

**ROMANS**  
**Lesson 62– January 12, 2014**

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

Welcome to Barah Ministries...a Christian Church...my name is Pastor  
Rory Clark.

**/MUSIC AND REFLECTION**

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

Here I Am to Worship\

As God prepares your soul to receive His Word, let's turn from the cares of  
life to the Lord's living refreshment by worshipping Him in song. The  
opening song is HERE I AM TO WORSHIP.

**/HERE I AM TO WORSHIP**

Light of the world  
You stepped down into darkness  
Opened my eyes let me see  
Beauty that made  
This heart adore You  
Hope of a life spent with You\

**/HERE I AM TO WORSHIP**

Here I am to worship  
Here I am to bow down  
Here I am to say that  
You're my God  
You're altogether lovely  
Altogether worthy  
Altogether wonderful to me\

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/HERE I AM TO WORSHIP

King of all days  
Oh so highly exalted  
Glorious in Heaven above  
Humbly You came  
To the earth You created  
All for love's sake became poor\

/HERE I AM TO WORSHIP

Here I am to worship  
Here I am to bow down  
Here I am to say that  
You're my God  
You're altogether lovely  
Altogether worthy  
Altogether wonderful to me\

/HERE I AM TO WORSHIP

I'll never know how much it cost  
To see my sin upon the Cross  
I'll never know how much it cost  
To see my sin upon the Cross  
I'll never know how much it cost  
To see my sin upon the Cross\

/HERE I AM TO WORSHIP

Here I am to worship  
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**/HERE I AM TO WORSHIP**

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**/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 take advantage of the salvation You freely provide through a relationship with Your Son, the Lord Jesus Christ...

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

**/TODAY'S STUDY**

**Romans 1: Self-Righteousness Will NOT Get You to Heaven\**

To the resident members of Barah Ministries *and* to the non-resident members of Barah Ministries, who are hopefully soon-to-be resident

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members, grace and peace to you from God the Father...the author of the plan of God...Acts, Chapter 2, Verse 23 says...

/ACT 2:23

*...this Man (the Messiah, Jesus Christ was), delivered over by the predetermined plan and foreknowledge of God (the Father and), you nailed (Him) to a Cross by the hands of godless men (unbelievers) and put Him to death.\*

Grace and peace to you from God the Son...who executed God the Father's plan to perfection...Hebrews, Chapter 10, Verses 5 to 7 say...

/HEB 10:5

*Therefore, when He (the Lord Jesus Christ) comes into the world (at physical birth, from the manger), He says, "SACRIFICE AND OFFERING YOU (God the Father) HAVE NOT DESIRED, BUT A BODY (true humanity) YOU HAVE PREPARED FOR ME..."*

/HEB 10:6

*IN WHOLE BURNT OFFERINGS AND sacrifices FOR SIN YOU HAVE TAKEN NO PLEASURE.\*

/HEB 10:7

*"THEN I SAID, 'BEHOLD, I HAVE COME (IN THE SCROLL OF THE BOOK IT IS WRITTEN OF ME) TO DO YOUR WILL, O GOD (the Father).'"*

Grace and peace to you from God the Holy Spirit, the teacher of God the Father's plan...John, Chapter 16, Verses 13 and 14...

/JOH 16:13

*"But when He, (God the Holy) the Spirit of truth, comes, He (God the Holy the Spirit) will guide you (believers in Christ) into all the truth (of the Word of God); for He (God the Holy the Spirit) will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears (from God the Father), He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come."*

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/JOH 16:14

*“He (God the Holy the Spirit) will glorify Me (the Lord Jesus Christ, by being a perfect reflection of Me), for He (God the Holy the Spirit) will take of Mine (My resume...things pertaining to My Person and My Work) and will disclose it to you.”\*

And grace and peace to you from the uniquely born one...the central figure in divine history...the manifest member of the Godhead...the God-Man... one hundred percent God and one hundred percent true humanity in one person forever...the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. John, Chapter 1, Verse 14...

