

Romans
Lesson 60 – December 29th, 2013

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/Welcome to Barah Ministries a Christian Church
– Good Morning Royal Family!
Let's shift our minds away from the issues of life and focus
on the message from God the Holy Spirit\

We come to bible study for RENEWING, to allow God the Holy Spirit to guide us by the Truth in the Word of God, so we can know the plan of God the Father, the compassion of His Son, and the amazing sacrifice of the uniquely born One, the Lord Jesus Christ.

We have the freedom to choose where our soul is focused. Each day we make hundreds of decisions whether good or bad but the best decision we can make is to learn about the Lord Jesus Christ. Learning about our Lord allows us to live the ZOE...the Christian way of life.

So where is your soul tuned?...And I'm asking you this now but we need to ask ourselves this all the time. Our souls are being flooded with lies and distractions from smartphones, video games, and tablets. If we don't get a dose of Truth each day our souls will be swallowed in fear, worry, and anxiety.

<Where is your soul tuned slide, Romans 12:2 verse>

/ROM 12:2 –

And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and

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perfect.\

/2 COR 5:17 –

Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.\

So if you're a believer in Christ then you've activated the gift of Faith and want to learn about God the Father's plan for your life. If you're an unbeliever who is here then you've found gold in Barah Ministries. You will hear Truth from the Word of God and not opinions.

The Lord Jesus Christ died for whosoever. There is a popular verse that both believers and unbelievers will know...John 3:16. You will see it caught on camera at pretty much every professional sporting event...anyway...I know most Christians are over this verse but I'm going to read verse 17 as well because it shows a loving God rather than a judgmental God. Our God creates unity between the two groups.

/JOH 3:16

“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.\

/JOH 3:17

“For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him.\

Why is that verse always forgotten? God came to save all not to judge all...big difference. So as we hear the opening song, focus on the New Self and our direct access to divine power in Christ.

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/MUSIC AND REFLECTION

Be Occupied with the Person of the Lord Jesus Christ
And Enjoy the Singing of His Praises
He's Been Faithful\

/OPENING PRAYER

Let us pray...\

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

Thank you for the best military and law enforcement in the world that allow us to meet in complete peace and tranquility.

Thank you for providing whosoever the victory through Faith.

Thank you for always answering our prayers in one-way or another.

I pray that you help our unbelief when we doubt your ability to deliver us.

I pray that you help us to put our Faith in you and ultimately others.

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

/WELCOME TO BARAH MINISTRIES

Denny Goodall - Deacon\

Welcome to Barah Ministries. We are pursuing Truth from the Word of God found in the Bible. My name is Deacon Denny Goodall. You're listening to lesson twenty of the

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Romans series. Welcome to a ministry designed for people who want to develop a deep, intimate and personal relationship with the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

So this lesson really makes it obvious that our Lord saves the best for last...I have the honor of delivering the last lesson of 2013...and I'm really excited to see where our ministries will be a year from now.

Welcome to a place where you can let your guard down because The Lord Jesus Christ is God. The Bible is His infallible Word...and His exact thinking...a book with no errors...with no contradictions...with no lies...the Bible is the truth. Welcome to the place where you can receive the Word of God. There is no better guide for our lives.

The bible says that the truth will set you free. As Jesus says in John chapter 8 verses 31 and 32...

/JOH 8:31-32

“If you continue in My word, *then* you are truly disciples of Mine; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.”\

I want to begin by thanking Pastor Rory and echoing Deacon Caleb. Doing these lessons has shown me how committed Rory has to be. I mean I've done a couple single lessons and they wipe me out. It takes all I've got to come up with this much to say...it takes me multiple days to write it out...but it takes me weeks of thinking and researching to come up with something of impact to say.

It's like being a UFC fighter. They don't just train for a fight overnight. It takes weeks and months of maximum effort and non-stop hard work. Then it's all over in an instant.

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Well Pastor Rory has made it look easy. He has outlined a twenty-one-part study of the Creator Creature Conflict. This conflict is raging as you sit there. I think it's all too easy to forget that the enemy of God is continually trying to create conflict in our lives. He knows our Heavenly Father has eternal plans for a relationship with each one of us.

So Week after week Pastor continues a thorough study of the word of God. He has an amazing ability to boil it down to the simple elements by asking very direct and challenging questions. Our gracious Pastor has worked diligently to strengthen our relationship with God so Satan has to be at his best in order to affect us.

