

**KXEG Radio Shows**  
**Lesson 9 of 26**

**ANNOUNCER INTRODUCTION (0:30)**

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.

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#### **SHOW TEASER (0:45)**

When you stop to look at your lifestyle, how would you describe it? Would you describe your lifestyle as immoral? Immorality is described as a lifestyle not conforming to accepted standards of morality. I call it the lifestyle of “sex, drugs and rock and roll.” It’s the lifestyle people adopt when they want to believe that there are no rules. Or...would you describe your lifestyle as moral? Morality is described as a lifestyle of right and wrong. It is an attempt to manifest high principles of proper conduct. I call it the lifestyle of “I’m better than you.” Well...whether your lifestyle is moral or immoral, it’s unacceptable to God. Why? Stay tuned, and we’ll tell you! Welcome to the program.

**TODAY'S LESSON (25:45 with the song)**

**God Wants to Let You Off the Hook**

This radio program has benefit to anyone who is willing to listen, but it is really directed to people who don't have a relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ. We call them unbelievers. Unbelievers have one of two lifestyles: moral or immoral.

Whether you are moral or immoral, the bible pronounces you guilty of SIN and indicts your lifestyle in a passage that extends from Romans, Chapter 1, Verse 18 to Romans, Chapter 3, Verse 20. A lifestyle of SIN is a lifestyle that will meet God's WRATH. That *could* be bad news, if God wasn't willing to let you off the hook!

To the immoral, God did this... "He gave them over"... Romans, Chapter 1, Verses 24 to 26...

Romans 1:24-26

*Therefore God gave them over in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, so that their bodies would be dishonored among them.//For they (the immoral ones) exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.//For this reason God gave them over to degrading passions...*

God allows the destruction of immorality to take root in those who practice immorality...as the rest of the first chapter of Romans describes...there is nothing worse that I can think of than to have God give us over to ourselves...immorality is not God's plan for His creatures. Nor is morality...here's the passage of study in Romans, Chapter 2...Verses 1 to 11...

Romans 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.*

Romans 2:2

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

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Romans 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?*

Romans 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?*

Romans 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...*

Romans 2:6

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

Romans 2:7

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

Romans 2:8

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

Romans 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...*

Romans 2:10

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

Romans 2:11

*For there is no partiality with God.*

Whether you are an unbeliever living the immoral lifestyle...or an unbeliever living the moral lifestyle...or even if you are creative and are living a combination of the two...a mixture of the moral and immoral

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lifestyles...there is no partiality with God...here's what God has to say about the result of the two lifestyles, in the first part of First Corinthians, Chapter 15, Verse 22...

First Corinthians 15:22

*For as "in Adam" all are set to die the second death...*

Oops! The lifestyle of the unbeliever is described as a lifestyle "in Adam" ... a lifestyle every one of us is born into...and the two choices of lifestyle "in Adam" are morality and immorality. Yet those two lifestyles, the moral lifestyle and the immoral lifestyle, place you squarely on the hook for the second death! What is the second death? Revelation, Chapter 20, Verse 14...

Revelation 20:14

*Then death and Hades were thrown into the Lake of Fire. This is the second death, the Lake of Fire.*

Matthew, Chapter 13, Verses 41 and 42 say...

Matthew 13:41-42

*The Son of Man will send forth His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all stumbling blocks (unbelievers), and (all) those who commit lawlessness, //and will throw them into the furnace of fire; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.*

The opening passage of Romans, Chapter 2 is a divine wake-up call. Second Peter, Chapter 3, Verses 10 and 11 say...

Second Peter 3:10-11

*...the day of the Lord will come like a thief, in which the heavens will pass away with a roar and the elements will be destroyed with intense heat, and the earth and its works will be burned up. //Since all these things are to be destroyed in this way, what sort of people ought you to be?*

Through the bible, God tells us what we need to hear, not what we want to hear...the Lord tells us what sort of people to be in Isaiah, Chapter 55, Verse 3...He says...

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Isaiah 55:3

*“Incline your ear and come to Me. Listen, that you may live; and I (the Lord) will make an everlasting covenant with you, according to the faithful mercies shown to David.*

God loves us unconditionally, yet He gives us a choice...wrath or righteousness. For unbelievers who choose it: WRATH. Jeremiah, Chapter 30, Verse 24...

Jeremiah 30:24

*The fierce anger of the Lord will not turn back until He has performed and until He has accomplished the intent of His heart; in the latter days you will understand this.*

For believers, who choose a relationship with Christ: righteousness. Psalm 34, Verse 17 says...

Psalm 34:17

*The righteous cry, and the Lord hears and delivers them out of all their troubles.*

What's your choice? Wrath or Righteousness?

You may think you can work for righteousness, but your works...your self-made righteousness...will never achieve God's requirement of righteousness. Romans Chapter 11, Verse 6...

Romans 11:6

*But if salvation is given by (God's) grace, and it is, then salvation is no longer on the basis of your works, otherwise the grace given by God is no longer grace.*

However, you can have God's righteousness as a free gift. Romans, Chapter 6, Verse 23...

Romans 6:23

*For the wages of sin is (the second) death, but the free grace gift of God the Father is eternal life in union with Christ Jesus our Lord.*

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Last week we said that the life of the unbeliever is a life that circuits between right and wrong. But there is THE LIFE beyond right and wrong. John, Chapter 11, Verse 25...

