

ROMANS
Lesson 73– February 9, 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

He is Exalted\

As God prepares your soul to receive refreshment, let's turn the cares of our lives over to the Lord Jesus Christ, who is our God, the living Word, and to the Lord's exact thinking, the written Word. We begin by worshipping Him in song. The opening song is HE IS EXALTED.

/HE IS EXALTED

He is exalted, the King is exalted on High, and I will Praise Him
He is exalted, forever exalted and I will Praise His Name
He is the Lord, forever His truth shall reign
Heaven and Earth, rejoice in His holy name
He is exalted; the King is exalted on High\

/HE IS EXALTED

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/HE IS EXALTED

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Heaven and Earth, rejoice in His holy name
He is exalted; the King is exalted on High
He is exalted; the King is exalted on High\

/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 showing us how to redeem our time for good...thank you for encouraging us to build intimate relationships...thank you for placing us in families which are classrooms of tribulation...thank you for reversing the ill affects of our health choices...thank you for compensating for our failures in the matter of money...thanks for reminding us to take care of ourselves... thanks for showing us how to serve others...thanks for bringing us closer to You by revealing Your mind to us...

We pray that You allow the things we study today to wipe out our preconceptions about righteousness and unrighteousness and we pray that You wipe out the deceptions we have accepted and internalized from liars...help us to believe You and Your Word over them...

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

/TODAY'S STUDY

Romans 1: Believers in Christ are Neither Ungodly Nor Unrighteous

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...may God's grace and peace and mercy be abundantly provided for you by means of your relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ. I am grateful to my God that He has not given us a spirit of fear...the sin that cuts off our thinking and paralyzes us from productive action...I appreciate instead that God provides us with power and with unconditional love and with the sound judgment that comes to us through the wisdom of His Word.

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I hope you are joining me in not being ashamed of testimony concerning our Lord...I pray that you join me in suffering for the gospel as we provide it to a lost and dying world and to the unbelievers in our periphery...I pray that you see the power of God at work in you...a power that saved us by the Person and Work of the Lord Jesus Christ, who called us believers in Christ with a holy calling...He saved us not on the basis of work we have done in self-righteousness, thank God, but on the basis of His own purpose, undertaken with His work at the Cross, and on the basis of His grace which He freely bestowed on those who have faith in Him, resulting in an unbreakable union with the Lord Jesus Christ for all eternity.

Before we close out the introduction of Paul's letter to the Romans, there is a critical issue you must understand...believers in the Lord Jesus Christ are neither ungodly nor unrighteous. Is that clear to you in your souls? Romans, Chapter 1, Verse 16...the end of the introduction to the letter of Paul to the Romans...*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)...

We are not ashamed of a gospel of God that clears up a very important matter. There are only two ways to salvation...real way and a counterfeit way. John, Chapter 14, Verse 6...

/JOH 14:6

(The Lord) Jesus (Christ) said to him (the doubting one, Thomas), "I am the way (to salvation), and (I am) the truth (of the Word of God), and (I am) the (Zoe) life (the resurrection life...the eternal life); no one comes to (God) the Father but through (believing in) Me (faith alone in Christ alone as the ticket to eternal life).

The counterfeit way to salvation is promoted as faith plus works. Galatians, Chapter 2, Verse 21 says...

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/GAL 2:21

“I (Paul) do not nullify the grace of God (for providing salvation), for if (for the sake of argument we say) righteousness comes through (following the Mosaic) the Law, then Christ died needlessly.”

Of course he didn't and it doesn't.

/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.

Why did Paul obsess about the gospel? Why did Paul dedicate a letter to believers in Christ about the gospel, when believers have already responded positively to the gospel? It's obvious to me now...positive response to the gospel is the most important decision a person can make in this life. The gospel message and its power and deliverance are available to all mankind... whosoever.

/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 (negating self-righteousness), from faith in the Lord for salvation to faith in the Lord for all things; as it is written, “BUT THE (one who wants to be a) RIGHTEOUS man SHALL LIVE BY FAITH (by placing his confidence in the Lord Jesus Christ for salvation).”

What is the good news? The good news is that an omnipotent God with all the power provides our salvation, so that we don't have to rely on the weakness of our flesh to provide our salvation because our flesh is totally incompetent in that matter of providing salvation. Self righteousness cannot save us.

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The final FOR of the four, Romans, Chapter 1, Verse 18...really starts the transition into a different passage of study...a passage directed to unbelievers...it is a pivoting verse...it is attached to the introduction while transitioning us to the we will begin studying shortly...

/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 (who are unbelievers) who suppress the truth (of the gospel) in unrighteousness.

Negative response to the gospel is the worst decision a person can make in this life.

When this lesson is complete, I want you to know for sure that as believers in Christ, you are neither ungodly nor unrighteous. Is that your reality? As a believer in Christ, do you think you can be ungodly? Do you think you can be unrighteous? If you do, you are mistaken. So let me open with a question...are you deceived? Revelation, Chapter 12, Verse 9 says you are...

/REV 12:9

And the great dragon was thrown down, the serpent of old who is called the devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.

