

**KXEG Radio Shows**  
**Lesson 3 of 26**

**ANNOUNCER INTRODUCTION (0:25)**

Welcome to “God Cares For You,” a series of radio broadcasts featuring Pastor Rory Clark of Barah Ministries...a worldwide Christian Church in Mesa, AZ...Pastor Rory teaches the truth of the Word of God in a simple way that is easy to apply to your everyday life...here’s Pastor Rory Clark.

**SHOW TEASER (1:00)**

In Second Corinthians, Chapter 11, Verse 3, the apostle Paul says...

Second Corinthians 11:3

*But I (Paul) am afraid that, just as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, your minds will be led astray from the simplicity and purity of devotion to Christ.*

The simplicity of devotion to Christ...the purity of devotion to Christ...that expression has always had deep impact on me...I have always wondered what Paul meant by that...until I studied the book of Romans. Paul’s letter to the Romans reveals the simplicity and purity of devotion to Christ, and that revelation starts with the gospel message...the Good News concerning the Person and the Work of the Lord Jesus Christ...and what He did for all mankind at the Cross...to provide for their “so great” salvation. In today’s lesson, we’ll get a dose of the Lord’s simplicity and purity.

**TODAY’S LESSON (19:00)**

**Wrath or Righteousness: Your Choice**

The first chapter of Paul’s letter to Romans, which is the sixth book of the New Testament, is addressed to the believers in Christ at first century Rome. In this letter Paul provides the foundation for the Christian Way of Life. If you want to know God and you want to know what makes Christianity so special and so supernatural, you have to study Paul’s letter to Romans. The first chapter of the letter introduces the idea that God has Good News for you.

THE GOSPEL MESSAGE is the good news...and it explains the sacrificial and unconditional love of the Lord Jesus Christ...who shed His blood at the Cross...on behalf of all of His creatures...providing a way for them to be

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saved. Three verses capture the essence of the gospel message. First, Acts, Chapter 16, Verse 31...

Acts 16:31

*“Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and everyone in your household who also believes.”*

Next, John, Chapter 14, Verse 6...

John 14:6

*The Lord Jesus Christ said to doubting Thomas, “I am the way, and the truth, and the eternal life; no one comes to God the Father but through believing in Me.*

Finally, in John, Chapter 3, Verses 36...the Lord Jesus Christ says...

John 3:36

*“He who believes in the Son has eternal life; but he who does not obey the command to believe in the Son will not see eternal life, but instead the wrath of God the Father (the Lake of Fire) abides on him.”*

God the Son took on the form of true humanity to become the unique person of the universe...The Lord Jesus Christ. We call Him Lord because He is 100% God...we call Him Jesus Christ because He is 100% true humanity. Here's what the bible says about Him in John, Chapter 1, Verse 14...

John 1:14

*And the Word (a reference to the Lord...God the Son) became flesh (true humanity...Jesus Christ)...and tabernacled among us...and we beheld His glory...glory as of the uniquely born one from God the Father...full of grace and full of truth.*

In our last two radio programs we studied the first two passages of Romans, Chapter 1...Verses 1 to 7...and Romans, Chapter 1...Verses 8 to 15. Those lessons are available in the Broadcast Library of this radio station's website at [www.1280KXEG.com](http://www.1280KXEG.com). In this lesson we'll study the third passage of Romans, Chapter 1...not only three of the most important verses in this chapter...but also certainly the most simple, most pure, most important idea in all of divine history...the simplicity of the two choices offered by the

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gospel message...wrath or righteousness. Here's the passage...Romans, Chapter 1, Verses 16 to 18...

Romans 1:16

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

Romans 1:17

*For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "BUT THE RIGHTEOUS MAN SHALL LIVE BY FAITH."*

Romans 1:18

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

What's your choice... Wrath or Righteousness? The Lord Jesus Christ's righteousness is manifest throughout the earth...manifest means that His righteousness is clearly visible...both in the past, and now, and to the day of eternity. The Lord Jesus Christ offers all creatures, as long as they are breathing, this magnificent...priceless...free gift called righteousness. For those who refuse the free gift, God offers His wrath. Thus the title of this lesson...Wrath or Righteousness: Your Choice.

Romans, Chapter 1, beginning at Verse 16 initiates what many call the Four FORS passage...the number four and the word for...F-O-R...the Four FORS passage...let's look at the passage in a little more detail...

Romans 1:16 (the first part)

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

Paul is happy to proclaim the gospel message with boldness...he is never afraid to make people aware of their most desperate need...their need to be saved...in the second part of verse 16, the next FOR...

Romans 1:16b (the second part)

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

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The power of God the Father is called omnipotence...He has ALL the power, especially the power to save any creature who requests salvation. There is no racial requirement to be saved...God the Father's salvation offer is open to everyone...both to the Jews and to the Gentiles. If you're not Jewish, you're a Gentile...and everyone is eligible for salvation as long as they are still breathing. Romans, Chapter 1, Verse 17...the third FOR...

