

ROMANS
Lesson 36– October 12, 2013

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

Good Morning! Welcome to Barah Ministries...a Christian Church. My name is Rory Clark. My spiritual gift is Pastor -Teacher...a gift given to me by God the Father for your benefit...a gift for evangelizing to unbelievers by preaching the gospel of His Son...and a gift for building a church filled with members of the body of Christ to provide them with a sanctuary in Satan's kingdom. Grace to you and peace from all the members of the Triune Godhead and from their manifest member...the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. The Lord Jesus Christ is God...the bible is His exact thinking...it is the absolute truth...it is without error...and it is without contradiction. Mark, Chapter 8, Verses 34 to 37 say...

/MAR 8:34

And He (the Lord Jesus Christ) summoned the crowd (along) with His disciples (technical students), and said to them (both), "If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his Cross and (keep on) follow(ing) Me."\

/MAR 8:35

"For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and (for) the gospel's (sake) will save it."\

/MAR 8:36-37

"For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world, and forfeit his soul?//For what will a man give in exchange for his soul?"\

Welcome to bible study where we learn how to turn away from our selfish interests...where we learn how to deny our desire for the self-first life...and where simultaneously we seek to learn how to serve others by saying yes to God's will and to God's way. Welcome to the place where we Christians learn that we are valued by God...so we don't have to sell out to the offers of the world! As Christians we don't seek the approval of the world...we don't sell our souls...we know that God has plans for our welfare and that great things come from our faith in Him.

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<WHERE IS YOUR SOUL TUNED?>

This and every bible lesson gives you a chance to RENEW your faith...its a time to let God the Holy Spirit remind you about the wonder of the Zoe Life...the resurrection life. 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 listen to the mind of the Lord Jesus Christ, the Word of God...thanks for tuning in to WGOD...and thanks for tuning out KCOS...the cosmic system of thought...even if just for a short time.

/MUSIC AND REFLECTION

Be Occupied with the Person of the Lord Jesus Christ

Enjoy the Singing of His Praises

Fear Not\

As God prepares your soul for RENEWING, let's worship our Lord in song. The opening song is FEAR NOT.

/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 proclaim our faith all throughout the world...

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

/TODAY'S STUDY

**Romans Chapter 1- When We Proclaim our Faith, What is There to Proclaim? **

/Romans, Chapter 1, Verses 8 to 15

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Paul's Prayer for the Purpose of his Ministry\

Romans, Chapter 1, Verse 8...the first verse in Paul's Prayer for the Purpose of his ministry...has us investigating the word "faith."

/ROM 1:8

First, I, Paul, thank God the Father in prayer through Jesus Christ's name for all you believers in Rome, because your faith is being proclaimed throughout the whole world...throughout the entire Roman Empire.

As a congregation, Barah Ministries has the same charge as the believers in Rome...we, too, are to proclaim our faith throughout the whole world. Faith is mentioned in Romans, Chapter 1, Verses 5 and 8 and 12. So what is faith?

/FAITH

A mental power given to each person at physical birth as a gift from a gracious God, which through freedom of choice, allows you to place your absolute confidence in a person, a place, or a thing...an active power which, when placed in God, offers an uncompromising inner assurance that things not seen will occur, and that things which seem impossible, can be accomplished.\

Ephesians, Chapter 2, Verse 8 says...

/EPH 2:8

For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that (faith is) not of yourselves, it is the gift of God...

According to Second Corinthians, Chapter 5, Verse 7, we believers in Christ...

/2CO 5:7

*...walk by faith, not by sight — *

Romans, Chapter 1, Verse 17 says...

/ROM 1:17

...in (the gospel message) the righteousness of God is revealed from

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faith to faith; as it is written, “BUT THE RIGHTEOUS man SHALL LIVE BY FAITH.”

Faith is the antidote to unbelief...it counteracts the injurious and unwanted effects of unbelief. What is unbelief?

/UNBELIEF

An incapacitating, paralyzing and enslaving mental power offered to all mankind by the kingdom of darkness, and chosen by some as a lifestyle, designed to steal our salvation, to kill our faith, to destroy our hope, to turn our love cold, and to keep our lives in constant crisis.\

You're invited to ask yourself, as a result of our look at faith and unbelief, two questions...where in your life is faith being manifest? Where is your life is unbelief being manifest? What do you want to do about the unbelief in your life? Turn to Second Corinthians, Chapter 10, Verses 3...

/2CO 10:3-4

For though we walk (have a lifestyle) in the flesh, we do not war according to the (power of the) flesh, //for the weapons of our warfare (like faith and prayer) are not of the flesh, but (the weapons of our warfare are) divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses.

There are many things we must tear down for the purpose of being built up. Today, we say goodbye to the old Barah Ministries...the legalistic one.

/2CO 10:5

We are destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ...

/2CO 10:6-7

...and we are ready to punish all disobedience, whenever your obedience is complete. //You are looking at things as they are outwardly...