Well thank you Pastor for showing your commitment to this ministry by pushing our study forward. But more importantly pushing and not just following in the footsteps of others. Thank you for taking the road less traveled. It takes a real man to have the courage to admit he was mistaken.

This reminds me of a saying I saw the other day

/SUPERMAN SLIDE\

Thank you for showing us that it's not about continually focusing on our sins. We now know that the focus needs to be on the perfect righteousness that continually indwells us.

And our ministry has been set free this year. We have gone from knowledge seeking academics watching the ZOE life to Christians living the ZOE life. I think for too long I was worried about preparing myself for the future. I was trying to soak up as much "doctrine" as possible and stockpile Truth for a rainy day. I can't be the only one...

I feel like we have broadened our message this year. In the past the focus seemed to be solely on the believer. Our

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previous academic pursuit had to be somewhat discouraging to visitors. Well I want to continue our broadened focus and talk about what I feel to be a key step in our relationships.

Faith - Faith is in general the persuasion of the mind that a certain statement is true. Its primary idea is trust. A thing is true, and therefore worthy of trust.

Or said a better way by a famous Pastor...

/FAITH SLIDE\

In order to have a relationship with Christ we have to have faith alone in Christ alone. Well I think that faith allows all relationships to start and continue. Faith...using Faith is the most valuable thing we have in life. Faith makes us different from the world.

People of faith are encouraging to believers. God supports us through believers but when believers are around unbelievers there are no positive reminders of God's plan.

Faith is about stepping out of your comfort zone. People of faith put their butts on the line as much as they can. If not now when? Faith is the core of Christianity. Faith is like the Big Bang of our soul. Instantly a million things happen all at once. Faith is victory.

I want to give you some food for thought about Faith. You see...I agree with Elliott that Love is key part in our relationship with God and it needs to be revealed to this lost and dying world. But I think that since faith is the first step in our spiritual life it needs more credit.

After our study of Faith some things really connected in my soul. You see faith filled in the blanks after rebound was shown to be false. I realized that...REBOUND KILLED

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FAITH

/Today's Study
Rebound Killed FAITH\

Hi I'm Denny and I used to rebound...you're supposed to say Hi Denny. Ya know, One thing I always wondered about rebound...how are we supposed to know when we sin every time? So for me I would just rebound to be sure. But that's not the Word of God...the Truth is clear...rebound is not. I feel like because of rebound we let Faith become a one time event, rather than the glue that holds it all together.

It's like you could be breaking a law and not even know it...who knows every law on the books? So we might be out of "fellowship" and not even know to rebound.

I'm mad at rebound...rebound out shadowed the importance of Faith. Rebound looks back at self. The focus is off where it should be. We focus on mistakes rather than the victory we have through Faith alone in Christ alone. We focused on the problem and not the solution through Faith in who and what the bible says about God.

I always felt bad for Pastor and my Mom for getting stuck in a religion. They like so many others spent so much time worried about legalistic rule following. So much wasted time. So many moments where you mentally turn inward focusing on the condition of self...rather than standing firm in your faith of Who...and...What resides within you.

/ROM 8:31

What then shall we say to these things? If God *is* for us, who *is* against us?\

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There are so many verses that back that up. There are so many verses to build confidence in your dependence...your dependence in God, which is built on Faith.

Well I got stuck too. Now I know that same feeling they had. We've all been fooled. I grew up with Colonel Thieme so my life has been ruled by rebound.

Pastor has said he used to overlook God the Father. Well I did the same thing with Faith because of rebound. I had Faith alone in Christ alone at a young age and it never seemed to come up again. During those trying moments of life I would focus on my sins and rely on rebound. I would focus on the ten problem solving devices.

Again it was about what I was doing for myself not what God has already done. I saw the 10 problem solving devices as my rock instead of God. I used to always jump to rebound in the ruff patches...instead of Faith in my knowledge of God. I mean think about how much we know the bible says about our God. We have faith that the Word of God is absolute Truth.

We extended faith to Thieme for many years. That faith was really in God to provide Truth. Well we need to extend that Faith to our current Pastor. Just like when we reject authority in our lives we are rejecting the authority of God...it's the same when we lack Faith in a Pastor...we are lacking Faith in God to provide for us.

