

ROMANS
Lesson 8 – July 28, 2013

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

Good Morning! First John, Chapter 2, Verses 4 to 6 say...

/1JO 2:4-6

The one who says, "I have come to know Him (the Lord Jesus Christ)," and does not keep His commandments (mandates), (he) is a liar, and the truth is not in him; //but whoever keeps His word, in him the (unconditional) love of God has truly been perfected. By this we know that we are in (union with) Him://the one who says he abides in (union with) Him (the Lord Jesus Christ) ought himself to walk in the same manner as He walked.

The Christian Way of Living is an outward manifestation of an inner reality. As Christians, we seek to obey our God because we know that He knows the things that work. We watch closely as He changes our inner beings into creatures who do all of His will. We watch as He changes us into beings who "walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which we have been called." If we are being honest with ourselves, we are pretty casual about His mandates, about His requests of us. We come to bible study to learn His will so that we can actively choose to be instruments of His will and as a result be reflections of His glory.

<WHERE IS YOUR SOUL TUNED?>

We come to bible study for the refreshment of RENEWING, to allow God the Holy Spirit to lead us into the truths of the Word of God, so we can bear fruit through perseverance in the Word. Romans, Chapter 12, Verse 2 says...

ROM 12:2

...(keep on) be(ing) transformed by (God in) the RENEWING of your mind...

During bible study, God the Holy Spirit prepares you to "in humility receive the Word of God implanted, which is able to save your souls." Thank you

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for expressing your will with your presence...thanks for being here to get another dose of truth courtesy of the God who loves you unconditionally.

/MUSIC AND REFLECTION

Be Occupied with the Person of the Lord Jesus Christ

Enjoy the Singing of His Praises

His Strength is Perfect\

As God prepares you for the RENEWING of your mind, let's hear June Murphy worship our Lord in song. The opening song is...HIS STRENGTH IS PERFECT.

/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 what it is like to be in twenty-four hour a day, seven day a week service to You...

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

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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 purpose of equipping you believers in Christ for the work of service. Welcome to a ministry designed for people who want to open themselves to an intense and personal and passionate relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ. 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

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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.

Let's begin by taking the offering. Let's welcome up Deacon Caleb Alburn.

/THE OFFERING

Deacon Caleb Alburn\

/Barah Ministries Financial Policy

No price appears on any material from Barah Ministries so that anyone who desires biblical teaching may have it free of charge.\

/MAR 10:27

“With people it is impossible, but not with God, for all things are possible with God.”

/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.

/OFFERING SONG

Unfailing Love

/TODAY'S LESSON

Romans Chapter 1 –Paul's Resume: Bondservant

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

/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 (a minister)...

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/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's) 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...(we are talking about 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 (believers in Christ...set apart ones): 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. Moreover, he is worth getting to know because he teaches us what God was able and willing to do with His creatures when they are at their worst...Paul's story encourages us to think that God is able and willing to do everything for us as well, no matter how bad we are. Here are the things we have learned about Paul so far...

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/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<no reveals>

Persecutor of the Church

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What is a bond-servant?

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/BOND SERVANT

The Greek word is *doulos*...a slave...a person who is bound to the master for life...one who freely serves...a person owned by another person.\

Turn in your bibles to Exodus, Chapter 21...these first few verses of Exodus 21 give us a pretty accurate picture of a *doulos*...these are the regulations that governed the activity of slaves...a person could be sold into slavery, OR a person could sell himself into slavery...a *doulos* is one who sells himself into slavery (often because of poverty or debt owed)...

/EXO 21:1

“Now these are the ordinances which you are to set before them...”

/EXO 21:2

“If you buy a Hebrew slave, he shall serve for six years; but on the seventh he shall go out as a free man without payment.”

There was a six-year term of service...ironic...the same term of service as a U.S. Senator, who could never be mistaken for a *doulos*...the master is required to release the slave from service after six years, and to provide for the slave's needs (food, shelter and clothing), both during service and for a time after service...many fathers sold their daughters into slavery to become the concubines of well-to-do neighbors rather than to have them become the wives of “bust outs...” Slaves were never to be sold to foreigners (non-Jews)...if a female slave was not “pleasing” to the master who purchased her, often she would be “redeemed” by a relative...a female slave could redeem herself by marrying the master's son, thus gaining family status...

/EXO 21:3

“If he (a slave) comes (into service) alone, he shall go out alone; if he is the husband of a wife, then his wife shall go out with him.”

/EXO 21:4

“If his master gives him a wife, and she bears him sons or daughters, the wife and her children shall belong to her master, and he shall go out alone.”

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/EXO 21:5

“But if the slave plainly says, ‘I love my master, my wife and my children; I will not go out as a free man...’”

/EXO 21:6

“...then his master shall bring him to God, then he shall bring him to the door or the doorpost. And his master shall pierce his ear with an awl; and he (the slave) shall serve him (the master) permanently.”