Satan is the ruler of this world...Satan is a deceiver...and his whole system of power, the cosmic system, is designed to deceive you...to make you indifferent or antagonistic to God. And Satan's system works. You are deceived. But you don't have to save deceptions in your soul. When God shows you that you are deceived in his word, purge the deception.

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

Turn in your bible to First Corinthians, Chapter 1, Verse 18...I need you to know that your Pastor is a fool. The Lord Jesus Christ LOVES using fools to rid you of the deceptions in your soul that were placed there by the wise

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of the world! What I am happiest about as a Pastor, is that I am not a role model. I am just as bad as you, perhaps worse in many ways, yet my Lord thinks the world of me, a fool. And He uses me for your benefit. First Corinthians, Chapter 1, beginning at Verse 18...

/1CO 1:18

For the word of the Cross is foolishness to those who are perishing (unbelievers), but to us who are being saved (believers in Christ) it is the power of God.

/1CO 1:19

For it is written, “I WILL DESTROY THE WISDOM OF THE WISE, AND THE CLEVERNESS OF THE CLEVER I WILL SET ASIDE.”

/1CO 1:20

Where is the wise man? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?

/1CO 1:21

For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not come to know God, God was well-pleased through the foolishness of the (gospel) message preached to save those who believe.

/1CO 1:22

For indeed (unbelieving) Jews ask for signs and (unbelieving) Greeks (like Aristotle allegedly) search for wisdom...

/1CO 1:23

...but we preach Christ crucified (for salvation...the true gospel), to Jews a stumbling block and to (the) Gentiles (unbelievers) foolishness...

/1CO 1:24

...but to those who are the called (those invited to the privilege of salvation because of their faith in Christ), both Jews and Greeks (whosoever), (the Lord Jesus) Christ (is) the power of God and the wisdom of God.

/1CO 1:25

Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

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/1CO 1:26

*For consider your calling, brethren (Corinthian believers in Christ), that there were not many wise (among you) according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble (you're a bunch of mutts!)... *

/1CO 1:27

*...but God has chosen the foolish things of the world to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to shame the things which are strong... *

God doesn't need an orator who knows just what to say...He doesn't need authorities to reason Him away...He doesn't need an army to guarantee a win...He just needs a few good men who exercise the gift of faith alone in Christ alone...

/1CO 1:28

*...and (God has chosen) the base things of the world and the despised (things of the world) God has chosen, (God has chosen) the things that are not, so that He may nullify the things that are... *

/1CO 1:29

*...so that no man may (have a reason to) boast before God. *

/1CO 1:30

*But by His doing you are in (union with) Christ Jesus, who became to us (believers in Christ) wisdom from God, and (which became) righteousness and (which became) sanctification, and (which became) redemption... *

/1CO 1:31

*...so that, just as it is written, "LET HIM WHO BOASTS, BOAST IN THE LORD." *

Yes...your lowly Pastor can reveal things to you that the wise of the world do not because they are blinded by legalism and self-righteousness...yet we believers in Christ have a Holy Spirit sent to us from God who enlightens us about all things...and our Holy Spirit warns us...

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/1TI 4:1

*But (God) the (Holy) Spirit explicitly says that in later times (in every generation) some (believers in Christ) will fall away from the faith, paying attention (instead) to deceitful spirits and (paying attention to the) doctrines of demons... *

/1TI 4:2

*...(passed on) by means of the hypocrisy of liars seared in their own conscience (perverted in their sense of what is right and what is wrong) as (if they were seared) with a branding iron... *

This fool of a Pastor says believers in the Lord Jesus Christ are neither ungodly nor unrighteous. Here's what we will investigate...

<UNRIGHTEOUS UNGODLY SLIDE>

All we have to do...is to see what the bible has to say on these matters. We'll do that after a five-minute break.

/BREAK

*All Who are Thirsty
When I Think About Home *

Welcome back...

Righteous men live by faith...and good for them because Romans, Chapter 1, verse 18 says...

/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 (who are unbelievers) who suppress the truth (of the gospel) in unrighteousness. *

What is ungodliness?

/UNGODLINESS

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A lack of reverence toward God's Person...having no interest in a relationship with Him...reversing the proper relationship with one's Creator...instead of reverence toward God, having reverence toward idols (including self).\

What is unrighteousness?

/UNRIGHTEOUSNESS

Not possessing righteousness...wicked. Doing evil directed to self, to mankind, and to God...unbridled conduct. To miss the mark of God's standards...to sin...to fail in a duty to God...lawlessness...trespass... transgression...iniquity...to fall short...to step out of the appointed way.\

Ungodliness points at the relationship with God's person...unrighteousness points to transgression of God's standards. Turn to Galatians, Chapter 5, Verse 19...in the verses that follow you will see ungodliness and unrighteousness...

/GAL 5:19

Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality...

/GAL 5:20

...idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions...

/GAL 5:21

...envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you, just as I have forewarned you, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

Now as you can see...this part of the passage concludes and attributes these things to unbelievers. Now what is it that believers produce by means of God the Holy Spirit...Galatians, Chapter 5, beginning at Verse 22...

