

ROMANS
Lesson 77–February 23, 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

Open the Eyes of My Heart\

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 let's prepare to hear the Lord's exact thinking, the written Word. We begin by worshipping Him in song. The opening song is OPEN THE EYES OF MY HEART.

/OPEN THE EYES OF MY HEART

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord
Open the eyes of my heart
I want to see You
I want to see You\

/OPEN THE EYES OF MY HEART

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord
Open the eyes of my heart
I want to see You
I want to see You\

/OPEN THE EYES OF MY HEART

To see You high and lifted up
Shining in the light of Your glory

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Pour out Your power and love
As we sing holy, holy, holy\

/OPEN THE EYES OF MY HEART

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord
Open the eyes of my heart
I want to see You
I want to see You\

/OPEN THE EYES OF MY HEART

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord
Open the eyes of my heart
I want to see You
I want to see You\

/OPEN THE EYES OF MY HEART

To see You high and lifted up
Shining in the light of Your glory
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/OPEN THE EYES OF MY HEART

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord
Open the eyes of my heart
I want to see You
I want to see You
I want to see You
I want to see You\

/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 opening our eyes with the truth...thank you for helping us see Your light shining in this dark place...thank you especially, as we transition

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to the next passage in our study of Romans, for keeping Your unconditional love for us first and foremost in our minds...

We pray for those, especially believers in Christ, who are not aware of the inadequacy of their self-righteousness...we pray for those who are locked in to self-righteousness as a lifestyle...we pray for Pastors who are at the wrong end of suffering in relationship with these people...give Your servants strength and hope to withstand the storm, Father...send them the encouragement they need...remind them that it is You the serve...surround them with people who edify them...reward them through the study of your Word with the truth that helps them withstand the onslaught of other people's neuroses...help them to gravitate to sources of nourishment in these difficult times...

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

/TODAY'S STUDY

Romans 1: An Overview of the Wrath of God Passage

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...to all those who listen to Barah Ministries lessons who are currently dispersed far and wide throughout the world...especially to our faithful friends in Dallas, Texas and our faithful friends in Coeur D'Alene, Idaho...**grace and peace to you** on this beautiful day that the Lord has made.

Blessed is the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us believers in Christ to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ from the dead. As a result of our faith in the Lord, we believers in Jesus Christ have been granted an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved for us in heaven. This inheritance is reserved for us protected ones, the Lord's believers, who are covered by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In the knowledge of our absolutely certain future of glory, you and I greatly rejoice, even though now for a little while, as necessary, we have been distressed by various trials. But we take heart, as believers in Christ, knowing the proof of the wisdom

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of our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, which is more precious than gold which is perishable, even though our faith is tested by fire, will absolutely be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of the Lord Jesus Christ. And even though we believers in Christ have not seen the Lord Jesus Christ, even though we believers in Christ have not met our Lord personally, we love Him. And though we don't see Him now, we still believe in Him, and we greatly rejoice with a joy inexpressible, and we are full of glory, obtaining as the outcome of our faith the deliverance of your souls. First Peter, Chapter 5, Verse 10 says...

/1PE 5:10

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

We continue our study of Romans, Chapter 1. We begin the next part of our study with a quote from Thomas Paine...he says...

/THOMAS PAINE

Common Sense

“A long habit of thinking that a certain thing is not wrong, gives that thing the superficial appearance of being right...”\

Thomas Paine was dubbed a political activist, an author, a political theorist and a revolutionary...yet simply stated, he was one of the people who inspired the thought that the colonies should be independent from Great Britain. In 1776 he published a work called *Common Sense* that challenged the authority both of the British government and the royal monarchy. The plain language that Paine used spoke well to the common people of the United States of America, and his was the first work to openly encourage independence from Great Britain.

Our next passage addresses the thoughts of those who believe Satan's lies about God...there is no God...the atheist...the truth of God cannot be known...the agnostic...God's rules are oppressive and arbitrary...the lascivious...there are many paths to get to God...the rationalist...the bible is just a book and it has a lot of contradictions...the scholar...“what if they don't know about Jesus Christ”...the “yeah but” speculator...I can earn my

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way to heaven by my good deeds...the legalist...I already have a relationship with God, and our way to heaven is the only way, too bad for all of you...the religious.

In my life I have taken my turn as an idealist. My idealistic driving thought, my wish has been, “If I can only explain things to people carefully enough, thoroughly enough, thoughtfully enough...if I can get a clear message across to every person that I can, if I do it just right, eventually everyone will see the wisdom of worshipping the Lord Jesus Christ, and then everything will be okay and everyone will be okay.” We all take our turn in the idealist barrel. And we get burned.

