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

Good morning! Psalm, Chapter 119, Verses 1 to 16 say...

/PSA 119:1 How blessed are those whose way is blameless (believers in Christ), Who walk in the law of the Lord.\

/PSA 119:2 How blessed are those who observe His testimonies, Who seek Him with all their heart.\

/PSA 119:3 They also do no unrighteousness; They walk in His ways.

/PSA 119:4 You have ordained Your precepts, That we should keep them diligently.

/PSA 119:5 *Oh that my ways may be established To keep Your statutes!*\

/PSA 119:6 Then I shall not be ashamed When I look upon all Your commandments (mandates).\

/PSA 119:7 I shall give thanks to You with uprightness of heart, When I learn Your righteous judgments.\

/PSA 119:8 I shall keep Your statutes; Do not forsake me utterly!\

/PSA 119:9 *How can a young man keep his way pure? By keeping it according to Your word.*\

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/PSA 119:10

With all my heart I have sought You; Do not let me wander from Your commandments (mandates).

/PSA 119:11 Your Word I have treasured in my heart, That I may not sin against You.

/PSA 119:12 Blessed are You, O Lord; Teach me Your statutes.

/PSA 119:13 With my lips I have told of all the ordinances of Your mouth.

/PSA 119:14 *I have rejoiced in the way of Your testimonies, as much as in all riches.*\

/PSA 119:15 *I will meditate on Your precepts and regard Your ways.*\

/PSA 119:16 I shall delight in Your statutes; I shall not forget Your word.

Recently I was telling someone this same sentiment, expressed this way...I just wish that from the beginning I would have chosen to do EVERYTHING the Lord's way. It wouldn't have been a life free from heartache and suffering. But it would have been interesting to see what the Lord could have done with my full permission.

<WHERE IS YOUR SOUL TUNED? no verse...let the verse pop in on the next click>

Welcome to bible study for the refreshment of RENEWING. This is a place where you can learn from God...Colossians, Chapter 3, Verse 10 says...

/COL 3:10 ...put on the new self who is being renewed to a true knowledge according to the image of the One who created him...\

God the Holy Spirit was given to you believers to renew your mind. We are

strengthened with power from the SOURCE of God the Holy Spirit's glorious might as He leads us into all the truth. Welcome to a place where you can "in humility receive the Word of God implanted, which is able to save your souls."

/MUSIC AND REFLECTION

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

Calling You to Freedom

As God prepares you for the RENEWING of your mind, let's listen to June Murphy worship our Lord in song...the opening song is CALLING YOU TO FREEDOM.

/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 be encouraged by Your selection of the apostle Paul for one of your most important projects...the New Testament...let us understand that You often choose the worst people to make them the best, as Your way of communicating to us Your power and Your desires for each one of us...that we all You to perfect us...

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

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

Welcome to Barah Ministries. My name is Rory Clark. My spiritual gift is Pastor-Teacher, a gift given to me by God for the building up of God's

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Royal Family. It is my job to help you become fruitful through the true knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ...through the development of a deep, intimate and personal relationship with Him.

/TODAY'S STUDY Romans Chapter 1 – Paul's Resume\

Turn in your bible to Romans, Chapter 1.

As we begin our study of Paul's letter to the Romans, I am expecting a new level of attentiveness from you as learners. I want you to be active learners. Active learners seek out biblical information and store it in their souls. Passive learners in the moment of pressure are unable to recall the truth that is stored in their souls so they can mix that truth with their own faith.

There is a big problem when you let your voice be silenced...the problem is that you begin to think that God does not have a personal plan for you and for your life. It's easy to think, when you wallow in the empty, sterile, hollow halls of Systematic Theology or any religious system, that the voice emanating from the pulpit is the only voice...and that somehow God did not give you a unique voice with which you can express YOUR soul's understanding of God, which is every bit as valid as any other soul's view.

Ultimately that's why we are reluctant to evangelize...if we're looking for a convenient excuse which puts the blame somewhere other than squarely on own our choice. It's easy not to evangelize because we discount our voice...as if somehow we don't have a unique testimony, and a unique road to Christ, which is meaningful to others.

