

ROMANS
Lesson 3– July 21, 2013

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

Good morning! Acts, Chapter 1, Verses 6 to 8 say...

/ACT 1:6

So when they (the resurrected Lord and His apostles) had come together, they were asking Him (the Lord Jesus Christ), saying, “Lord, is it at this time You are restoring the kingdom to Israel?”

They were talking with the Lord during the period of time just before Pentecost...

/ACT 1:7

He (the Lord Jesus Christ) said to them (the apostles), “It is not for you to know (the) times (the succession of events) or (the) epochs (the dispensations) which the Father has fixed by His own authority...”

In other words, don’t concern yourselves with timing...

/ACT 1:8

“...but you will receive power when (God) the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses (evangelizing) both in Jerusalem (familiar territory...home turf), and in all Judea (the southern kingdom) and Samaria (hostile territory), and even to the remotest part of the earth (for us, to all the little children in the middle of Africa...in that time, at Rome).”

...concern yourselves instead with disseminating my Word!

Welcome to the place where you come to hear the Word of God preached. It is our sincere hope that you are neither selfish with your relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ nor with your knowledge of His Word and that you are spreading the good news concerning both, by inviting people here, to hear the accurate teaching of the Word of God.

<WHERE IS YOUR SOUL TUNED?>

ROMANS
Lesson 3– July 21, 2013

Bible study is a time of RENEWING, a time to learn about the divine assets at your disposal...Ephesians, Chapter 4, Verse 23 requests...

EPH 4:23

...that you be renewed (by God) in the spirit of your mind...

Thank you for coming to receive this renewing and thank you in advance for sharing this message with all whom you know by any means necessary.

/MUSIC AND REFLECTION

Be Occupied with the Person of the Lord Jesus Christ

Enjoy the Singing of His Praises

Walk in the Light\

As God prepares your soul for RENEWING, let's hear June Murphy worship our Lord in song. The opening song is WALK IN THE LIGHT.

/OPENING PRAYER

Let us pray...\

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

Help us to learn, in our biblical study, the things you think are critical to learn, and help us avoid intellectualizing the Word of God and missing its entire point...

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

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ROMANS
Lesson 3– July 21, 2013

Welcome to Barah Ministries. My name is Rory Clark. My spiritual gift is Pastor-Teacher, a gift given to me by God to help you develop a deep, intimate and personal relationship with the Sovereign of the Universe, the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

/TODAY’S STUDY

Studying the Bible Means Not Chasing Rabbits

Turn in your bible to Romans, Chapter 1. We are embarking on our first earnest study of a biblical epistle, the letter of Paul to the Romans. There were a few things I hated about studying Systematic Theology, and still do hate these things by the way, and I hope that you don’t mind if I share them with you as we continue our biblical study and the removal of the shackles of legalistic theology.

From my point of view, a lot of the people who are fond of Systematic Theology aren’t intellectual, and they want to be, so they are attracted to the mental masturbation and intellectualization of the Plan of God that Systematic Theology offers. It was never that for me. To my way of thinking, I wanted to really know what the bible says and what it is teaching me.

The problem is that Systematic Theology and its proponents, as they study the Word of God, “chase rabbits.” What does it mean to chase rabbits?

/CHASING RABBITS

Doing something totally irrelevant or being distracted from what you intend to do\

During their study they will uncover a masturbatory question...“Was Judas a believer in Christ?” Then they’ll go off on a two-year study of Judas and his thinking and motivation. I hated that. I say, “Who the hell cares if Judas Iscariot is a believer in Christ or not? What possible significance does it REALLY have to me? How does it affect my life? How does it change my life? How does it help me evangelize to anyone? The truth is, it doesn’t! But thinking about it does take me completely off point of a study of the bible, and especially a study of the book of Romans. Here’s what we know about Judas Iscariot...turn to Luke, Chapter 6, Verse 12...Judas Iscariot was named an apostle...

ROMANS
Lesson 3– July 21, 2013

/LUK 6:12

*It was at this time that He (the Lord Jesus Christ) went off to the mountain to pray, and He spent the whole night in prayer to God (the Father). *

/LUK 6:13

*And when day came, He (the Lord Jesus Christ) called His disciples to Him and chose twelve of them, whom He also named as apostles... *

/LUK 6:14

*Simon, whom He also named Peter, and Andrew his brother; and James and John; and Philip and Bartholomew... *

/LUK 6:15

*...and Matthew and Thomas; James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon who was called the Zealot... *

/LUK 6:16

*Judas the son of James, and Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor. *

We know that Judas Iscariot turned aside from the ministry and the apostleship... Acts, Chapter 1, Verses 23 to 25...

/ACT 1:23

*So they put forward two men, Joseph called Barsabbas (who was also called Justus), and Matthias. *

/ACT 1:24

*And they prayed and said, “You, Lord, who know the hearts of all men, show which one of these two You have chosen... ” *

/ACT 1:25

*“...to occupy this ministry and apostleship from which Judas (Iscariot) turned aside to go to his own place.” *

Turn to John, Chapter 12, Verse 4...Judas Iscariot had an intention to betray the Lord Jesus Christ...

