift to all mankind... Romans, Chapter 6, Verse 23...

ROM 6:23

*For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God the Father is eternal life in union with Christ Jesus our Lord.*

Knowing the Lord gives us a reminder of the past, a symbol of the present, and a promise of a future as we celebrate The Lord's Supper, we shed tears of gratitude and we feel tremendous joy as we remember the sacrifice the Lord keeps on making on our behalf.

Welcome to the celebration of The Lord's Supper.

**MUSIC AND REFLECTION**

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

*Lamb of God*

As God prepares our memories for reflection, let's hear June Murphy worship our Lord in song. The opening song is LAMB OF GOD.

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**OPENING PRAYER**

*Let us pray...*

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

Fill our souls with gratitude as we meditate on all You did for us through your Son...

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

**THE LORD'S SUPPER CELEBRATION**  
**The Spiritual Life Progression in Action**

When you look back at the Cross, what do you see? Today, I see the spiritual life in action.

Let's remind ourselves that at the moment of salvation, among the gifts God the Father gives us is a spiritual life. He gives us God the Holy Spirit to lead us, to guide us, to mentor us in the use of this spiritual life, which is called the eternal life, the resurrection life, the ZOE life. It is God the Holy Spirit who advances us to spiritual maturity. Make no mistake about it...you don't...and you can't...lead yourself or work yourself or advance yourself to spiritual maturity. In Galatians, Chapter 3, Verse 3, Paul scolded the Galatians for such a thought...

**GAL 3:3**

*Are you Galatians so foolish? Having begun your salvation by the baptism of God the Holy Spirit, are you now being perfected in sanctification by the flesh (by your own works)?*

Perish the thought! Those who think they are advancing themselves to spiritual maturity have been duped by false teachers and have been turned into spiritual slaves who are victims of the law. We believers of this age are not under the law, we are under grace, and the Cross of Christ changed everything.

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What is the spiritual life progression that Jesus Christ offered us through His Cross? There are five stages of spiritual progression, a progression you can see in your mind's eye if you know what to look for. Here's a reminder of the stages of spiritual progression...

**THE LORD'S OFFER OF SPIRITUAL PROGRESSION <REVEALS>**

Design

Death

Destiny

Dearth

Divine

...DESIGN, DEATH, DESTINY, DEARTH, and the DIVINE. Within each of these stages, you will see a death followed by life. In this Lord's Supper Celebration, we continue our look at the spiritual life's progression...we go to the bible to see how the spiritual life played out with a man with whom you are familiar...Abraham. But first a few announcements...

**BARAH MINISTRIES ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

The Next Lord's Supper Celebration  
March 15, 2015

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

No Face-to-Face Teaching  
March 8, 2015

The congregation is invited to view the services live on March 6 at 7:00PM MST. Otherwise they will be on the website for your viewing and listening pleasure on March 8.

**REMINDER**

Check In on Facebook  
Before Church Service

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Like  
BARAH MINISTRIES  
on  
Facebook

There are nearly 2700 people that have signed up to be a part of our online community. Get your friends to join our on line community today.

**FACEBOOK LESSONS**  
Recording Begins  
February 15  
12:00P-1:00P

The lessons will be up and running in March.

**VISIT THE VETS**  
**NEXT WEEK!**  
February 15  
1:45P-3:00P

**TEENS LESSONS**  
Begin February 22  
11:30A-1:00P  
In Preparation  
Read John Chapter 1

**ASK THE PASTOR**  
Non-Resident Congregation

**NEXT DEACON'S MEETING**  
February 21  
7:30AM MST

**THE OFFERING**  
Deacon Denny Goodall

Let's take the offering. 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 Word of God. Your generous contributions make it possible for them to

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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**

1CO 3:1-2

*And I, brethren, could not speak to you as to spiritual men, but as to men of flesh, as to infants in Christ. I gave you milk to drink, not solid food; for you were not yet able to receive it. Indeed, even now you are not yet able...*

**OFFERING SONG**

*Awesome is the Lord Most High*

**THE LORD'S SUPPER CELEBRATION**

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## **The Spiritual Life Progression in Action**

Today, we'll look at the at all the stages of the spiritual life's progression in the life of Abraham.

Part One of the Lord's spiritual life progression is DESIGN. Design always demands a designer, and God the Father has designed a perfect and personal plan for His imperfect creatures. A plan is a set of decisions. The Lord Jesus Christ made a set of decisions concerning you that are shaping your DESTINY.

### **DESIGN**

God has a personal plan for your imperfect life

In Abram's life, God reveals the design He made for Abraham in eternity past...Genesis, Chapter 12, Verses 1 to 4...

#### **GEN 12:1**

*Now the Lord said to Abram, "Go forth from your country, and from your relatives, and from your father's house, to the land which I will show you..."*

#### **GEN 12:2**

*And I will make you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great; and so you shall be a blessing...*

#### **GEN 12:3**

*And I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse. And in you all the families of the earth will be blessed."*

#### **GEN 12:4**

*So Abram went forth as the Lord had spoken to him...*

It's hard to believe, sometimes, that God has the same kind of personal design for each of our lives as well.

Part Two of the Lord's spiritual life progression is DEATH. All of us are born "In Adam" ... therefore all of us are spiritually dead at the moment of physical birth and all of us are condemned to the Lake of Fire. "No fair!" ... you might say ... I didn't even do anything!" You're right, you didn't do anything! But your human father, Adam, the federal head of the human race

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did do something, and you received “the benefit” if it can be called a benefit...no worries...God preserves you until He let’s you know who He is, so you can have a chance to believe...We see this in Abram’s life...Genesis, Chapter 14, beginning at Verses 1 and 2...