For me, whenever a love relationship wasn't working out, I'd scratch my head wondering if I had given enough, if I had explained everything carefully enough, thoroughly enough, thoughtfully enough. I'd ask myself, “Did I do everything I could do?” The answer, of course, was yes. The thing I never reckoned, the thing I never considered, is that even if I had explained with perfect precision, carefully enough, thoroughly enough, thoughtfully enough it wouldn't matter without someone on the other end who is committed to listening carefully, thoroughly, and thoughtfully. If the receiver is not engaged, if the receiver isn't participating, it doesn't matter what the explainer, what the idealist does.

Romans, Chapter 1, Verse 18 is a pivoting verse. It closes out Paul's introduction to the Romans, and it takes us into a deep and dark tunnel from which there is no escape.

/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.\

We have learned that you believers in Christ are neither ungodly nor unrighteous nor a sinner. You are godly and you are righteous and you are a saint according to your God. That's how He sees you.

Romans, Chapter 1, Verse 18 introduces God's wrath, which is aimed at the ungodly and the unrighteous and at sinners...at those in a condition of spiritual death...at unbelievers. Even though God loves unbelievers

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unconditionally... His wrath is directed toward them at a point...it is directed toward the sin nature...toward sin...toward ungodliness...toward unrighteousness...and Romans, Chapter 1, verse 18 through the end of Romans Chapter 3, will tell you why this is so.

God's wrath is not aimed at believers in Christ. God's peace is the free gift directed toward those who believe in Christ. God has nothing against you.

We finished our last lesson with these thoughts, which help us understand God's wrath. The United States Judicial System has wrath. It's called prison. In its harshest form, it is called the death penalty. All of us are under the laws of the land. If we keep the law, we have nothing to fear. If we break the law there are consequences...I want you to keep this judicial analogy in your mind as we wind through the next passage of Romans...remember Romans, Chapter 13, Verses 1 to 4...

/ROM 13:1

Every person is to be in subjection to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those (authorities) which exist are established by God.

/ROM 13:2

Therefore whoever resists (rebels against...disobeys) authority has opposed the ordinance of God; and they who have opposed (the ordinance of God) will receive condemnation upon themselves.

/ROM 13:3

For rulers (in authority) are not a cause of fear for good behavior (obeying the law), but (they are a cause of fear) for evil (breaking the law). Do you want to have no fear of authority? Do what is good (obey the law) and you will have praise from the same (from authorities)...

/ROM 13:4

...for it (rulers and their authority) is a minister of God to you for good. But if you do what is evil (if you break the law), be afraid; for it (rulers and their authority) does not bear the sword for (you if you do) nothing; for it (rulers and their authority) is a minister of God, an avenger who brings wrath on the one who practices evil (breaks the law).

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We are all under a judicial system, no matter where we live in the world. We are under it. We must follow its laws.

Similarly, we, as creatures are all under God, the Creator. We are all under God's laws. When we follow God's laws, there is reward for that choice. When we break God's laws, there is a consequence of that choice.

A simple example in John, Chapter 3, Verse 36...

/JOH 3:36

“He who believes in the Son (the Lord Jesus Christ) has (the) eternal life (the Zoe life); but he who does not obey the (command to believe in the) Son will not see (the Zoe) life, but the wrath of God abides on him.”

A reward for one choice...a consequence for another.

Another thing we must keep in mind as we begin the next passage, is that God loves the ungodly, and the unrighteous, and sinners, and unbelievers unconditionally and He desires their salvation. Second Peter, Chapter 3, Verse 9 says...

/2PE 3:9

The Lord is not slow about His promise (of salvation), as some count slowness (as some accuse Him of), but (instead the Lord) is patient toward you (unbelievers), not wishing for any (of His creatures) to perish but for all (of His creatures) to come to repentance (a change of mind about the Lord Jesus Christ).

Any one who ends up in the Lake of Fire for all eternity...anyone who incurs the wrath of God, does so for one and only one reason...because they want to. What is the wrath of God?

/WRATH

God's response to each creature's rejection of His unconditional love; His sin substitute, the Lord Jesus Christ; and His instructions for how to be saved.\

Take a five-minute break.

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/BREAK

Going thru the Motions

When I Think About Home

Welcome back!

/WRATH

God's response to each creature's rejection of His unconditional love; His sin substitute, the Lord Jesus Christ; and His instructions for how to be saved.\

Let's read the next passage together. Romans, Chapter 1, Verse 18, through Romans Chapter 3, Verse 31. As you read, contemplate this question...if you were to sum up this passage in a few words, what would the few words be?

/ROM 1:18

For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness...

/ROM 1:19

...because that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them.

/ROM 1:20

For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse.

/ROM 1:21

For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks, but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened.

/ROM 1:22

Professing to be wise, they became fools...

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/ROM 1:23

...and exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed animals and crawling creatures.

/ROM 1:24

Therefore God gave them over in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, so that their bodies would be dishonored among them.