ROMANS
Lesson 3– July 21, 2013

/JOH 12:4

But Judas Iscariot, one of His (the Lord Jesus Christ's) disciples, who was intending to betray Him...

Look at John, Chapter 13, Verses 1 and 2...

/JOH 13:1

Now before the Feast of the Passover, (the Lord) Jesus (Christ) knowing that His hour had come that He would depart out of this world to (God) the Father, having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end.

/JOH 13:2

*During supper, the devil having already put into the heart of Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon, to betray Him (the Lord Jesus Christ) ... *

Look at John, Chapter 13, Verse 21...Judas Iscariot's betrayal was predicted by the Lord...

/JOH 13:21

*When (the Lord) Jesus (Christ) had said this, He became troubled in spirit, and testified and said, "Truly, truly, I say to you, that one of you will betray Me." *

Look at John, Chapter 13, Verses 25 to 27...

/JOH 13:25

*He (John), leaning back thus on Jesus' bosom, said to Him, "Lord, who is it (that will betray you)?" *

/JOH 13:26

*Jesus then answered, "That (one who will betray Me) is the one for whom I shall dip the morsel and give it to him." So when He (the Lord Jesus Christ) had dipped the morsel, He took (the morsel) and gave it to Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot. *

/JOH 13:27

*After the morsel, Satan then entered into him (Judas Iscariot). Therefore Jesus said to him, "What you do, do quickly." *

ROMANS
Lesson 3– July 21, 2013

Judas Iscariot did carry out his intention of betrayal...and betrayed the Lord with a kiss...look at Luke, Chapter 22, Verses 47 and 48...

/LUK 22:47

While He (the Lord Jesus Christ) was still speaking, behold, a crowd came, and the one called Judas, one of the twelve, was preceding them; and he approached Jesus to kiss Him.

/LUK 22:48

But Jesus said to him, “Judas (Ischriot), are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?”

Judas killed himself...

/MAT 27:3

Then when Judas (Ischriot), who had betrayed Him (the Lord Jesus Christ), saw that He had been condemned, he felt remorse and returned the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders...

/MAT 27:4

...saying, “I have sinned by betraying innocent blood.” But they said, “What is that to us? See to that yourself!”

/MAT 27:5

And he threw the pieces of silver into the temple sanctuary and departed; and he went away and hanged himself.

Judas Iscariot was named an apostle...Judas Iscariot turned away from the ministry and the apostleship...Judas Iscariot had an intention to betray the Lord Jesus Christ...the Lord predicted the betrayal...Judas Iscariot carried out the betrayal with a kiss...Judas Iscariot committed suicide. That is hardly worthy of a two-year study. Does anything we have just heard about mention if Judas Iscariot is a believer or not? No. Then who cares? I don't. If God wants us to know, He tells us. In our study of the bible and of Paul's letter to the Romans we are not going to chase rabbits.

/BREAK

In Your Presence

When I Think About Home

ROMANS
Lesson 3– July 21, 2013

Welcome back! We continue our study of the first Chapter of Romans...as a reminder...

There are 66 books in the bible.

If you look within a physical copy of the bible, it has an index that delineates the name of each book.

The bible is divided into two major sections, the Old Testament, and the New Testament.

There are 39 books in the Old Testament. There are 27 books in the New Testament. The incarnation of the Lord Jesus Christ, His thirty-three years on earth, leading to a death on a Cross and the resurrection from the dead, is the dividing line between the Old Testament and the New Testament.

<OLD TESTAMENT (39) – CROSS- NEW TESTAMENT (27) SLIDE>

John, Chapter 19, Verses 28 to 30 say...

/JOH 19:28-29

Jesus, knowing that all things had already been accomplished, to fulfill the Scripture, said, "I am thirsty."//A jar full of sour wine was standing there; so they put a sponge full of the sour wine upon a branch of hyssop and brought it up to His mouth.

/JOH 19:30

Therefore when Jesus had received the sour wine (on the Cross), He said, "It is finished!" And He bowed His head and gave up His (human) spirit (into the presence of God the Father).

Matthew, Chapter 28, Verses 5 to 7 say...

/MAT 28:5

The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; for I know that you are looking for Jesus who has been crucified."

/MAT 28:6

ROMANS
Lesson 3– July 21, 2013

“He is not here, for He has risen, just as He said. Come, see the place where He was lying.”

/MAT 28:7

“Go quickly and tell His disciples that He (the Lord Jesus Christ) has risen from the dead (in resurrection); and behold, He is going ahead of you into Galilee, there you will see Him; behold, I have told you.”

The Old Testament is the instruction set to believers in the Age of Israel.

<DISPENSATIONS SLIDE>

The New Testament is the instruction set to believers in the Church Age, which is the present era of divine history.

Anything from the Old Testament that is relevant to New Testament believers is repeated in the New Testament. For example, turn to Acts, Chapter 2, Verse 14...

/ACT 2:14

But Peter, taking his stand with the eleven, raised his voice and declared to them: “Men of Judea and all you who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you and give heed to my words.”