I am happy to see the error of so many of my ways, thanks to the courage invested in me by my God to stand up and be counted as one who has returned from the dead...unscathed by cosmic death because of the restorative power of my God...let those of you with eyes to see...SEE! Let those of you with ears to hear...HEAR! Hear my plea...hear my testimony...hear my prayer on your behalf...that God remove the scales from your eyes so that you can see all that God has planned for those who love Him. Let it be that your absolute confidence is restored in Him. And let it be that no man has the power to discourage you or to silence the uniqueness of your beautiful voice and your "geeky" difference...a

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uniqueness that was given to you by a loving God so that in all the world, everyone might see, that in any environment, and in any circumstance, God is Light, and in Him is no darkness at all...and He has placed His light, the Zoe Life in you believers...and that your lamp is not to be put under a bushel, but on a lampstand for all to see...and were it not for your light, there would be no sunshine in this dark and awful place, the kingdom of darkness, to which we have been sentenced for a short time.

We believers in Christ rejoice, as slaves in chains, who are attached to the Sovereign God of the Universe, once and for all time, and there will be a day where we will experience no sunset and no dawning, in the full presence of the Light, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

It is foolish for the kingdom of darkness to think that they can wrestle a believer who is union with Christ from God righteous right hand. But fools they are...and they attempt in vain to entice us with lusts. But when we fall for their lusts, we understand what lust is...and insatiable desire...and at a point, hopefully not when it is too late, we realize that insatiable is exactly what the temptations of Satan are...vain and empty offers which promise to satisfy but do not, over and over, and over again.

I saw an interesting movie...INTERVENTION...every time there was tension in the movie, the addicts would go to one of their addictions...and when they had completed indulgence in the addiction, the problems they were running from were still there.

Wise up believers! Let us reject the empty promises of the kingdom of darkness.

The letter to the Romans, in overview, is sixteen chapters.

/ROMANS OVERVIEW

Chapter 1 to Chapter 11 What Christians Believe

Chapter 12 to Chapter 16 How Christians Are to Behave

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/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

We're beginning in the introduction, with Verses 1 to 7, and the first word in Romans, Chapter 1, Verse 1 is Paul.

/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...\

Welcome to a series of lessons on Paul's resume. The first credential on Paul's resume is that he is a persecutor of the Church. Turn in your bibles to Acts, Chapter 8, Verse 1...

/ACT 8:1

Saul (of Tarsus...Paul) was in hearty agreement with putting him (Stephen...the first martyr) to death. And on that day a great persecution began against the church in Jerusalem (led by Saul), and they (believers in Christ) were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles.\

ACT 8:2 Some devout men buried Stephen, and made loud lamentation over him.

ACT 8:3 But Saul (of Tarsus...Paul) began ravaging the church, entering house after

house (of Christians), and dragging off men and women, he would put them in prison.

Take a five-minute break.

/BREAK Be Glorified When I Think About Home\

Welcome back! To learn about Saul (of Tarsus...also known as Paul) as a PERSECUTOR OF THE CHURCH we have to go to the Book of Acts. The book of Acts is the fifth book of the New Testament. The first four books of the New Testament detail the life and the death on a Cross and the resurrection from the dead of Jesus Christ, a thirty-three year period.

/FIRST FOUR BOOKS OF THE NEW TESTAMENT

Gospel of Matthew	Jesus Christ the King
Gospel of Mark	Jesus Christ the Servant
Gospel of Luke	Jesus Christ the Man in True Humanity
Gospel of John	Jesus Christ the Deitythe Lord

/FIFTH BOOK OF THE NEW TESTAMENT

Acts The Formation of the Church

The fifth book of the New Testament details the formation of the Church, a thirty-three year period. Acts, Chapters 8, 9 and 21 detail Paul's first resume credential... PERSECUTOR OF THE CHURCH. Turn to Acts, Chapter 9, Verse 1...

/ACT 9:1

Now Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest... $\$

/ACT 9:2

...and asked for letters from him to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any belonging to the Way (Christians), both men and women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem.

Paul, in a word, was relentless. The Greek word is DIOKO! Stephen's teaching during his martyrdom made Paul more zealous than he already was. Paul HATED Christians. He hated Christians so much that he was seeking extradition of Christians from Damascus.

/ACT 9:3

As he was traveling, it happened that he was approaching Damascus, and suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him...\

/ACT 9:4

...and he fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting (DIOKO) Me?"

The Lord Jesus Christ took the persecution of Christians personally.

/ACT 9:5

And he said, "Who are You, Lord?" And He (the Lord Jesus Christ) said, "I am Jesus whom you are persecuting..."