/JOH 1:14

*And the Word (God the Son...the Lord...in His Deity) became flesh (true humanity...taking on the form of man), and dwelt (tabernacled) among us, and we saw (beheld) His glory, glory as of the only begotten (uniquely born one) from (God) the Father, full of grace and (full of) truth.\*

It is my pleasure to greet all of you and to share the Word of God with you. I think of you often during the week, and it is a tormenting experience... much the same experience that a mother hen has in relationship to her chicks...I am your shepherd and you are my sheep and I am constantly concerned for your welfare and your thinking. I wish you did not have to learn things the hard way. I wish you did not have to learn through tribulation. But I trust in the wisdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ to perfect you in a way that best affects your salvation and your deliverance.

This week, I have awakened many times thinking of all of you who are within earshot of this message, and of all of you who are within our periphery, who are unbelievers. They are the ones among us who reject a relationship with the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, either passively through their indifference, or actively through antagonism.

I was thinking of the many conversations I have had when working in Europe. It is a continent that is a hot bed of unbelief. The conversations, if they could be called that...they're not really conversations which are intended to induce dialogue...are more like venom-filled speeches...

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/GUIDANCE FROM AN UNBELIEVER

“Rory...you’re a Pastor right? I can’t understand how a man as intelligent as you would be a Christian. Has anyone ever told you that your faith is a ‘crutch?’ I think it is. Belief in God is a crutch for weak, pathetic people who don’t have the strength to take responsibility for their own lives.”\

/GUIDANCE FROM AN UNBELIEVER

“You’re not like that. So you confuse me. A guy as powerful as you does not need God.” I tell you man...you’re an enigma.”\

Okay. That’s where I draw the line. Don’t call me no enigma, punk! I know what you’re getting at...that’s just a euphemism. Amen?

I am always a bit astounded at how accurate unbelievers are in their assessment. I am indeed weak. I am indeed pathetic. I indeed need a crutch. And so do all believers in Christ. The Lord Jesus Christ is our crutch. This guy is right on. Unfortunately for him, he, like most unbelievers, is in complete denial that he was born with the exact same need as believers...a Savior. Ephesians, Chapter 2, Verse 1...

/EPH 2:1

*And (at physical birth) you were (spiritually) dead in your trespasses and sins... \*

You were placed into a condition, by God, at physical birth...it’s called **spiritual death**. Unfortunately for you that means that you were separated from a relationship with God...you were on the wrong side of a barrier...you had no relationship with God...you were in a condition of helplessness because you cannot be saved through your own works...and you are helpless to do anything about your predicament. The fact that you are in this predicament is not your fault, but it is your circumstance. Turn to First Corinthians, Chapter 15, Verse 22 amplifies the problem you have...there is a consequence to spiritual death...

/1CO 15:22

*For as (for all those) in (union with) Adam (at physical birth...which is the whole human race) all (of these) are set to die (the second death in the*

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*Lake of Fire)...\*

If you close your eyes in this life in a condition of spiritual death...you are set for an eternity in the Lake of Fire, a literal place. Matthew, Chapter 8, Verse 12 describes it this way...

/MAT 8:12

*“...but the sons of the kingdom (of darkness...the religious of Israel...all unbelievers) will be cast out into the outer darkness (the Lake of Fire); in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”\*

Your soul, once born, never dies...you get to choose where it spends eternity.

I am ecstatic to be working again in my chosen profession. I am having conversations daily about God with unbelievers. This week I had a scintillating conversation with a Roman Catholic. He was raised Catholic, as was I. He has his children in Catholic school...I went to Catholic School. He's been to the Vatican, as have I. We could relate because we had many things in common. I told him that the Jesus Christ of Romans Catholicism is not the Jesus Christ of the bible. He knew. He shook his head in acknowledgement and quickly got a somber look on his face. His chin went into his chest in reflection. I said, “I guess you just have to take your pick concerning the One in whom you believe.” He smiled...then he chuckled... and he said, “The Pope man! I believe in the Pope.” And he broke out into a laugh. We had a good laugh about it. I gave him my book, “And You Will Be Saved,” and he said, “You're not going to convert me!” I said, “If I could convert you, I'd take you out in the parking lot and do it right now... forcefully.” He'll read the book. What he does afterwards is up to him.