Well in the lesson that will be forever known in Barah Ministries folklore as LESSON THREE, some cages were rattled. We are a Christian Church and that is not a small matter to our God. God the Father loves us, as the Lord Jesus Christ tells us, and the Father wants us to spread His unconditional

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love and faith throughout the world. In Second Corinthians, Chapter 10, Verse 7, Paul says, “You are looking at things outwardly.” We are a bit guilty of that malady. We must look at this ministry and at ourselves through God’s eyes...from His perspective...and we must always see what God sees in us and for us. In lesson three last week, I gave you a glimpse of a leader’s heart...a glimpse of a Pastor’s heart...those innermost thoughts that we often keep hidden. I see little value in keeping them hidden. You have to know the things that I think and the things that I feel...you must know my view of what we stand for.

Barah Ministries is a ministry. As such, it has a purpose. We seek to accomplish three things...

/BARAH MINISTRIES’ PURPOSE

To evangelize to unbelievers, providing the accurate Gospel Message, the Good News about Jesus Christ’s Person and His salvation work at the Cross.

To teach the Word of God regularly to believers in Christ.

To conduct missionary activity, raising Pastors and independent self sustaining churches throughout the world as God provides the opportunity.\

At the center of Barah Ministries is Christ. At the center of every ministry within this ministry is Christ. We will not lose sight of our purpose.

This year, the old Barah Ministries died. May it rest in peace. No longer are we saddled with the legalism of Systematic Theology, a system of slavery that directed our focus to our sins. No longer are we sitting on our hands waiting for the Lord to do all the work. The Lord uses people and we must get ourselves ready for His purpose in us. We must allow the Lord to use us. To do so successfully we must shed the old. We must not hold on tenaciously to the past...we must release it, so that we can secure the future that we were brought here by God to secure. Luke, Chapter 5, Verses 37 to 39 say...

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/LUK 5:37

“And no one puts new wine into old wineskins; otherwise the new wine will burst the skins and it will be spilled out, and the (wine)skins will be ruined.”

/LUK 5:38-39

“But new wine must be put into fresh wineskins.//And no one, after drinking old wine wishes for new (wine); for he says, ‘The old is good enough.’”

The old Barah Ministries IS NOT good enough. The old you IS NOT good enough. The old me IS NOT good enough. God expects more from us.

The new Barah Ministries is one that seeks to take advantage of the one hundred or so weapons, in the form of PEOPLE, that the Lord has put in place throughout the world, both in our resident and in our “Soon to be Resident” congregation. We are determined to proclaim our faith through the dissemination of the gospel message to the whole world. The proclamation of one’s faith is ACTIVE, not passive. It means we must be active to be the great people that God has made us to be, and we must direct our activities and our efforts to the proclamation of our faith. Yes...our faith must be active...and active faith IS NOT activism. It’s biblical.

My greatest pleasure in Barah Ministries is the people. I am totally pleased with the assembly of the believers God has put here. I am pleased also with the challenges this ministry has faced and weathered so far. I suspect that in the coming years, we won’t know ourselves because we will be so different, yet we will be totally pleased with what we have become.

But as I mentioned to you last week, I think we’re missing opportunities to proclaim our faith throughout the world. Now...how you react to what I am saying is your business...I don’t control you. But you must know this about me. I don’t want to be a coercive leader. And believe me...I can be. But I have learned from my past as a coercive leader that I don’t have the power to talk you out of the lifestyle you want to run...I don’t think God is willing to coerce you either. But I will encourage you to remember that your thoughts are very powerful. And it is worthwhile for you to consider that your thoughts may not be in line with what God has waiting for you. You may be holding on to old thoughts...a Christianity from your past...that superficial form of Christianity is behind us...it’s out with the old and in with the new. Take a five-minute break.

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/BREAK

Indescribable

When I Think About Home

Welcome back!

My worldly experience tells me that people show up here in Barah Ministries just about how they show up in the world. If you send emails to people in the world and have the entitlement attitude, “He should get back to me,” you’re engaging in the malady of having expectations of others without their agreement. It doesn’t work.

If when I am teaching, you are reacting with an “I agree – I disagree” mentality as the world teaches you to, and if you are not really listening to the whole point of the things I say, you may be missing the best part of what is being said.

If you are entrenched in false viewpoints that you have adopted to cope with life in the world, viewpoints such as unbelief, where you don’t trust anyone...where you expect everything to go wrong in your life...it may be time to let those thoughts go. As we move into the next chapter of the life of Barah Ministries, we will adopt new ways of approaching life and situations. We will live by faith. We will live deep...we will not live life on the surface. That will require us to switch off of the “auto-pilot” lifestyle of unbelief, and and navigate through life guided by our faith in Christ.

The big questions we ask ourselves in transition from the old Barah Ministries to the new Barah Ministries are these...

/QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

How am I different as a person because I attend Barah Ministries?

How is Christ changing me through Barah Ministries?\

Can you see the difference in you that results from you being here? Can you feel the difference in you? Do you see the Word of God changing you? I do. Although I think the change is happening slowly. And just because something is happening slowly does not always mean it is happening well.

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The last six years has taught us some valuable lessons...many lessons that I am VERY proud of...

The most important lesson that we have learned in the six years Barah Ministries has been in existence is CHRIST. Tick tock...what time is it on the Creator Clock?