GEN 14:1

*And it came about in the days of Amraphel, king of Shinar, Arioch king of Ellasar, Chedorlaomer king of Elam, and Tidal, king of Goiim...*

GEN 14:2

*...that they made war with Bera, king of Sodom, and with Birsha king of Gomorrah, Shinab, king of Admah, and Shemeber, king of Zeboim, and the king of Bela (that is, Zoar).*

Genesis, Chapter 14, Verses 14 and 15...

GEN 14:14

*When Abram heard that his relative (Lot...a nephew) had been taken captive (in the war), he led out his trained men, born in his house, three hundred and eighteen, and went in pursuit as far as Dan.*

GEN 14:15

*He divided his forces against them by night, he and his servants, and defeated them, and pursued them as far as Hobah, which is north of Damascus.*

Genesis, Chapter 14, Verses 17 to 20...

GEN 14:17

*Then after his return from the defeat of Chedorlaomer and the kings who were with him, the king of Sodom went out to meet him at the valley of Shaveh (that is, the King’s Valley).*

GEN 14:18

*And Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine; now Melchizedek was a Levitical priest of God Most High.*

GEN 14:19

*Melchizedek blessed Abram and said, “Blessed be Abram of God Most High, possessor of heaven and earth...”*

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GEN 14:20

*“And blessed be God Most High, who has delivered your enemies into your hand.”*

First, human beings must learn about, and then accept their condemned fate from physical birth. Next, they must hear the gospel message, which makes it clear that there is a way out of spiritual death and condemnation. Then they must accept or reject a relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ as a provision from God the Father for conquering death...Jesus is the way out. The Lord Jesus Christ, at the Cross, made “the old man pass away.” The Lord makes it clear, just as He did for Abram, who could have been killed trying to save Lot, that the Lord is Abram’s way out. So it is with us.

After we enjoy the elements, you’ll hear about one more stage in the progression of your spiritual life.

**THE LORD’S SUPPER CELEBRATION**  
**Enjoying the Elements**

Following God’s request, we keep on celebrating CHRIST and His Cross on a regular basis...we eat to remember who He is...His PERSON...we drink to remember His WORK, the voluntary sacrifice He made at the Cross on our behalf...and we are grateful for what God has done for us. First Corinthians, Chapter 11, Verses 23 and 24 say...

1CO 11:23

*For I, Paul received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus Christ on the night in which He was betrayed took bread...*

1CO 11:24

*...and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, “This is, and keeps on being My body, which is broken for you; keep on doing this celebration for the purpose of remembering Me.”*

When we eat the bread during the Lord’s Supper Celebration, we remember THE PERSON of the Lord Jesus Christ.

When we drink the cup, we remember THE WORK of the Lord Jesus Christ. First Corinthians, Chapter 11, Verses 25 and 26 say...

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1CO 11:25

*In the same way the Lord Jesus Christ took the cup after supper, representing His death on the Cross, saying, “This cup is a new testament forged with My blood; keep on doing this celebration, as often as you drink it, for the purpose of remembering Me.”*

1CO 11:26

*“For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.”*

As you enjoy the bread and the cup, enjoy the memory of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ as well. Now and always, as the Lord’s Supper song reminds us...Give Thanks.

**LORD’S SUPPER SONG**

*Give Thanks*

Take a five-minute break.

**BREAK**

*When I Think About Home*

**THE LORD’S SUPPER CELEBRATION**

**The Spiritual Life Progression in Action**

Part Three of the Lord’s spiritual life progression is DESTINY. The believer’s DESTINY can be summed up in two words...“In Christ.” As a believer in Christ, you are completely sufficient “In Christ.” Genesis, Chapter 15, Verses 1 to 6...

GEN 15:1

*After these things (the war with the kings) the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, saying, “Do not fear, Abram, I am a shield to you; your reward shall be very great.”*

GEN 15:2

*Abram said, “O Lord God, what will You give me, since I am childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?”*

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GEN 15:3

*And Abram said, “Since You have given no offspring to me, one born in my house is my heir.”*

GEN 15:4

*Then behold, the word of the Lord came to him, saying, “This man will not be your heir; but one who will come forth from your own body, he shall be your heir.”*

GEN 15:5

*And the Lord took Abram outside and said, “Now look toward the heavens, and count the stars, if you are able to count them.” And the Lord said to Abram, “So shall your descendants be (that numerous).”*

GEN 15:6

*Then Abram believed in the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to Abram as righteousness.*

So it is with each of us. The Lord gave us a spiritual life at the moment of salvation. The details of this spiritual life are being revealed to us day by day. Your spiritual life was created in eternity past...it has DESIGN (which is revealed to us), DEATH (“in Adam”), DESTINY (“In Christ), DEARTH (a desert experience), and the DIVINE (an eternal reward). In this Lord’s Supper Celebration we have looked at three stages of Abram’s spiritual life progression. We’ll continue to look at this and other biblical examples so we can see that this wonder not only happens in the lives of biblical characters...it is happening in your life as well. Do you recognize the progression of your spiritual life? Can you see its stages playing out?

**The Promises of the Lord Jesus Christ  
are Guarantees!**

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.*

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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**

*There's Just One Hope*

**CLOSING PRAYER**

Let us pray...

THANKS  
INTERCESSION  
PETITION

And we pray that You continue to shape the messages from this pulpit that are an accurate reflection of Your unconditional love, Your person, Your thinking, Your work, and Your essence...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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