This week, I was reflecting on this photo.

<MARILYN MONROE DEAD let the title over the top of the photo reveal after a click>

Do you recognize this woman? Probably not. She said this...

/“I'm a good person. I don't need your Jesus.”\

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The quote is from someone you have heard of. If you didn't recognize her from the first picture, perhaps this picture will give you a better idea of who she is...

<MARILYN MONROE LIVING PICTURE>

Here's her quote...allegedly directed to Billy Graham...

/QUOTE FROM MARILYN MONROE

“I'm a good person. I don't need your Jesus.”\

I wonder if she felt that way two hours before this picture was taken.

<MARILYN MONROE DEAD PICTURE>

I wonder if she felt that way just before she or someone else put eight powerful barbiturates into her system. I wonder if she felt that way as she went from husband to husband to husband...from affair to affair to affair... her lifestyle was not a reflection of someone who was content with the fame and the circumstance she had...and in the minds of the public, she was a goddess. Many of the rich and famous don't think they need the Lord Jesus Christ because they see themselves as self-righteous...

<POSTER SLIDE>

**You cannot accept God's grace for your life until you let go of your own righteousness.** That is, your delusion of having righteousness.

The Lord Jesus Christ offers the free gift of salvation to anyone who places his confidence in Him. John, Chapter 14, Verse 6 says...

/JOH 14:6

*Jesus said to him (doubting Thomas), “I am the way (to salvation), and (I am) the truth (through the Word of God), and (I am) the (eternal) life (the Zoe Life...the resurrection life); no one comes to (God) the Father but through (believing in) Me.”*

Acts, Chapter 16, Verse 31 says...



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/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 who believes in the Son (the Lord Jesus Christ) has eternal life (immediately); but he who does not obey the (command of God to believe in the) Son (the Lord Jesus Christ) will not see (the resurrection) life (the Zoe Life...the eternal life, by choice), but (instead accepts) the wrath of God (the Lake of Fire, and it) abides on him.”\*

The bible says we are not “basically good people.” In fact, it says the opposite. Romans, Chapter 7, Verses 18 to 21 say...

/ROM 7:18

*For I (Paul) know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh (where the sin nature resides); for the willing is present in me, but the doing of the good is not present in me).\*

/ROM 7:19

*For the good that I want, I do not do (I can't carry it out), but I practice the very evil that I do not want (to do).\*

/ROM 7:20

*But if I am doing the very thing I do not want (to do), I am no longer the one doing it, but (the) sin (nature) which (in)dwells in me (is doing the sinning).\*

/ROM 7:21

*I find then the principle that evil is present in me (in the sin nature), (in) the one who wants to do good.\*

Now if the bible were just a book, you could easily dismiss these thoughts as insane, as pointless, as “who cares?” But what does the bible say of itself? Second Peter, Chapter 1, Verses 20 and 21 say...

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/2PE 1:20

*But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of one's own (private) interpretation...\*

/2PE 1:21

*...for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved (carried along) by (God) the Holy Spirit spoke (directly) from (the exact thinking of THE) God (the Lord Jesus Christ).\*

So if the bible is the exact thinking of the Lord Jesus Christ...as it says in First Corinthians, Chapter 2, Verse 16...

/1CO 2:16

*For WHO (what man) HAS KNOWN THE MIND OF THE LORD (so well), THAT HE (this man) WILL (be qualified to) INSTRUCT HIM (the Lord Jesus Christ?) But we have the mind of Christ.\*

...then it calls on you to think differently than you have in the past about your relationship with God. What is going to happen to you when you close your eyes in this life?

Take a five-minute break.

