

ROMANS
Lesson 71– February 2, 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

Lamb of God\

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 LAMB OF GOD.

/LAMB OF GOD

Your only Son, no sin to hide
But You have sent Him from Your side
To walk upon this guilty sod
And to become the Lamb of God\

/LAMB OF GOD

Your gift of love, they crucified
They mocked and scorned Him as He died
The humble King, they named a fraud
And sacrificed the Lamb of God\

/LAMB OF GOD

Oh, Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God
I love the holy Lamb of God
Laid down His life, He proved His Love
My Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God\

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/LAMB OF GOD

I was so lost, I should have died
But You have brought me to Your side
To be led by Your staff and rod
And to be called a lamb of God\

/LAMB OF GOD

Oh, Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God
I love the holy Lamb of God
Laid down His life, He proved His Love
My Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God\

/LAMB OF GOD

He lived and died, to prove His love
My Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God\

/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 produce the fruit of the righteousness You have given us so that we may be perfect reflections of You.

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

/TODAY'S STUDY

Romans 1: Righteousness is a Practice, Not Merely a Stamp

To the resident members of Barah Ministries *and* to the non-resident members of Barah Ministries, especially those who are soon-to-be resident members, because of their love of the Lord, because of their love of good weather, and because of their love of having the chance to build a

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church...to all who are currently dispersed far and wide throughout the world...**grace and peace to you** from God the Father...from God the Son...from God the Holy Spirit...and 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, to the glorified One...the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

I pray that your faith may continue to grow...that your faith in the Lord may be manifest and become effective, as you continue to be reminded through bible study of every good thing that has been placed inside of you by God the Father for the Lord Jesus Christ's sake.

As believers in Christ, one of those gifts from God at the moment of salvation is righteousness...Second Corinthians, Chapter 5, Verse 21 says...

/2CO 5:21

He (God the Father) made Him (the Lord Jesus Christ) who knew no sin (nature) to be (a) sin (substitute) on our behalf (all mankind), so that we might (have the opportunity to) become the righteousness of God in (union with) Him.

The righteousness we were given as a gift from God at the moment of salvation is not just a stamp...+R...it is an invitation to produce the fruit of righteousness.

I have much joy and much comfort when your righteousness, as believers in Christ, is manifest in the form of unconditional love for all mankind, and this love shines through, as manifest in your actions...when the hearts of the saints with whom you come into contact are refreshed through you. Are you refreshing the hearts of those around you with your righteousness and with your unconditional love?

When we change our perspective about people...when we take our eyes off of ourselves...when we take our eyes off of others...and when we climb onto the shoulders of God the Father...and look out through God the Father's eyes at all creatures...it changes our perspective...it changes our lives, once and for all time...and we become obsessed and eager to love others as God loves them.

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If we are to manifest our Lord to others, we must become doers of His Word...turn in your bibles to James, Chapter 1, Verse 22...

/JAM 1:22

But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves.

/JAM 1:23

For if (1) anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer (and many are), he is like a man who looks at his natural face in a mirror...

/JAM 1:24

...for once he has looked at himself and gone away, he has immediately forgotten what kind of person he was (totally depraved).

/JAM 1:25

But one who looks intently at the perfect law, the law of liberty, and abides by it, not having become a forgetful hearer but (having become) an effectual doer, this man will be blessed in what he does.

We become doers of the Word when we are convinced of our own total depravity...Romans, Chapter 3, Verse 10...

/ROM 3:10

...as it is written, “THERE IS NONE (no creature who is) RIGHTEOUS, NOT EVEN ONE...”

Romans, Chapter 3, Verse 23...

/ROM 3:23

...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory (the essence) of God...

When we are willing to lay aside our illusion of our own self-righteousness...when we abandon the thought that somehow, by something we have done, we get it and others don't...when we willing to abandon the lie that we more worthy than any other of God's creatures...when we lay our self-deception aside and realize what God has done for each of us totally depraved ones.....when we look at creatures through God's eyes...then we are on the way to becoming the Christians who walk in a manner worthy of

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the calling to which we have been called. Turn in your bibles to Luke, Chapter 7, Verse 36...

/LUK 7:36

Now one of the Pharisees (Simon) was requesting Him (the Lord Jesus Christ) to dine with him, and He entered the Pharisee's house and reclined at the table.

/LUK 7:37

And there was a woman in the city who was a sinner (a prostitute); and when she learned that He (the Lord Jesus Christ) was reclining at the table in the Pharisee's house, she brought an alabaster vial of perfume...

/LUK 7:38

...and standing behind Him at His feet, weeping, she began to wet His feet with her tears, and kept wiping them with the hair of her head, and kissing His feet and anointing them with the perfume.

/LUK 7:39

Now when the Pharisee who had invited Him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet He would know who and what sort of person this woman is who is touching Him, that she is a sinner (a prostitute)."

/LUK 7:40

And Jesus answered him, "Simon, I have something to say to you." And he replied, "Say it, Teacher."

/LUK 7:41

"A moneylender had two debtors: one owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty (denarii)."