/ROM 1:25

For they exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.

/ROM 1:26

For this reason God gave them over to degrading passions; for their women exchanged the natural function for that which is unnatural...

/ROM 1:27

...and in the same way also the men abandoned the natural function of the woman and burned in their desire toward one another, men with men committing indecent acts and receiving in their own persons the due penalty of their error.

/ROM 1:28

And just as they did not see fit to acknowledge God any longer, God gave them over to a depraved mind, to do those things which are not proper...

/ROM 1:29

...being filled with all unrighteousness, wickedness, greed, evil; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, malice; they are gossips...

/ROM 1:30

...slanderers, haters of God, insolent, arrogant, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents...

/ROM 1:31

...without understanding, untrustworthy, unloving, unmerciful...

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/ROM 1:32

...and although they know the ordinance of God, that those who practice such things are worthy of death, they not only do the same, but also give hearty approval to those who practice them.

Romans Chapter 2...

/ROM 2:1

Therefore you have no excuse, everyone of you who passes judgment, for in that which you judge another, you condemn yourself; for you who judge practice the same things.

/ROM 2:2

And we know that the judgment of God rightly falls upon those who practice such things.

/ROM 2:3

But do you suppose this, O man, when you pass judgment on those who practice such things and do the same yourself, that you will escape the judgment of God?

/ROM 2:4

Or do you think lightly of the riches of His kindness and tolerance and patience, not knowing that the kindness of God leads you to repentance?

/ROM 2:5

But because of your stubbornness and unrepentant heart you are storing up wrath for yourself in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God...

/ROM 2:6

...who WILL RENDER TO EACH PERSON ACCORDING TO HIS DEEDS...

/ROM 2:7

...to those who by perseverance in doing good seek for glory and honor and immortality, eternal life...

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/ROM 2:8

...but to those who are selfishly ambitious and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, wrath and indignation.

/ROM 2:9

There will be tribulation and distress for every soul of man who does evil, of the Jew first and also of the Greek...

/ROM 2:10

...but glory and honor and peace to everyone who does good, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

/ROM 2:11

For there is no partiality with God.

/ROM 2:12

For all who have sinned without the Law will also perish without the Law, and all who have sinned under the Law will be judged by the Law...

/ROM 2:13

...for it is not the hearers of the Law who are just before God, but the doers of the Law will be justified.

/ROM 2:14

For when Gentiles who do not have the Law do instinctively the things of the Law, these, not having the Law, are a law to themselves...

/ROM 2:15

...in that they show the work of the Law written in their hearts, their conscience bearing witness and their thoughts alternately accusing or else defending them...

/ROM 2:16

...on the day when, according to my gospel, God will judge the secrets of men through Christ Jesus.

/ROM 2:17

But if you bear the name “Jew” and rely upon the Law and boast in God...

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/ROM 2:18

*...and know His will and approve the things that are essential, being instructed out of the Law... *

/ROM 2:19

*...and are confident that you yourself are a guide to the blind, a light to those who are in darkness... *

/ROM 2:20

*...a corrector of the foolish, a teacher of the immature, having in the Law the embodiment of knowledge and of the truth... *

/ROM 2:21

*...you, therefore, who teach another, do you not teach yourself? You who preach that one shall not steal, do you steal? *

/ROM 2:22

*You who say that one should not commit adultery, do you commit adultery? You who abhor idols, do you rob temples? *

/ROM 2:23

*You who boast in the Law, through your breaking the Law, do you dishonor God? *

/ROM 2:24

*For “THE NAME OF GOD IS BLASPHEMED AMONG THE GENTILES BECAUSE OF YOU,” just as it is written. *

/ROM 2:25

*For indeed circumcision is of value if you practice the Law; but if you are a transgressor of the Law, your circumcision has become uncircumcision. *

/ROM 2:26

*So if the uncircumcised man keeps the requirements of the Law, will not his uncircumcision be regarded as circumcision? *

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/ROM 2:27

And he who is physically uncircumcised, if he keeps the Law, will he not judge you who though having the letter of the Law and circumcision are a transgressor of the Law?

/ROM 2:28

For he is not a Jew who is one outwardly, nor is circumcision that which is outward in the flesh.

/ROM 2:29

But he is a Jew who is one inwardly; and circumcision is that which is of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the letter; and his praise is not from men, but from God.

Romans Chapter 3...

/ROM 3:1

Then what advantage has the Jew? Or what is the benefit of circumcision?

/ROM 3:2

Great in every respect. First of all, that they were entrusted with the oracles of God.

/ROM 3:3

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

/ROM 3:4

*May it never be! Rather, let God be found true, though every man be found a liar, as it is written, “**THAT YOU MAY BE JUSTIFIED IN YOUR WORDS, AND PREVAIL WHEN YOU ARE JUDGED.**”*

/ROM 3:5

But if our unrighteousness demonstrates the righteousness of God, what shall we say? The God who inflicts wrath is not unrighteous, is He? (I am speaking in human terms.)