/BREAK

*And Now My Lifesong Sings  
When I Think About Home\*

Welcome back! What is going to happen to you when you close your eyes in this life? Your soul, once it is born never dies...you have a choice concerning where you go after you close your eyes in this life. Let's get it straight what God wants for you...Second Peter, Chapter 3, Verse 9 makes God's wishes for you clear...

/2PE 3:9

*The Lord (Jesus Christ) is not slow about His promise (of delivering you to a "so great" salvation), as some count slowness (as some accuse Him of), but (instead the Lord) is patient toward you (unbelievers), not wishing for any (unbeliever) to perish but for all to come to repentance (a change of mind about the command to believe in the Person of the Lord Jesus Christ).\*

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So I ask you?

/What is your choice?

**SALVATION OR PERDITION**

1TI 2:3-4

*This is good and acceptable in the sight of (the) God (who is) our Savior (the Lord Jesus Christ), //who desires all men to be saved and (who desires all men) to come to the knowledge of the truth. \*

We are studying the third passage in the book of Romans...and our lesson today is designed to make it clear that you are not “basically a good person” and that you cannot make it to heaven on your own merit. The third passage of Romans in our study of Paul’s letter to the Romans highlights the dilemma for unbelievers...we can call this third passage the four FOR’s passage...

**/THIRD ROMANS PASSAGE**

Romans, Chapter 1, Verse 16 to 18

ROM 1:16

*FOR I am not ashamed of the gospel...FOR it (the gospel) is the power of God (the Father) for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. \*

**/THIRD ROMANS PASSAGE**

Romans, Chapter 1, Verse 16 to 18

ROM 1:17

*FOR in the gospel of (the Lord Jesus) Christ the righteousness of God (the Father) is revealed from faith (in the Lord for salvation) to faith in the Lord for all things); as it is written, “BUT THE RIGHTEOUS man ( any believer in Christ) SHALL LIVE BY FAITH (placing his confidence in God).” \*

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**/THIRD ROMANS PASSAGE**

Romans, Chapter 1, Verse 16 to 18

ROM 1:18

*FOR the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and (against all) unrighteousness of men (unbelievers) who suppress the truth in unrighteousness.\*

Recently, Barah Ministries believers, I asked you if you are limited in your thinking.

*/Are you limited in your thinking?\*

By now, you know the answer is “yes.” If in any area of your life, your thinking is limited, I want you to know that those limited thoughts are not from the Lord. It’s simple...the Lord Jesus Christ is not limited in His thinking, and He can’t be limited. He is eternal...He is infinite...and the life He placed in us believers at the moment of salvation...the eternal life...the Zoe Life is a life that is unlimited and infinite, too! You are in union with Christ as a believer in Christ, thus you have everything He has. Are you limited in your thinking? If in any area of your life, your thinking is limited, I want you to know that those limited thoughts are not from the Lord.

Many unbelievers think Christians are limited in their thinking. They think we are weak. They think we are pathetic. They think we use God as a crutch. Indeed we do all of those, because we believers in Christ know there is no way to get to heaven on our own merit. Ephesians, Chapter 2, Verses 8 and 9 say so...

*/EPH 2:8*

*For by grace you (believers in Christ) have been saved through faith (alone in Christ alone); and that (grace, faith and salvation is) not of yourselves, it is the (free) gift of (the SOURCE of) God...\*

*/EPH 2:9*

*...not as a result of (your) works, so that no one may boast.\*

Not only are believers in Christ weak and pathetic creatures who use God as

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a crutch...we are hypocrites. When unbelievers look at our lives, they don't always see anything special. There are two reasons for that.

One reason is that often, believers in Christ adopt a lifestyle of sinning...an anti-nomian lifestyle...a lifestyle of “there are no rules”... a lascivious lifestyle...a lifestyle of pleasure lust, indulging in illicit drugs, and in alcohol, and in sexuality as our “escapes,” all the while justifying it because the Lord Jesus Christ has paid for the sins of all mankind at the Cross. First John, Chapter 2, Verses 1 and 2 say...

