

ROMANS
Lesson 7– July 28, 2013

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

Good morning! Ephesians, Chapter 1, Verses 3 to 6 say...

/EPH 1:3-4

*Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us (believers in Christ) with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in (union with) Christ, //just as He (God the Father) chose us (to be) in (union with) Him (the Lord Jesus Christ) before the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless before Him (the Father). In (unconditional) love... *

/EPH 1:5-6

*He (God the Father) predestined us (believers in Christ) to adoption as (adult) sons through (the agency of) Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His (God the Father's) will, //to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He (God the Father) freely bestowed on us in the Beloved (the Lord Jesus Christ). *

God the Father did not leave anything to chance. In His predetermined plan, He blessed us with everything we would need to fulfill His Plan for all mankind, and His Plan for our unique and individual spiritual lives.

<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 about God's the Father's plan for you...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 (the Lord Jesus Christ) who created him (the new self)... *

One of your blessings from God is God the Holy Spirit, who was given to

ROMANS
Lesson 7– July 28, 2013

you believers in Christ as a pledge of your inheritance, and who is charge of renewing your mind. We are strengthened with enabling 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

Forgiveness\

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 FORGIVENESS.

/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 know, through our study of Paul, more about Your unconditional love for us, and about Your ability to take the worst in us and to turn it into the highest and best...

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 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

ROMANS
Lesson 7– July 28, 2013

of a deep, intimate and personal relationship with Him. The Lord Jesus Christ is God. The Bible is His infallible Word...an exact communication of His mind...a book with no errors...with no contradictions...with no lies...the Bible is the truth...and it is my pleasure to lay down my life for you, my sheep, and to protect your souls through implanting the Word of God.

/TODAY'S STUDY

Romans Chapter 1 –Paul's Resume: The Least of the Apostles and a Minister of the Gospel

Turn in your bible to Romans, Chapter 1. We are studying Chapter 1, Verses 1 to 7, of Paul's letter to the Romans. In Romans, Chapter 1, Verse 1, the first Word 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...

/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

...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)...

ROMANS
Lesson 7– July 28, 2013

/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.

We think it's important to take a look at a few aspects of Paul's resume...his credentials...so we can get to know this very important man in biblical history. Paul is worth getting to know because he wrote about two-thirds of the letters in the New Testament, which is God's set of instructions to the Church Age believer. Paul is also worth getting to know because he is evidence of God's grace and His unconditional love to ward us. Whenever we do sinful things that are shocking, even to us...whenever we disappoint ourselves (as if there is something worthy in us to feel good about)... whenever we miss the mark in any human realm and our failure gave us pause for the reflection that makes us take out a rubber hose and beat ourselves up...we can always take comfort in the fact that God has given us Paul as an illustration...we are not as bad as Paul! Yet what God was able and willing to do when Paul was at his worst, encourages us to think that God is still able and willing to do everything for us as well.

We have learned that Paul, the author of the letter to the Romans, is a PERSECUTOR OF THE CHURCH. Philippians, Chapter 3, Verses 4 to 6...

/PHI 3:4-6

I (Paul) myself might have confidence even in the flesh (even though we should not have confidence in the flesh). If anyone else has a mind to put confidence in the flesh, I (should have that confidence) far more...// (I was) circumcised (on) the eighth day, (I am) of the nation of Israel, (I am) of the tribe of Benjamin, (I am) a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the (Mosaic) Law, (I am) a Pharisee;//as to zeal, (I am) a persecutor of the church...

Here are some other things that are part of Paul's credentials.

ROMANS
Lesson 7– July 28, 2013

/PAUL’S RESUME<reveals>

Persecutor of the Church

The Least of the Apostles

A Minister of the Gospel

A Bond Servant (doulos)

A Called One\

/PAUL’S RESUME <reveals>

One with the Spiritual Gift of Apostle

The Apostle to the Gentiles

A Pharisee

An Author

The Standard for Imperfection\

Let’s learn a bit more about Paul as we take our biblical tour of his resume.

/PAUL’S RESUME<reveals>

Persecutor of the Church

The Least of All the Apostles\

Turn to First Corinthians, Chapter 15, Verse 9...

/1CO 15:9

For I (Paul) am the least of the apostles, and (I am) not fit (qualified) to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.

Like all of us, Paul does not feel worthy of the blessings that have been

ROMANS
Lesson 7– July 28, 2013

bestowed on him by God. The “every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in (union with) Christ” blessings. Truly there is nothing worthy in us, as imperfect creatures that is deserving of the blessings we receive from God...blessings simple as the ability to breathe. But Paul aptly points out why we have the blessings we have...

/1CO 15:10

*But by the grace of God I am (and always will be) what I am (by means of His grace), and His grace toward me did not prove vain (a bad decision); but I labored even more than all of them (the other apostles), yet not I (in the energy of the flesh doing the labor), but the grace of God with(in) me (doing the work). *

Paul worked harder than the other apostles...he produced more than the other apostles...yet he considered himself the least worthy of the apostles...and indeed he was the least worthy in light of his persecution of the Church.