<CREATOR CLOCK SLIDE>

It's thirteen o'clock. God is love. We have learned about the Person of the Lord Jesus Christ. We have learned to view the world, to view ourselves and to view others through His eyes...the eyes of unconditional love. There is no more important lesson than that. I am looking forward to learning more about Him and His love for us without the perversions of Systematic Theology distorting our viewpoint. Will you let those old viewpoints go without putting yourself through a kicking and screaming process? I hope so.

We have learned that God is the SOURCE of all things, and we are the intended RECIPIENTS. By knowing this we can live Romans, Chapter 8, Verse 31...

/ROM 8:31

What then shall we say (face) to (face with) these things? If (1) God is for us (and He is), who is against us?

God is for us. God loves us unconditionally. We can shed the old viewpoint that somehow God is waiting to come down on us. Thus we can proceed into the unknowns of life knowing that God will absolutely deliver to us the desires of our hearts.

We've learned that death is always followed by life. We've learned that death works in us so life can work in others. In that way we have learned sacrifice. Romans, Chapter 13, Verses 11 and 12...

/ROM 13:11

Do this, knowing the time, that it is already the hour for you to awaken from sleep; for now salvation is nearer to us than when we believed.

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/ROM 13:12

The night is almost gone, and the day is near. Therefore let us lay aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light.

Romans, Chapter 13, Verse 14...

/ROM 13:14

But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh in regard to its lusts.

Out with the old...in with the new.

We have learned not just the Christian Way of Life...we've focused on the Christian Way of Living...a life of faith...not a life of unbelief. We have learned the pain of counting on each other. You have made this a ministry where internally, we reach out to each other...we interact with each other...we hurt each other...and we recover...knowing there is no way to insulate yourselves from the pain of relationships. Yet we are encouraged when we realize that every death is followed by life in God's plan. So we look forward with eager anticipation to what God is able to do with us through the fellowship of our sufferings. First Peter, Chapter 5, Verse 10...

/1PE 5:10

After you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself perfect, confirm, strengthen and establish you.

We have learned that immediately after you are taught a lesson you are about to experience the lesson in your life. For example, if you are taught unconditional love, you're going to need it soon. If you are taught faith and unbelief, your unbelief is going to be illuminated and your faith is going to be required...soon!

In short, we have been learning all the elements required for us to have a deep, and intimate, and personal relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ. We have been "Pursuing Truth from the Word of God..."

/BARAH MINISTRIES

Pursuing Truth from the Word of God\

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...and God has revealed His truth to us through the Holy Spirit just as He promised in John, Chapter 16, Verse 13...

/JOH 16:13

“But when He, (God) the (Holy) Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come.”

The Spirit IS disclosing all the truth to us. And we are listening. And now it is time for us to proclaim our faith in Him throughout the entire world.

We have learned who we really are...Priests...Ambassadors...Saints...Holy Ones...Blameless ones...who are Justified...Redeemed...Reconciled...who are In Union with Christ...who are Absolutely Righteous...we are Forgiven! We are divinely loved ones...

We have learned that God has an enemy who manifests himself through false teachers who teach heresy through false doctrines...and we have learned how unwilling we are to maintain respect for the men we have learned from while hating the false things they taught...we've learned how reluctant we are to discard the false to make room for the new. We have learned our unbelief concerning new wine and old wine skins...sometimes we have a faith in people and not a faith in God. And although that idea may seem compassionate, it is debilitating.

We are called to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which we have been called. A song puts it well...

/TAKE A LOOK

Take a look in the mirror
And look at yourself
But don't you look to close
Because you just might see
The person
That you hate the most\

That's our fear...that in looking in the mirror we will hate ourselves. But are we looking at self with God's eyes or our own?

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We've learned that your will activates God's will for you...that God seeks your permission to serve you...are you letting Him know, in faith that it is okay for Him to bless you beyond measure? Or are you operating in unbelief? God is quite able to do things on His own for you...yet your will is a giant factor in your life.

We've learned that God's timing is NOW...we've learned that God's will is NOW...we are encouraged to act with faith.

We've learned that there is indeed a Creator - Creature Conflict.

We've learned that your teacher is a unique person...he is not a polished version of his teachers...I hope you have learned that my thoughts and my desires for myself and for you and for this ministry are nothing like the desires my teachers had...I am not interested in being like my teachers. I'm interested in being the person that God is making me.

It's time for us to abandon what is not useful...to adopt what is biblical...and to press on to the mark that has been set for us by our God.

The New Self is not a modification of the old self...it is a new spiritual species. It is an abandonment of SELF.

I invite you to join your leadership team and me as we travel to the New Self Barah Ministries, starting now. I've seen people come and go in six years. I have no control over that...and I wouldn't want to control it if I could.

The New Barah Ministries will continue to ask a simple question...

/In what ways can I serve Christ through Barah Ministries?\

And we will continue to ask you to become your New Self, no matter how uncomfortable it is...we will begin by proclaiming our faith throughout the whole world. The world better fasten its seat belts.

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/CLOSING SONG

Walk in the Light\

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!

www.barahministries.com\