/ACT 2:15

“For these men (who are speaking in tongues) are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only the third hour of the day (eight or nine in the morning)...”

/ACT 2:16

...but this is what was spoken of through the prophet Joel...

/ACT 2:17

‘AND IT SHALL BE IN THE LAST DAYS,’ God says, ‘THAT I WILL POUR FORTH OF MY SPIRIT ON ALL MANKIND; AND YOUR SONS AND YOUR DAUGHTERS SHALL PROPHECY, AND YOUR YOUNG MEN SHALL SEE VISIONS, AND YOUR OLD MEN SHALL DREAM DREAMS...’

/ACT 2:18

ROMANS
Lesson 3– July 21, 2013

...EVEN ON MY BONDSLAVES, BOTH MEN AND WOMEN, I WILL IN THOSE DAYS POUR FORTH OF MY SPIRIT And they shall prophesy.

We are embarking on the study of one of the books of the New Testament, the letter of Paul to the Romans. We'll begin in the first chapter, and here is an outline of the first chapter...

/PAUL'S LETTER TO THE ROMANS
Chapter 1 (32 Verses)

Verses 1 to 7
Introduction

Verses 8 to 15
Prayer for and Intention of Paul's Ministry

Verses 16 to 17
The Gospel is Salvation by grace through faith

Verses 18 to 32
God's Wrath Against the Sin of Unbelief\

Let's look at the Introduction, Verses 1 to 7...

/ROM 1:1
Paul, a bond-servant (slave) of Christ Jesus, called as an apostle, set apart (by God) for the (dissemination of the) gospel (message) of God...

/ROM 1:2
...which (message) He (God the Father) promised beforehand through His prophets in the holy Scriptures (of the Old Testament)...

/ROM 1:3
...(a message) concerning His (God the Father) Son (the Lord), who was born of a descendant of David according to the flesh (as true humanity... Jesus Christ)...

/ROM 1:4

ROMANS
Lesson 3– July 21, 2013

*...who was declared the Son of God with (enabling) power by the resurrection from the dead, according to (the power of the God who is) the Spirit of holiness... (this) Jesus Christ our Lord... *

/ROM 1:5

*...through whom we (Paul) have received (from God both) grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for His (the Lord Jesus Christ's) name's sake (for His benefit)... *

/ROM 1:6

*...among whom you (as believers in Christ) also are the called of Jesus Christ... *

/ROM 1:7

*...to all who are (the) beloved of God (believers in Christ) in Rome, called as saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and (from) the Lord Jesus Christ. *

As you remember, I offered you a quiz on the first seven verses of Romans, Chapter 1. Now I'd like to suggest a few answers to the first three of those quiz questions, and that will lead us into our study of the introduction of the first Chapter of Paul's letter to the Romans.

/QUIZ

Romans, Chapter 1, Verses 1 to 7

Who is the Paul?

What is an apostle?

What is the difference between an apostle and you?\

/Who is Paul?

Paul is the author of this letter to the Romans, and the author of about two-thirds of the New Testament. There are many things that can be said about Him. He is from a city called Tarsus. He has a Greek education. He is a Roman citizen. He is a Jew. He is a Pharisee. By his own admission, he is the worst person who ever lived. He is a persecutor of the Church, and

ROMANS
Lesson 3– July 21, 2013

sought singlehandedly to wipe out the Christian Church when it began, just after the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. He is an apostle. We consider Paul an important enough biblical person to actually take a bit of time to study. Studying about Paul is NOT chasing rabbits.\

/What is an apostle?

There are many things we can say about an apostle...the simplest is this...an apostle is a person who has seen the Lord Jesus Christ in His resurrection body.\

/What is the difference between an apostle and you?

Apostles have seen the Lord face-to-face...apostles have talked to the Lord, with the Lord talking back. We have not.\

First John, Chapter 1, Verse 1 and Verse 5...

/1JO 1:1

*What was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the Word of Life (the Lord Jesus Christ)— *

/1JO 1:5

This is the message we have heard from Him (the Lord Jesus Christ) and announce to you, that God is Light, and in Him there is no darkness at all.

Biblical rabbit chasers are “wanna-be apostles” ... they strain out a gnat and swallow a camel on every biblical point...as we embark on our biblical study, we are not going to chase rabbits...we are going to heed Paul’s admonition...

/2CO 11:3

But I am afraid that, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, your minds will be led astray from the simplicity and purity of devotion to Christ.

We are not going to be distracted from what we intend to do, which is to get the point of God’s Word.

/CLOSING SONG

ROMANS
Lesson 3– July 21, 2013

The Revelations Song\

CLOSING VERSES

/PRO 3:5-6

Trust in the LORD with all your heart And do not lean on your own understanding.//In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He will make your paths straight.

/DEU 31:8

The LORD is the one who goes ahead of you; He will be with you. He will not fail you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed

/ISA 30:18

Therefore the LORD longs to be gracious to you, And therefore He waits on high to have compassion on you. For the LORD is a God of justice; How blessed are all those who long for Him.

/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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