/PAUL’S RESUME<reveals>

Persecutor of the Church

The Least of the Apostles

A Minister of the Gospel\

Hold your places in First Corinthians 15...now let’s look at Galatians, Chapter 1, Verse 11...

/GAL 1:11

*For I (Paul) would have you know, brethren (believers in Christ in the Galatian region), that the gospel (message) which was preached by me is not according to man (it did not come from man). *

/GAL 1:12

*For I (Paul) neither received it (the gospel message) from man, nor was I taught it (the gospel message by a man), but I received it (the gospel message) through a (direct) revelation of Jesus Christ. *

ROMANS
Lesson 7– July 28, 2013

All Scripture is God breathed...according to Second Timothy, Chapter 3, Verse 16...

/2TI 3:16-17

All Scripture is inspired by God (theoneustos) and (is) profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; //so that the man of God may be adequate (mature), equipped (thoroughly furnished) for every good work.

Paul is confirming that the things he is writing are coming from God...not from himself...not from man. Take a five minute break, and when we come back we'll be back in First Corinthians, Chapter 15...beginning at Verse 1.

/BREAK

Holy is the Lord
When I Think About Home

Welcome back! Let's take a look at the context of First Corinthians 15. Earlier we looked at two verses, verses 9 and 10, but it's helpful to look at the whole context of those two verses by beginning at verse 1. Remember, we are looking at another part of Paul's resume...He is a minister of the gospel...

/PAUL'S RESUME<no reveal...display all at once>

Persecutor of the Church

The Least of the Apostles

A Minister of the Gospel\

/1CO 15:1

Now I (Paul) make known (by communicating) to you (for your benefit), brethren (believers in Christ), the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received (you believed), in which also you stand (you are saved once, and for all time, and can't lose it)...

ROMANS
Lesson 7– July 28, 2013

/1CO 15:2

...by which (gospel message) also you are saved (by God...you received salvation), if (I) you hold fast the word which I preached to you (and you did), unless you believed in vain (which you didn't).

/1CO 15:3

For I (Paul) delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that (the Lord Jesus) Christ died (a spiritual death and a physical death) for our sins according to the Scriptures...

/1CO 15:4

...and that He (the Lord Jesus Christ) was buried, and that He (the Lord Jesus Christ) was raised (in resurrection from the dead) on the third day according to the Scriptures...

/1CO 15:5

...and that He appeared to Cephas (Simon Peter), then to the twelve (the apostles).

/1CO 15:6

After that He (the Lord Jesus Christ) appeared to more than five hundred brethren at one time, most of whom remain (alive) until (right) now (at this moment), but some have fallen asleep (died physically)...

/1CO 15:7

...then He (the Lord Jesus Christ) appeared to James, then to all the apostles...

/1CO 15:8

...and last of all, as to one untimely born, He (the Lord Jesus Christ) appeared to me also.

/1CO 15:9

For I (Paul) am the least of the apostles, and (I am) not fit (qualified) to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.

/1CO 15:10

But by the grace of God I am (and always will be) what I am (by means of His grace), and His grace toward me did not prove vain (a bad decision);

ROMANS
Lesson 7– July 28, 2013

*but I labored even more than all of them (the other apostles), yet not I (in the energy of the flesh doing the labor), but the grace of God with(in) me (doing the work). *

What is this gospel message that Paul is a minister of?

/THE GOSPEL MESSAGE

The Good News to Unbelievers Concerning Jesus Christ's Sacrifice on Your Behalf

We dedicate the closing moments of this bible lesson to anyone who is watching or listening who is without a relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ. The central issue for angelic and human creatures, during all of divine history, is detailed in Matthew, Chapter 22, Verse 42...

/MAT 22:42

*"What do you think about the Christ (the Messiah)?" *

Have you ever been loved? It's pretty special to be loved, and it is pretty special to love. Love colors our whole viewpoint toward life. I have good news for you today. God loves you. There is nothing you have to do to earn His love. There is nothing you have to do to maintain His love. There is nothing you can do to lose His love. This is the most special love you will ever have in your life. Every day, somewhere in your periphery, there is a reminder of God's love for you...it's always somewhere in view. It's a Cross.

<CROSS WITH CHRIST HANGING FROM IT>

Romans, Chapter 5, Verse 8 says...

/ROM 5:8

*But God (the Father) demonstrates His own (unconditional) love toward us (all mankind), in that while we were yet sinners (as unbelievers), (the Lord Jesus) Christ died for us. *

No matter what you think of God...and there are many things you have been influenced to think about God...that He doesn't exist...that He can't be known...that He is off duty...that He left us here to fend for ourselves...that

ROMANS
Lesson 7– July 28, 2013

He is arbitrary, waiting to come down on you...that He frowns on you... anything but the truth...no matter what you think, He loves you unconditionally, with a love so powerful and so unbelievable that we can't even relate to it in our humanity.