Well enough of me ranting let's see if Faith or rebound is what carry people through life.

But before we do that let's take a five-minute break before we jump into some examples.

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/BREAK

Faith, Hope, Love\

Welcome back; let's look at Faith and how it is part of our entire ZOE life. We used rebound religiously to activate our spiritual life. While forgetting that it's Faith that begins a relationship and gives us strength during hard times.

I want to use stories of real people that show that Faith is critical to start and to live the ZOE life.

So let's begin with our good friend Tony LoGrasso. For those of you that don't know Tony's story he was diagnosed with Multiple Myeloma, a rare cancer of the blood plasma residing in the bone marrow, for which there are treatments, but really no known absolute cure. Well I'm happy to say Tony is a cancer survivor who had his Faith challenged at every phase of his recovery. Yet he stood strong with God and his family using Faith.

When I look at the situation I wonder what part did rebound played in his recovery. Did he spend time worrying about his sins? Did he feel stronger after rebounding for something he may have done? I highly doubt that rebound got him through those dark days of doubt and unbelief.

It's just like the book of Job...turn in your bibles to Job chapter 1 verse 8...Job chapter 1 verse 8...we pick up during a brief conversation between the Lord and Satan where Jesus uses Job as an example of a strong believer. But Satan accuses Job of only having faith because God was always protecting him.

/JOB 1:8

The LORD said to Satan, "Have you considered My servant

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Job? For there is no one like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, fearing God and turning away from evil.”\

/JOB 1:9

Then Satan answered the LORD, “Does Job fear God for nothing?”\

/JOB 1:10

“Have You not made a hedge about him and his house and all that he has, on every side? You have blessed the work of his hands, and his possessions have increased in the land.\

/JOB 1:11

“But put forth Your hand now and touch all that he has; he will surely curse You to Your face.”\

/JOB 1:12

Then the LORD said to Satan, “Behold, all that he has is in your power, only do not put forth your hand on him.” So Satan departed from the presence of the LORD.\

Well I think we all know what happens from there. Job is eventually beset with horrendous disasters that take away all he has, including his family, his health, and his property.

I’m pretty sure Job didn’t need rebound to fortify his Faith in God. He didn’t need to call on the ten problem solving devices in order to get through those trying times.

Job had an absolute Faith in the character of God and he knew that God always has a plan. Job did not question that plan and knew good could still come from disaster.

/ROM 8:28

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And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.\

Let's take a look at the story of Daniel in the lion's den. Daniel was found to be worshipping a God other than King Darius This was punishable by being put into the lion's den for a thirty-day period.

Turn in your bibles to Daniel chapter 6 verse 16...Daniel chapter 6 verse 16...

/DAN 6:16

Then the king gave orders, and Daniel was brought in and cast into the lions' den. The king spoke and said to Daniel, "Your God whom you constantly serve will Himself deliver you."\
"

Daniel was to be cast into the lion's den. He basically was being thrown into a fiery furnace. This is an amazing story of Faith from start to finish.

You see Daniel knew the law had been put into effect yet in his faith he continued to worship God and not the king. He had to know that openly praying to God three times would get him caught. He had to be aware that there were devote enemies to our Lord. Yet he stood firm in his faith.

Now as I said earlier by breaking the law Daniel was to be sentenced to thirty days in the lion's den. Now you know a lion is going to eat in those thirty days. So he was pretty much doomed to death by getting eaten alive. I don't know about you but just the thought of being eaten alive would make me second-guess worshipping openly.

The interesting part for me is the fact that Daniel was placed

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with the lions...the king of the jungle. I find it very symbolic that he had Faith in the King of Kings, our Lord and he was with the king of the jungle. Plus if you noticed even King Darius was on Daniels side. He proclaimed that God Himself would save Daniel.

So Daniel had three kings all looking out for him.

/DAN 6:23

Then the king was very pleased and gave orders for Daniel to be taken up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den and no injury whatever was found on him, because he had trusted in his God.\

What did that last part say?...because he trusted in God...in other words he had Faith that our gracious God would deliver him in his time of need. No mention of rebound here.

The next example is more personal because it's me. My wife and I have been trying to have a child for about two years now. We have gone through the standard testing to see if everything is working right and I can say with joy that both of our parts are in good working order.