/ROM 3:6

May it never be! For otherwise, how will God judge the world?

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/ROM 3:7

But if through my lie the truth of God abounded to His glory, why am I also still being judged as a sinner?

/ROM 3:8

And why not say (as we are slanderously reported and as some claim that we say), “Let us do evil that good may come?” Their condemnation is just.

/ROM 3:9

What then? Are we better than they? Not at all; for we have already charged that both Jews and Greeks are all under sin...

/ROM 3:10

...as it is written, “THERE IS NONE RIGHTEOUS, NOT EVEN ONE...”

/ROM 3:11

“THERE IS NONE WHO UNDERSTANDS, THERE IS NONE WHO SEEKS FOR GOD...”

/ROM 3:12

“ALL HAVE TURNED ASIDE, TOGETHER THEY HAVE BECOME USELESS; THERE IS NONE WHO DOES GOOD, THERE IS NOT EVEN ONE.”

/ROM 3:13

“THEIR THROAT IS AN OPEN GRAVE, WITH THEIR TONGUES THEY KEEP DECEIVING, THE POISON OF ASPS IS UNDER THEIR LIPS...”

/ROM 3:14

“WHOSE MOUTH IS FULL OF CURSING AND BITTERNESS...”

/ROM 3:15

“THEIR FEET ARE SWIFT TO SHED BLOOD...”

/ROM 3:16

“DESTRUCTION AND MISERY ARE IN THEIR PATHS...”

/ROM 3:17

“AND THE PATH OF PEACE THEY HAVE NOT KNOWN.”

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/ROM 3:18

“THERE IS NO FEAR OF GOD BEFORE THEIR EYES.”

/ROM 3:19

Now we know that whatever the Law says, it speaks to those who are under the Law, so that every mouth may be closed and all the world may become accountable to God...

/ROM 3:20

...because by the works of the Law no flesh will be justified in His sight; for through the Law comes the knowledge of sin.

/ROM 3:21

But now apart from the Law the righteousness of God has been manifested, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets...

/ROM 3:22

...even the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all those who believe; for there is no distinction...

/ROM 3:23

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

/ROM 3:24

...being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus...

/ROM 3:25

...whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith. This was to demonstrate His righteousness, because in the forbearance of God He passed over the sins previously committed...

/ROM 3:26

...for the demonstration, I say, of His righteousness at the present time, so that He would be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

/ROM 3:27

Where then is boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? Of works? No, but by a law of faith.

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/ROM 3:28

For we maintain that a man is justified by faith apart from works of the Law.

/ROM 3:29

Or is God the God of Jews only? Is He not the God of Gentiles also? Yes, of Gentiles also...

/ROM 3:30

...since indeed God who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through faith is one.

/ROM 3:31

Do we then nullify the Law through faith? May it never be! On the contrary, we establish the Law.

If you were to sum up this passage in a few words, what would those words be? As you read over this passage this week, I want you to reflect on that question. Here are some things I see...the words are these...

<Make these reveal>

/REFLECTIONS ON ROMANS 1:18 to ROMANS 3:31

A FORMAL ACCUSATION

AN INDICTMENT

YOU BROKE THE LAW

YOU ARE GUILTY AS CHARGED\

/REFLECTIONS ON ROMANS 1:18 to ROMANS 3:31

YOU ARE ALL GUILTY

ALL HAVE SINNED AND FALL SHORT OF THE ESSENCE OF GOD

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YOU HAVE A JUST PENALTY COMING

NO CREATURE WHO HAS EVER LIVED MEETS GOD’S
REQUIREMENT FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS\

/REFLECTIONS ON ROMANS 1:18 to ROMANS 3:31

ALL ARE SINFUL...

ALL ARE CONDEMNED TO THE SECOND DEATH FROM
PHYSICAL BIRTH...

THERE IS NO WAY TO EXPLAIN YOURSELF OUT OF THIS
SITUATION...\

/REFLECTIONS ON ROMANS 1:18 to ROMANS 3:31

THERE IS ONLY ONE ANSWER...

ALL CREATURES NEED A SAVIOR...

THE LORD JESUS CHRIST IS THE SAVIOR OF THE WORLD\

We are embarking on a passage that describes why the wrath of God is loving and just. What is wrath?

/WRATH

God’s response to each creature’s rejection of His unconditional love; His sin substitute, the Lord Jesus Christ; and His instructions for how to be saved.\

The good news is that you believers in Christ are not the target of God’s wrath. So enjoy the view from your union with Christ, but by all means never forget where you came from. At one time...this was about you. Today, it’s about you in a different way.

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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

Alabaster Box\

/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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