It's the equivalent of ten thousand USD versus one hundred USD.

/LUK 7:42

"When they (the debtors) were unable to repay, he graciously forgave them both. So which of them will love him more?"

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/LUK 7:43

Simon answered and said, “I suppose the one whom he forgave more.” And He said to him, “You have judged (evaluated) correctly.”

/LUK 7:44

Turning toward the woman, He (the Lord Jesus Christ) said to Simon, “Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave Me no water for My feet, but she has wet My feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair.”

/LUK 7:45

“You gave Me no kiss (of greeting); but she, since the time I came in, has not ceased to kiss My feet.”

/LUK 7:46

“You did not anoint My head with oil (as a host would do if he had good manners), but she anointed My feet with perfume.”

/LUK 7:47

“For this reason I say to you, her sins, which are many, have been forgiven, for she loved much; but he who is forgiven little (because of his delusion of self-righteousness), loves little.”

/LUK 7:48

Then He (the Lord Jesus Christ) said to her, “Your sins have been forgiven.”

/LUK 7:49

Those who were reclining at the table with Him began to say to themselves, “Who is this man who even forgives sins?”

/LUK 7:50

And He (the Lord Jesus Christ) said to the woman, “Your faith has saved you; go in peace.”

I have always admired the Lord for whom He hung out with...he didn't surround Himself with the beautiful people. He is not a country club God. He surrounded Himself with the “whosoever” of the world. He died for the “whosoever” of the world.

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Without a knowledge of our own total depravity...without a knowledge of the life that we were given by God at physical birth, the Adamic life...and its Adamic nature...the sin nature which accompanies our life in union with Adam...we would have a hard time appreciating what our God has done for us. Romans, Chapter 5, Verse 19...

/ROM 5:19

For as through the one man's disobedience (Adam) the many were made sinners, even so through the obedience of the One (the Lord Jesus Christ) the many (who believe in Him) will be made righteous.

The Lord Jesus Christ made us sinners who believe in Him righteous... yet righteousness is a practice, not merely a stamp. If we are honest, we are totally aware that we are not righteous...Romans, Chapter 7, Verse 19...

/ROM 7:19

For the good that I want, I do not do, but I practice the very evil that I do not want (to do).

We know we are incomplete without the Lord Jesus Christ...He is the SOURCE of our righteousness as believers. Colossians, Chapter 2, Verse 9...

/COL 2:9

For in Him (the Lord Jesus Christ) all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form...

Adam's fall was our fall into spiritual death...our fall into all unrighteousness...as unbelievers we seek to grow by means of our own effort...to build a kingdom to ourselves...and when it fails...when it falls...only then are we ready to look for help outside of ourselves...to a higher power...which we know to be the Lord Jesus Christ.

/Not until we are willing to abandon everything we think we know...not until we release our preconceptions...not until we realize we are not righteous...are we truly ready to learn.\

Here's a sound piece of wisdom from Pema Chodron...from the work When Things Fall Apart: Heart Advice For Difficult Times...

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/WHEN THINGS FALL APART: Heart Advice For Difficult Times
Pema Chodron

“The most fundamental aggression to ourselves, the most fundamental harm we can do to ourselves, is to remain ignorant by not having the courage and the respect to look at ourselves honestly and gently.”\

/WHEN THINGS FALL APART: Heart Advice For Difficult Times
Pema Chodron

“Often we think that the point of life is to pass a test or to overcome a problem, but the truth is that theses things don’t really get solved. They come together and they fall apart. Then they come together again and fall apart again. It’s just like that. The healing comes from letting there be room for all of this to happen: room for grief, room for relief, room for misery, room for joy.”\

/WHEN THINGS FALL APART: Heart Advice For Difficult Times
Pema Chodron

“Most of us do not take these situations as lessons. We automatically hate them. We run like crazy. We use all kinds of ways to escape -- all addictions stem from this moment when we meet our edge and we just can’t stand it. We feel we have to soften it, pad it with something, and we become addicted to whatever it is that seems to ease the pain.”\

/WHEN THINGS FALL APART: Heart Advice For Difficult Times
Pema Chodron

“To be fully alive, to be fully human, and to be completely awake is to be continually thrown out of the nest. To live fully is to be always in no-man’s-land, to experience each moment as completely new and fresh. To live is to be willing to die over and over again.”\

Matthew, Chapter 16, Verse 25...

/MAT 16:25

“For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it; but whoever loses his life for My (the Lord Jesus Christ’s) sake will find it.”

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Take a five-minute break.

/BREAK

*Can't Hide from Your Love
When I Think About Home*

Welcome back! We are coming to the end of the three part introduction of Paul's letter to the Romans, which is contained in eighteen power packed verses which take us on a tour of the gospel of God.

We learn about Paul, the worst sinner of all time, and through him we take comfort knowing that God is not looking for the righteous...God is looking to save sinners...Mark, Chapter 2, Verse 17...