Roman 1:17

*FOR in the gospel, a righteousness from God the Father is being revealed, from faith in the Lord Jesus Christ for salvation...to faith in the Lord Jesus Christ for all things...as it is written, "BUT THE RIGHTEOUS MAN (any believer in Christ) SHALL LIVE BY FAITH (by placing his confidence in the Lord Jesus Christ for salvation)."*

One of the most significant gifts that we have received from God the Father is righteousness. God demands righteousness for relationship. The righteousness revealed from God the Father is our only hope to be saved. You can't save yourself, and you can't earn salvation by working for it. In Romans, Chapter 3, Verse 28, the apostle Paul says...

Romans 3:28

*For we maintain that a man is justified (a man is pronounced as righteous by God) on the basis of faith and apart from the works of the Mosaic Law.*

In Romans, Chapter 11, Verse 6...

Romans 11:6

*But if (for the sake of argument) salvation is by grace, salvation is no longer on the basis of works, otherwise grace is no longer grace.*

You can't manufacture your own righteousness. As a Pastor, I have to be careful teaching this simple and pure truth to religious people, who often have a distorted view of God. They have been taught that God is a tyrant who is counting their sins against them, who loves them conditionally as long as they don't sin, and who is out to get them when they do sin. To those well versed in biblical study, we know that this is not an accurate portrayal of our God. God loves us unconditionally, and He is not holding our sins against us. Psalm 103, Verse 12 says...

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Psalm 103:12

*As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us.*

Even though God has forgiven our sins, all creatures have to know that God does NOT accept our human righteousness...our self righteousness...our attempt to manufacture righteousness on our own...Isaiah, Chapter 64, Verse 6...

Isaiah 64:6

*For all of us have become like one who is unclean (a woman who is menstruating), and all our (self)-righteous deeds are like a filthy garment (a reference to menstrual rags)...*

God hates self-righteousness. God hates sin. Self-righteousness and sin are as repugnant to God as menstrual rags are to human beings. God hates ungodliness. God hates unrighteousness. Romans, Chapter 1, Verse 18...

Romans 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.*

God the Father has wrath, and He exercises His wrath against unrighteousness...against ungodliness...against sin. If God were okay with unrighteousness, ungodliness, and sin, He would NOT have said this through the apostle John...First John, Chapter 1, Verse 9...

First John 1:9

*If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*

Here's what that verse really says...

First John 1:9 (clarified)

*If we (as unbelievers) confess our sins (that is, if we completely agree with God concerning our sinfulness from physical birth...maybe you will and maybe you won't...you have a choice), God the Father is faithful (he always does the same thing) and God the Father is righteous (free from sin Himself thus completely qualified) to forgive us (as unbelievers of) our sins and (He*

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*is free) to cleanse us (as unbelievers) from all unrighteousness (by imputing His own righteousness to us). \*

Believers in Christ have no need to be cleansed from unrighteousness... believers are righteous...that cleansing happened for them already at the new birth...at the time when they were born again...at the time they believed in the Lord Jesus Christ for salvation through faith alone...at the moment when God the Father imputes His own righteousness to them. God is not fond of unrighteousness. Romans, Chapter 1, Verse 18...

Romans 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.*

Satan, the enemy of God, was the initiator of unrighteousness. Ezekiel, Chapter 28, Verse 12...

Ezekiel 28:12

*“Son of man, take up a lamentation over the king of Tyre and say to him, ‘Thus says the Lord God, “You (Satan) had the seal of perfection, (you were) full of wisdom and (you were) perfect in beauty.”’*

Satan was created as a brilliant genius.

Ezekiel 28:13

*“You were in Eden, the garden of God; every precious stone was your covering: the ruby, the topaz and the diamond; the beryl, the onyx and the jasper; the lapis lazuli, the turquoise and the emerald; and the gold, the workmanship of your settings and sockets, was in you. On the day that you were created they were prepared.”*

Satan was, and still is, gorgeous.