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/GAL 5:22

*But the fruit of (God) the (Holy) Spirit is love, joy, peace (toward self), patience, kindness, goodness (toward others), faithfulness... *

/GAL 5:23

*...gentleness, self-control (toward God); against such things there is no law. *

/GAL 5:24

*Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. *

Your old self is dead.

/GAL 5:25

*If (I) we (believers in Christ) live by the Spirit (and we do), let us also walk (have a lifestyle led) by the Spirit. *

In other words, let's...

/EPH 4:1-3

*...walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called, //with all humility and gentleness, with patience, showing tolerance for one another in love, //being diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. *

But foolish Pastor...I can do the deeds of the flesh! I can do unrighteousness! To which foolish Pastor would say, "Child you don't know who you are!" Second Corinthians, Chapter 5, Verse 17...

/2CO 5:17

*Therefore if (I) anyone is in (union with) Christ (and all believers are), he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come. *

So as a believer in Christ...as a new creature...are you the one doing the sinning? Are you the one doing the unrighteousness? The Word of God says no...Romans, Chapter 7, beginning at Verse 19...

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/ROM 7:19

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

/ROM 7:20

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

/ROM 7:21

I find then the principle that evil is present in me, the one who wants to do good.

/ROM 7:22

For I joyfully concur with the law of God in the inner man...

/ROM 7:23

...but I see a different law in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin which is in my members.

/ROM 7:24

Wretched man that I am! Who will set me free from the body of this death?

/ROM 7:25

Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

You are NOT the dead old self, which continues to rear its dead and ugly head. It has always and will continue to do the deeds of the flesh, unrighteousness, until it is put in a furnace or a grave.

<UNRIGHTEOUS UNGODLY SLIDE>

Your old self is not you. You are a new creature. Who are you really?

There is a difference between YOU and “the flesh.”

/ROM 8:1

Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in (union with) Christ Jesus.

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/ROM 8:2

For the law of (God) the (Holy) Spirit of (the Zoe) life in (union with) Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of (the) sin and of (spiritual) death.

/ROM 8:3

For what the (Mosaic) Law could not do (provide salvation), weak as it was through the flesh, God (the Father) did: sending His own Son (the Lord Jesus Christ) in the likeness of sinful flesh and as an offering for sin, He condemned sin in the flesh (in Christ's true humanity)...

/ROM 8:4

...so that the requirement of the (Mosaic) Law (righteousness) might be fulfilled in us, who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

/ROM 8:5

For those who are according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who are according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit.

/ROM 8:6

For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace...

/ROM 8:7

...because the mind set on the flesh is hostile toward God; for it does not subject itself to the law of God, for it is not even able to do so...

/ROM 8:8

...and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

/ROM 8:9

However, you (believers in Christ) are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him.

/ROM 8:10

If (I) Christ is in(dwelling) you (believers, and He is), though the body is dead because of (the) sin (nature), yet the spirit is alive because of

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righteousness.

/ROM 8:11

But if (1) the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you (and it does), He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give (the Zoe) life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

/ROM 8:12

So then, brethren, we are under obligation, not to the flesh, to live according to the (deeds of the) flesh...

/ROM 8:13

...for if you are living according to the flesh, you must die; but if (you are living) by the (leading of the) Spirit you are putting to death the deeds of the body, you will live.

/ROM 8:14

For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.

/ROM 8:15

For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, “Abba! Father!”

/ROM 8:16

The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God...

/ROM 8:17

...and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him so that we may also be glorified with Him.

/ROM 8:18

For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us.

You should be going out of your mind with excitement right now.

Believers in Christ are neither ungodly nor unrighteous.

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What is godliness?

/GODLINESS

Reverence for God...in a relationship with Him...honoring Him as your Sovereign. Accepting a free gift from God, at the moment of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ for salvation, whereby God removes helplessness, hopelessness, and condemnation and restores us to a permanent and unbreakable relationship with Him.\

What is righteousness?

/RIGHTEOUSNESS

A gift granted by God which imputes to us a quality we don't have that is unachievable by human effort. In so doing, He makes us forever acceptable to Him. When we are living this righteousness and producing its fruit we are obeying everything He commands in His Word. God's righteousness is free of charge through faith in the person and Work of the Lord Jesus Christ.\

Believers in Christ are neither ungodly nor unrighteous. We cease being ungodly when we become God's possession at the moment of salvation. We cease being unrighteous when He makes us a new creature and cleanses us from all unrighteousness. First John, Chapter 1, Verse 9...

/1JO 1:9

If (3) we (whosoever...especially unbelievers) confess (agree with God completely concerning) our sins (and our sinfulness from physical birth...maybe you will and maybe you won't...you have a choice), He (God the Father) is faithful (he always does the same thing) and righteous (free from sin Himself thus completely qualified) to forgive us (unbelievers of) our sins and (He is free) to cleanse us from all unrighteousness (by imputing His own righteousness to us).

So I say to you believers in Christ...lay aside your legalism and enjoy what God has done for you.

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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

You Own Me\

/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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