Paul and us Pastors have pierced ears! As *doulos*, we are serving our Master, the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, permanently. Turn in your bibles to Mark, Chapter 10, Verse 42...the apostles were having one of their frequent “beauty contests,” wondering who was the Lord’s favorite...the Lord provides a nice contrast between the world’s idea of greatness and His...

/MAR 10:42

Calling them (the arguing apostles) to Himself, (the Lord) Jesus (Christ) said to them, “You know that those who are recognized as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them; and their great men exercise authority over them.”

Lousy leaders use position power, not personal power...

/MAR 10:43

“But it is not this way among you, but whoever wishes to become great among you shall be your servant...”

/MAR 10:44

“...and whoever wishes to be first among you shall be slave (doulos) of all.”

/MAR 10:45

“For even the Son of Man (the Lord Jesus Christ) did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.”

The Lord, who is God the Son, did not have to go to the Cross to prove His case against Satan and the fallen angels...an omniscient and just God always knew that He was fair and loving toward all creatures in every matter...He did not have to allow the Creator vs. Creature Conflict to play out...but He

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did...because He was a servant...not a tyrant...he used personal power, not position power to resolve the Creator vs. Creature Conflict...He came to earth as true humanity to serve...and we are the beneficiaries of the DOULOS with a capital D...

/JOH 3:17

“For God (the Father) did not send (God) the Son (the Lord Jesus Christ) into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him.”

Take a five-minute break...

/BREAK

When I Think About Home

Welcome back...turn to Second Corinthians, Chapter 4, Verse 5...One of Paul’s credentials is doulos...a bond servant...a slave in voluntary service to the Master.

/2CO 4:5

For we do not preach ourselves (as important) but Christ Jesus as Lord, and ourselves as your bond-servants (doulos) for Jesus’ sake.

First Corinthians, Chapter 9, Verses 14 and 18 and 19...

/1CO 9:14

So also the Lord directed those who proclaim the gospel to get their living from the gospel.

/1CO 9:18

What then is my reward (for proclaiming the gospel)? That, when I preach the gospel, I may offer the gospel without charge, so as not to make full use of my right in the gospel (to get my living from it).

/1CO 9:19

For though I am free from all men, I have made myself a slave (doulos) to all, so that I may win more.

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The Lord is not offended by those who make money by teaching the Word of God. Isn't it interesting how Satan has tainted our attitude about giving so much that we are antagonistic toward sharing our wealth for the promotion of the gospel...isn't it interesting how cautious we are about our spiritual giving commitments and how free and frivolous we often are in the matter of our spending for other things? Turn to Galatians, Chapter 1, Verse 10...

/GAL 1:10

For am I (Paul) now seeking the favor of men, or of God? Or am I striving to please men? If I were still trying to please men, I would not be a bond-servant (doulos) of Christ.

That's one thing I think most people miss about Pastors...we are not working to please the sheep...we are working to please our God. Unfortunately for us, every once in a while we listen to the bleating of our sheep without remembering that sheep are not on the point...

<BULLY CHART>

I think sheep often forget how hard it is for a Pastor to keep taking the point over and over again...how discouraging and emotional it is when the people around the Pastor don't come through...of course if we say anything about it...if we don't like it...we're ranting...I say to those who don't like hearing the emotions of a Pastor to take the point for a few months and then talk...to be a true doulos...then talk...look at Titus, Chapter 1, Verses 1 to 4...

/TIT 1:1

Paul, a bond-servant (doulos) of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, for the faith of those chosen of God and the knowledge of the truth which is according to godliness...\

/TIT 1:2

...in the hope of eternal life, which God, who cannot lie, promised long ages ago...\

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/TIT 1:3

...but at the proper time manifested, even His word, in the proclamation with which I was entrusted according to the commandment of God our Savior...\

/TIT 1:4

To Titus, my true child in a common faith: Grace and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Savior.\

The job of a *doulos* is pretty simple...to immerse himself in the salvation of his sheep...and to make sure they are taught the truth, so they are equipped to make great decisions at the point of pressure.

<EVANGELISM EXPERIENCE>

/PAUL'S RESUME<reveals>

Persecutor of the Church

The Least of the Apostles

A Minister of the Gospel

A Bond Servant (*doulos*)

What is the picture that is forming in your head about this wonderful apostle? How does it relate to you? What is your role in the Church? Where do you rank among living Christians in terms of impact? How often do you share the gospel? What is your status as a *doulos*? We'll continue our study of Paul in the next lesson. It's great to learn about Paul, but it is even more important to ask what this portrait of a believer highlights about your own credentials as a believer in Christ.

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/CLOSING SONG

Take My Hand\

CLOSING VERSES

/JER 29:11

“For I know the plans that I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope.”

/1PE 5:6-7

Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time, //casting all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you.

/JUD 1:24-25

Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, and to make you stand in the presence of His glory blameless with great joy, //to the only God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.

/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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