/MAR 2:17

*And hearing this, Jesus said to them, "It is not those who are healthy who need a physician, but those who are sick; I did not come to call the righteous, but (I came to call) sinners." *

Paul, even though he is a sinner, chooses to be a doulos...a twenty-four hour a day, seven day a week servant of the Lord Jesus Christ. Are you such a servant? Does your serving show up in everything you do...in every interaction with others?

Paul chooses to use His spiritual gift of apostle. Do you know your spiritual gift? Have you decided to turn it into a ministry?

Paul chooses to have a purpose in life, to preach the gospel of God for the rest of His life. Does your life have similar purpose?

Paul has faith after a life of unbelief. Are you saved? If so, does faith, rather than unbelief characterize your relationship with God. And if you are not saved, what are you waiting for?

Paul is willing to put his life on the line in the preaching of the gospel. Are you?

Paul is always looking for fellowship with the brethren...always looking for the chance to put himself in the line of fire...to be hurt by interactions with

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others...are you putting yourself on the line for others as our Lord put Himself on the line for others? Are you willing to go into hostile territory for the Lord?

Paul had a vigorous prayer life, constantly asking for guidance from the Lord. Are you asking the Lord to direct your path and to make it straight and to make it obvious to you when you are off track?

Paul lived a life of abundance. Are you living a life of faith and hope and unconditional love? John, Chapter 10, Verse 10...

/JOH 10:10

"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."\

First Corinthians, Chapter 13, Verse 13 says...

/1CO 13:13

But now faith, hope, love, abide (in the sphere of) these three; but the greatest of these is (unconditional) love.\

Let's look at Romans, Chapter 1, Verse 1...

/ROM 1:1

This letter is written by me, Paul, a bond-servant and voluntary slave of Christ Jesus, by calling an apostle, and set apart by God the Father for the dissemination of the gospel message of God the Father, as a minister...\

/ROM 1:2

...and this is the gospel message that God the Father promised beforehand to the human race through His prophets in the holy Scriptures of the Old Testament...\

/ROM 1:3

...a gospel message concerning God the Father's Son, the Lord, who was born of a descendant of David according to the flesh as true humanity, whose name is Jesus Christ...\

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/ROM 1:4

...and Jesus Christ was declared the Son of God with enabling power by means of His resurrection from the dead, accomplished through the enabling power of the God who is the Spirit of holiness...God the Holy Spirit...we are talking about this Jesus Christ, our Lord, God the Son...

/ROM 1:5

...through whom I, Paul, have received from God the Father both grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of the Lord Jesus Christ's Person...

/ROM 1:6

...among whom you, as believers in Christ, also are the possession of Jesus Christ by calling...

/ROM 1:7

...and this letter is written to all of you who are the beloved...the divinely loved ones of God the Father...you believers in Christ living in Rome, saints by calling, the set apart ones: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

/ROM 1:8

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

/ROM 1:9

For God (the Father), whom I (Paul) serve in my (human) spirit in the preaching of the gospel of His Son (the Lord Jesus Christ), is my witness as to how unceasingly I make mention of you (believers in Rome...in intercessory prayer)...

/ROM 1:10

...always in my prayers making request (petition for self as well), if perhaps now at last by the will of God I may succeed in coming to you.

/ROM 1:11

For I (Paul) long to see you (believers in Rome) so that I may impart some spiritual gift to you, that you may be established...

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/ROM 1:12

...that is, that I (Paul) may be encouraged together with you while among you, each of us (encouraged) by the other's faith, both yours and mine.

/ROM 1:13

I do not want you to be unaware, brethren (believers in Rome), that often I have planned to come to you (and have been prevented so far...I want to come) so that I may obtain some fruit among you also, even as (I obtain fruit) among the rest of the Gentiles.

/ROM 1:14

I am under obligation both to Greeks (people who speak Greek) and to barbarians (people who don't speak Greek), both to the wise (believers in Christ) and to the foolish (unbelievers).

/ROM 1:15

So, for my part, I am eager to preach the gospel (as a minister) to you also who are in Rome.

And now we close out the introduction to Romans with Romans, Chapter 1, Verse 16...here begins The Four FORS passage...

/THIRD ROMANS PASSAGE

Romans, Chapter 1, Verses 16 to 18

ROM 1:16a

FOR I am not ashamed of the gospel (of God)...

/THIRD ROMANS PASSAGE

Romans, Chapter 1, Verses 16 to 18

ROM 1:16b

FOR the gospel of God is the power of God the Father for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first (chronologically), and also to the Greek.

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/THIRD ROMANS PASSAGE

Romans, Chapter 1, Verses 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 (by placing his confidence in God).”

The final FOR of the four, really starts the transition into our next passage...a passage to unbelievers...

/THIRD ROMANS PASSAGE

Romans, Chapter 1, Verses 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 (of the gospel) in unrighteousness.

We turn our focus to verse 17...

/THIRD ROMANS PASSAGE

Romans, Chapter 1, Verses 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 (by placing his confidence in God).”

What is the significance of righteousness? Is it merely a stamp we receive at salvation? Or is God working out something through us? When we learn what righteousness really is, we will be even more sure of how much our God loves us.

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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

When I Say I Love You\

/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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