/1JO 2:1

*My little children (believers in Christ), I (John) am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. And if (I) anyone sins (and of course we do), we have an Advocate with (God) the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous... \*

/1JO 2:2

*...and He (the Lord Jesus Christ) Himself is the propitiation (the ONLY perfectly satisfactory payment) for our sins; and not for ours only (as believers), but also for those (sins) of the whole world (unbelievers as well). \*

No one goes to the Lake of Fire because of their sins...all sins have been paid for...people go to hell because they reject a free gift relationship with God through faith alone in the Lord Jesus Christ alone. John, Chapter 3, Verse 36 says...

/JOH 3:36

*“He who believes in the Son (the Lord Jesus Christ) has eternal life (immediately); but he who does not obey the (command of God to believe in the) Son (the Lord Jesus Christ) will not see (the resurrection) life (the Zoe Life...the eternal life, by choice), but (instead accepts) the wrath of God (the Lake of Fire, and it) abides on him.” \*

The truth is, unbelievers are more limited in their thinking than believers.

You see the second truth for believers in Christ is this...

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/PHI 1:6

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

God the Father is perfecting His believers. We are His possessions. Part of His perfecting us is allowing us to engage in the stupidity of an unbeliever's life of sin, so that we can experience that it does not work. Many believers have turned the unbeliever's lifestyle into a profession. These believers are not a reflection of the Lord Jesus Christ. They are a reflection of decadence, and unbelievers can spot it from miles away.

The problem is that unbelievers don't know what they are seeing. They can't see that believers who are sinning are in an unbreakable union with the Lord Jesus Christ. They can't see that believers who are sinning are absolutely righteous and holy and blameless because of what the Lord Jesus Christ did for His believers at the moment of salvation. They can't see that believers who are sinning are still going to heaven when they close their eyes in this life because the Lord has made His believers eternally secure. John, Chapter 10, Verses 28 and 29...

/JOH 10:28

*...and I (the Lord Jesus Christ) give eternal life to them (believers in Christ), and they will never perish; and no one will snatch them out of My hand.\*

/JOH 10:29

*“My Father, who has given them (believers in Christ) to Me (the Lord Jesus Christ), is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them (believers in Christ) out of the Father's hand (either).”\*

Believers in Christ have a magnificent eternal destiny...First Peter, Chapter 5, Verse 10...in spite of our sinfulness...

/1PE 5:10

*After you (believers in Christ) have suffered for a little while (in Satan's kingdom, planet earth), the God (and Father) of all grace, who called you (believers in Christ) to His eternal glory in (union with the Lord Jesus) Christ, will Himself (personally) perfect, confirm, strengthen and establish you.\*

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Mature is what people are when they take the time to assess the facts.

Many of us will spend a year researching the meaningless details of purchasing a house or purchasing an automobile, but we won't spend one minute researching God.

When we do research a house or a car, we don't believe everything we hear. In fact, if we approach the purchases with skepticism, we're rejecting most of the things we hear from the slick salespeople or lying owners who are trying to unload their "lemons" on us...who are trying to take advantage of us.

And if we run into ten liars in a row, we don't just give up on the desire to purchase the house or car. We don't say, "To hell with it. Since there are so many liars who are trying to shove their lemons down my throat, I absolutely refuse to own a house or a car." Now to be sure, there are people who are stupid enough to do just that, to get so disillusioned by others that they become homeless and carless and they withdraw from society. Yet that is not the norm.

But if you are part of a religion, that shoves sin and guilt and lies down your throat, which you absolutely know are off base, why then do you let those approaches turn you off to God?

Religion and God are enemies. Furthermore, I know you know that they are. John, Chapter 3, Verse 18...

/JOH 3:18

*"He who believes in Him (the Lord Jesus Christ through faith alone in Him alone for salvation) is not judged; he who does not believe (in the Lord Jesus Christ) has been judged already, because he has not believed in the name (in the Person) of the only begotten (uniquely born) Son of God."*

Isn't it about time for you unbelievers to become weak, pathetic hypocrites, who rely on the Lord Jesus Christ for salvation?

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**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 SONG**

Come See a Man\

**/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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