/ACT 9:6

"...but get up and enter the city, and it will be told you what you must do."

What Saul was to do is to preach the gospel to the Gentiles.

/ACT 9:7

The men who traveled with him (Saul) stood speechless, hearing the voice but seeing no one.

They did not have the same experience Saul had.

/ACT 9:8

Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; and leading him (Saul) by the hand, they (his friends) brought him (Saul) into Damascus.

/ACT 9:9 And he (Saul) was three days without sight, and (he) neither ate nor drank.\

God always makes us wait on His timing.

/ACT 9:10 Now there was a disciple at Damascus named Ananias; and the Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." And he (Ananias) said, "Here I am, Lord."\

Reporting for duty, in other words.

/ACT 9:11 And the Lord said to him (Ananias), "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and inquire at the house of Judas for a man from Tarsus named Saul, for he is praying..."

Judas's house was on Straight Street.

/ACT 9:12 "...and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him, so that he might regain his sight. "\

/ACT 9:13 But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much harm he did to Your saints at Jerusalem..."

/ACT 9:14 "...and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on Your name."\

/ACT 9:15 But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is a chosen instrument of Mine, to bear My name before the Gentiles and kings and the sons of Israel..."

Paul was to be the apostle to the uncircumsized ones...

/ACT 9:16 "...for I will show him how much he must suffer for My name's sake."

/ACT 9:17

So Ananias departed and entered the house, and after laying his hands on him said, "Brother Saul (now a Christian), the Lord Jesus (Christ), who appeared to you on the road by which you were coming, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with (God) the Holy Spirit."

The laying on of hands is identification.

/ACT 9:18

And immediately there fell from his (Saul's) eyes something like scales, and he regained his sight, and he got up and was baptized...\

/ACT 9:19

...and he took food and was strengthened. Now for several days he was with the disciples who were at Damascus...\

/ACT 9:20

...and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God. " \backslash

/ACT 9:21

All those hearing him continued to be amazed (completely blown away), and were saying, "Is this not he who in Jerusalem destroyed those who called on this name, and who had come here for the purpose of bringing them bound before the chief priests?"

/ACT 9:22

But Saul kept increasing in strength and confounding the Jews who lived at Damascus by proving that this Jesus is the Christ (the Messiah).

/ACT 9:23

When many days had elapsed, the Jews plotted together to do away with him (Saul)...

/ACT 9:24

...but their plot became known to Saul. They were also watching the gates day and night so that they might put him to death... $\$

/ACT 9:25

...but his (Saul's) disciples took him by night and let him down through an opening in the wall, lowering him in a large basket.

The ones whom Saul had killed were now protecting him.

/ACT 9:26

When he (Saul) came to Jerusalem, he was trying to associate with the disciples (Christians...technical students); but they were all afraid of him, not believing that he was a disciple.

/ACT 9:27

But Barnabas took hold of him and brought him to the apostles and described to them how he (Saul) had seen the Lord on the road, and that He (the Lord Jesus Christ) had talked to him (Saul), and how at Damascus he (Saul) had spoken out boldly in the name of Jesus.

/ACT 9:28

And he was with them (the apostles), moving about freely in Jerusalem, speaking out boldly in the name of the Lord.

Paul was fearless.

/ACT 9:29

And he was talking and arguing with the Hellenistic Jews; but they were attempting to put him to death.

/ACT 9:30

But when the brethren (believers in Christ) learned of it, they brought him (Saul) down to Caesarea and sent him away to Tarsus.

/ACT 9:31

So the church throughout all Judea and Galilee and Samaria enjoyed peace, being built up; and going on in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, it continued to increase.

Saul the persecutor had become Paul the apostle of the Lord Jesus Christ... the apostle to the Gentiles...the apostle to the Church.

/CLOSING SONG

To Know You

CLOSING VERSES

/PHI 1:6

For I am confident of this very thing, that He (God the Father) who began a (divine) good work in (the creation of) you will (keep on) perfect(ing) it until the day of Christ Jesus.

/PSA 37:1-2 Do not fret because of evildoers, Be not envious toward wrongdoers.//For they will wither quickly like the grass And fade like the green herb.\

/PHI 4:7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard (garrison) your hearts and your minds (for those of you) in (union with) Christ Jesus.\

/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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