Ezekiel 28:14

*“You were the anointed cherub who covers (the bodyguard angel), and I (the Lord Jesus Christ) placed you there (in that position). You were on the holy mountain of God (in the third heaven); You walked in the midst of the stones of fire (you had access to the throne room of heaven).”*

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Ezekiel 28:15

*“You (Satan) were blameless in your ways from the day you were created UNTIL UNRIGHTEOUSNESS WAS FOUND IN YOU.”*

Ezekiel 28:16

*“By the abundance of your trade (the trafficking of slander) you were internally filled with violence, and you sinned; therefore I (the Lord Jesus Christ) have cast you as profane from the mountain of God. And I have destroyed you, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire.”*

Ezekiel 28:17

*“Your heart was lifted up (in arrogance) because of your beauty; you corrupted your wisdom by reason of your splendor. I (the Lord Jesus Christ) cast you to the ground; I put you before kings, that they may see you.”*

Ezekiel 28:18

*“By the multitude of your iniquities, in the unrighteousness of your trade (the trafficking of slander) you profaned your sanctuaries. Therefore I (the Lord Jesus Christ) have brought fire from the midst of you; it has consumed you, and I have turned you to ashes on the earth in the eyes of all who see you.”*

Ezekiel 28:19

*“All who know you among the peoples are appalled at you; You have become terrified and you will cease to be forever.”””*

The unrighteous ones will experience the wrath of God. The righteousness ones, who believe in the Lord Jesus Christ by faith alone, will receive the free gift of the righteousness revealed from God...it's every creature's only hope to be saved.

Here's a song from Barah Ministries Song Worship leader June Murphy on the subject of salvation...it's called, "Whosoever."

SONG

Whosoever

5:05

Thank you June...here's a quick review of our passage...

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Romans 1:16 (the first part)

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

Romans 1:16 (the second part)

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

Roman 1:17

*FOR in the gospel, a righteousness from God the Father is being revealed, from faith in the Lord Jesus Christ for salvation to faith in the Lord Jesus Christ for all things...as it is written, "BUT THE RIGHTEOUS MAN (any believer in Christ) SHALL LIVE BY FAITH (by placing his confidence in in the Lord Jesus Christ for salvation)."*

Romans 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.*

What's your choice...Wrath or Righteousness. The wrath of God is one thing we really don't want to hear about...it's that one thing we really fear...we are terrified of experiencing the "wrath of God." What is wrath?

WRATH is God the Father's response to each creature's rejection of His unconditional love...WRATH is God the Father's response to each creature's rejection of the Person and the Work of His sin substitute, the Lord Jesus Christ...WRATH is God the Father's response to each creature's rejection of His instructions for how to be saved. Second Peter, Chapter 3, Verse 9 says...

Second Peter 3:9

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

If it is not God's will that any should perish, you have to conclude that the ONLY WAY to experience the wrath of God is to reject a relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ. Oh but that's too simple and pure isn't it? As a



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believer in the Lord Jesus Christ, you have absolutely no worries about God's wrath except as it relates to those you love who are unbelievers. Believers in Christ are not subject to God's wrath. Romans, Chapter 8, Verse 1 says...

Romans 8:1

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

God's wrath is aimed at spiritual death...God's wrath is aimed at sinners, a reference to unbelievers...even though God loves sinners unconditionally... God's wrath is aimed at sin... God's wrath is aimed at ungodliness... God's wrath is aimed at unrighteousness...God's wrath is not aimed at believers in Christ.

I was ungodly. I was unrighteous. I was a sinner. Now I am godly. Now I am righteous. Now I am a saint. Praise God! What's your choice...Wrath or Righteousness? It's a simple choice. The right choice is righteousness.

Romans, Chapter 5, Verse 8...

Romans 5:8

*But God the Father demonstrates His own (unconditional) love toward us (all mankind), in that while we were yet (unrighteous, ungodly) sinners, Christ died for us.*

Once you have salvation...once you have the righteousness that comes from a God who never changes anything He does...you cannot do anything to lose it...John, Chapter 10, Verse 28...

John 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.*

But that's too pure and too simple, too, isn't it? Wrath or Righteousness? What's your choice. Pick righteousness, and you will be saved.

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**THE INVITATION (1:00)**

This radio broadcast is an invitation for you to worship with us, either as part of our resident congregation, where you come in person to worship with us every week, or as a member of our non-resident congregation who worship with us through the magic of radio and the magic of the internet. If you're a believer in the Lord Jesus Christ, we also invite you to support us with your spiritual gift, which is to be used to build up others in the body of Christ. Are you using yours? Finally, we invite you to support us with your financial gifts. Everything provided by Barah Ministries is provided free of charge to the recipients, but it is not free of cost. So we hope that if you find this radio program to be valuable to your spiritual life, that you are motivated to contribute financial gifts that help us to continue to provide biblical resources to others who can't afford them. If you're looking for a spiritual home, we hope you'll consider Barah Ministries.

**ANNOUNCER OUTRO (0:40)**

You've been listening to Pastor Rory Clark of Barah Ministries, a worldwide Christian Church in Mesa, AZ. Pastor Rory teaches face-to-face lessons twice a week. For more information, especially on meeting locations, go to the Barah Ministries website at [www.barahministries.com](http://www.barahministries.com).

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The "God Cares for You" radio broadcast can be heard every Sunday from 9:30am to 10:00am right here on KXEG, 1280 on your AM radio dial.