Yet she is still not pregnant. Well we have found our Faith to be of great comfort and have tried to stay patient. But after a while one starts to wonder is there more I can do? So we tried fertility treatments and IUI's four times with tremendous cost and no results.

So do rebound and the ten problem solving devices help us get through the discouraging news of not pregnant each time.

Does rebound help us to focus on what the Lord Jesus

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Christ has done for us?

Does rebound help us remember that we only have to ask in prayer and have faith?

No and no...but Jesus does say believing...having Faith makes all things possible

/MAR 9:23

Jesus said to him, If you can believe, all things are possible to him that believes.\

/ROM3:3

What then? If some did not believe (lacked Faith), their unbelief will not nullify the faithfulness of God, will it?

Well will it...NO it won't God is faithful even when we aren't But with the doctrine of rebound we would answer yes because we thought we were out of fellowship when we weren't.

/2 THESS 3:3

But the Lord is faithful, and He will strengthen and protect you from the evil one.\

I find a lot of comfort in that one little verse. God is faithful and will reinforce and shield us from our enemy.

Let Your Faith be bigger than your Fears. Worry is a waste of energy. It can't change the past. It can't control the future. It only makes today miserable. Be a warrior, not a worrier

Faith is a knowledge in the heart beyond the reach of proof, Faith is active, Faith is an effortless victory in Christ. That is

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real power.

So what is standing between myself and experiencing the victory of Jesus? Me. My unbelief. Faith IS the victory. Thus, unbelief is the defeat. God must get me to where I believe and rest in Christ.

Well, that is easy to say. It is the Truth. But what I am talking about here is not a matter of merely believing the fact of the victory. I'm talking about living in it – I'm really talking about Jesus Christ having victory over ME – over my unbelief.

Now, none of this will make much sense if we don't understand the meaning of faith and unbelief. We often think of faith and unbelief in relation to believing facts, or in relation to giving assent to certain precepts. But they are more, they speak of our relatedness to God. We might even say that faith and unbelief are evidence of our harmony or fellowship with God.

If I have faith, I am in harmony with God on a matter. I do believe and trust Him, but more than that, I am, in my inward parts, in harmony with Him. If I am in unbelief, there is a lack of harmony. Of course, there are phases to these things, and dimensions of understanding. But in the end, if I am walking in faith – which is His victory – I am, at least in my heart, in harmony with the Lord. I want His will. In short, faith is submission to God – voluntary submission in love and Truth. You cannot say you trust the Lord and then refuse to submit to Him.

Now note: Faith doesn't just believe God's will. Faith WANTS God's will. Indeed, faith IS God's will – it is a matter of becoming God's will. If I have faith, I am swallowed up in Christ. I am ONE with Him, and His will. I have no personal agenda.

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When someone asks you about God are you like a waitress who when asked about a dish says oh its good...really how so? Is it salty sweet not mushy what... When you get the chance to talk about God don't just say god is good....say you know God is omnipresent unlike Santa...He sees you watching those soap operas...Van.

Let your faith be bigger than your fears. In other words let your trust in God give you a confident hope that allows you to love.

I don't get feedback like pastor does so I don't know the issues that you're all facing. But I do know that each one of you is going through serious pressure in one or more parts of your life.

Well just binge...binge on God...because when you know your God you can have Faith and trust that will sustain you no matter what the cosmos can hurl at you. Focus on the Lord Jesus Christ and let Him light the way in your dark days.

/CLOSING SONG

Voice of Truth\

/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.\

/1 PET 1:13

Therefore, prepare your minds for action, keep sober in spirit, fix your hope completely on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.\

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/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.\

/2 COR 4:14-15

Knowing that He who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and will present us with you. // For all things *are* for your sakes, so that the grace which is spreading to more and more people may cause the giving of thanks to abound to the glory of God.\

/CLOSING PRAYER

Let us pray...\

Thank You for patiently waiting on high to give us salvation when we have faith.

Thank You for continually delivering us when we stand firm in our faith.

Help us to remember faith is not just a one-time event.

I pray that you help us have better relationships by extending our trust to others

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I pray that you show us how much simpler life can be when we trust God and those that are closest to us.

And we pray that You continue to shape the messages from this pulpit that are an accurate reflection of Your person, Your thinking, Your work, Your reputation 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!

Thanks for giving!

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