The gospel message is the good news that no matter what you think of Him, God the Father proved His unconditional love for you by sending His Son to a gruesome death on a Cross on your behalf...God the Father DEMONSTRATED His love. God the Son voluntarily took on the form of true humanity, becoming the God-man, and laid down His life to make a relationship with God a possibility for you. John, Chapter 15, Verse 13 says...

/JOH 15:13

"Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends."\

The Lord Jesus Christ DEMONSTRATED His unconditional love for you by dying on a Cross. As a result, He opened the possibility of a permanent and unbreakable relationship with God by eliminating the sin problem, the problem of your spiritual death at physical birth. First Corinthians, Chapter 15, Verse 22 says...

/1CO 15:22

For as in (union with) Adam all (creatures) die (spiritually)...so also in (union with) Christ all (creatures) will be made (spiritually) alive (born again).\

At physical birth, you were unable to have a relationship with God, because a barrier existed between the two of you. The good news is that the God who loves you unconditionally died on a Cross to remove the barrier between you and Him. Ephesians, Chapter 2, Verse 14 says...

/EPH 2:14

*For He Himself (the Lord Jesus Christ) is our peace, who made both groups (Jews and Gentiles) into one (group) and (who) broke down the barrier of the dividing wall... *

ROMANS
Lesson 7– July 28, 2013

Because of Christ's sacrifice at the Cross, all of your sins have been forgiven in the past with the established and irrevocable fact that they are forgiven forever. Colossians, Chapter 1, Verses 13 and 14 say...

/COL 1:13-14

For He (God the Father) rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son (the Lord Jesus Christ), //in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

The good news is that the God who loves you unconditionally and who died for you at the Cross wants a relationship with you right now. Second Peter, Chapter 3, Verse 9 says...

/2PE 3:9

The Lord is not slow about His promise (of a chance at salvation), as some count slowness (as some accuse), but (the Lord) is patient toward you (unbelievers), not wishing for any to perish (in the Lake of Fire) but for all to come to repentance (a change of mind about the Lord Jesus Christ).

Right now, you can take advantage of God's unconditional love for you by simply believing in the Lord Jesus Christ. Here's the invitation, in John, Chapter 14, Verse 6...

/JOH 14:6

*(The Lord) Jesus Christ said, "I am the way (to salvation), (I am) the truth (through the Word of God) and (I am) the (eternal) life; no one comes to the Father, but through (believing in) Me." *

Acts, Chapter 16, Verse 31 says...

/ACT 16:31

Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved, you and (everyone in) your household (who also believes).

John, Chapter 3, Verse 36 says...

/JOH 3:36

"He (anyone) who believes in the Son (the Lord Jesus Christ) has eternal life...but he who does not obey (the command to believe in) the Son (the Lord

ROMANS
Lesson 7– July 28, 2013

Jesus Christ) will not see (eternal) life (in heaven) but the wrath of God (the Lake of Fire) abides on him.”

The good news is that when you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ at a single moment in time, you are saved forever. John, Chapter 10, Verse 28 says...

/JOH 10:28

And I give eternal life to them (believers in Christ), and they (believers) shall never perish; and no one shall snatch them (believers) out of My hand.

The good news is that you can't work for salvation...it is something God does for you, free of charge, by means of His grace. Romans, Chapter 11, Verse 6 says...

/ROM 11:6

But if (1) it (salvation) is by grace (and it is), it is no longer on the basis of works, otherwise grace (a free gift) is no longer grace (a free gift).

So right now you are invited to have a conversation with God the Father and to tell Him you are believing in the Lord Jesus Christ, and the good news is that will be the moment the eternal life begins for you. Here's how a thief on a cross being crucified next to the Lord Jesus Christ asked for salvation...Luke, Chapter 23, Verse 42...

/LUK 23:42

And he (the repentant thief) was saying, “Jesus, remember me when You come in Your kingdom!”

Nine words and the thief was saved... Luke, Chapter 23, Verse 43...

/LUK 23:43

And He (the Lord Jesus Christ) said to him (the repentant thief), “Truly I say to you, today you shall be with Me in Paradise.”

Salvation is a choice you can make, and God takes it from there. No one can make you do it...no one can convert you...it's a private matter between you and God...no one can make the decision for you. What's your choice?

ROMANS
Lesson 7– July 28, 2013

The apostle Paul...a persecutor of the Church, the least of all the apostles, a minister of the gospel message...we'll continue our study of Paul's resume, in our next lesson.

/CLOSING SONG

I Live for 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!

ROMANS
Lesson 7– July 28, 2013

www.barahministries.com