John 11:25

*Jesus said to Martha, "I am the resurrection from the dead and I am the (resurrection) life..."*

So let me remind you of the two lifestyle offers of God's enemy Satan... LASCIVIOUSNESS and LEGALISM, then let's look at the detail of the first Romans, Chapter 2 passage...

What is LASCIVIOUSNESS? It is a lifestyle inclined toward open indulgence in the lusts of the flesh, including an insatiable greed and a relentless pursuit of sexual things or for any other things that are obviously not part of God's plan for mankind...many of them illegal things. It's the lifestyle of immorality.

What is LEGALISM? Legalism is smugly moralistic conduct which is often intolerant of the opinions and behavior of others...it is having or showing an exaggerated awareness of your own virtue...engagement in self-love and self-flattery...the thought that you are better than others, and that you are due a set of privileges because of it...the thought that God likes you because of something inherently good in you. It's the lifestyle of morality.

Now the detail of Romans, Chapter 2, Verses 1 to 11...

Romans 2:1

*Therefore you who practice the LEGALISTIC LIFESTYLE (morality) have no excuse, everyone of you who passes judgment, for in that which you condemn another (like those practicing lasciviousness), you condemn yourself; for you who judge (them) practice the same things.*

Romans 2:2

*And we know that the judgment of God (also) rightly falls (not only on those who practice lasciviousness, but also) upon those who practice (the LEGALISTIC LIFESTYLE).*

Romans 2:3

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*But do you suppose this, O (men and women who practice the LEGALISTIC LIFESTYLE), (that) when you pass judgment on those who practice (lasciviousness) and do the same (lascivious things) yourself, that you will escape the judgment of God?*

**Romans 2:4**

*Or do you (who practice the LEGALISTIC LIFESTYLE) think lightly of the riches of (God the Father's) kindness and tolerance and patience, not knowing that the kindness of God (the Father is what) leads you to repentance (a change of mind about Christ)?*

**Romans 2:5**

*But because of your stubbornness and (your) unrepentant heart you (unbelievers, who practice lasciviousness and legalism) are storing up wrath for yourself in the day of wrath and (in the day of the) revelation of the righteous judgment of God...*

**Romans 2:6**

*...(a God who) WILL RENDER TO EACH PERSON ACCORDING TO HIS DEEDS...*

**Romans 2:7**

*(He will render payment) to (believers) who by perseverance in doing good (continually) seek for glory and honor and immortality...(God will render to His believers) eternal life (the resurrection life)...*

**Romans 2:8**

*...but to (unbelievers) who are selfishly ambitious and do not obey the truth, but (continually) obey unrighteousness (by committing evil deeds), (God will render to them) wrath and indignation.*

**Romans 2:9**

*There will be tribulation and distress for every soul of man(kind) who does evil (a reference to unbelievers), (men and women) of the Jew(s) first and also of the Greek (the Gentiles)...*

**Romans 2:10**

*...but glory and honor and peace to everyone who does good (for believers in Christ...the regenerate ones), to the Jew first and also to the Greek.*



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Romans 2:11

*For there is no partiality with God.*

What is partiality? It's a show of favoritism. Our God is a God of love...and He is also a God of justice...He is fair...He doesn't play favorites. So for those who practice legalism...for those who think there is something wonderful in them that is missing in others...this lesson is a loud and clear message that God does not play favorites. Therefore, lest you who practice legalism, the moral lifestyle, miss the message, you are not special to God on the basis of any deeds you do in self-righteousness. Romans, Chapter 4, Verses 3 to 5...a preview of coming attractions in our study of Romans...

Romans 4:3

*For what does the (Old Testament) Scripture say (in Genesis 15:6)?*

*“ABRAHAM BELIEVED GOD (Jehovah Elohim...the Lord... God the Son... Jesus Christ in His pre-incarnate state), AND (ABRAHAM'S FAITH IN THE LORD) WAS CREDITED TO HIM (imputed to his account) AS (absolute) RIGHTEOUSNESS.”*

Romans 4:4

*Now to the one who works (for salvation by practicing legalism), his payment is not credited as a favor (from God's grace), but (his payment is credited) as what is due (for his hard work).*

Unfortunately, self-righteousness credited will not get you to heaven.

Romans 4:5

*But to the one who does not work (for salvation), but believes in (the Lord Jesus Christ) who justifies the ungodly (unbeliever for salvation), (this person's) faith is credited as (absolute) righteousness (the admission ticket to heaven).*

There's only one way to heaven...here's June Murphy, the Barah Ministries Song Worship Leader, who will tell you about the only way to heaven...the song is *Come See a Man*, and the only way to heaven is through the Person whom the song is about...Jesus...the Lord Jesus Christ.

SONG (6:26)

Come See a Man

June Murphy

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A relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ gets the moral and the immoral off the hook! Unbelievers force God's hand. Even though he doesn't prefer to handle them this way, the Lord, as a God of Justice, must handle unbelievers with justice, even though He loves them unconditionally.

God deals with unbelievers this way...John, Chapter 3, Verse 36...

John 3:36

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

God doesn't want to deal with His creatures that way...First Chronicles, Chapter 16, Verse 34...

First Chronicles 16:34

*O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; For His lovingkindness (grace) is everlasting.*

Second Peter, Chapter 3, Verse 9...

Second Peter 3:9

*The Lord is not slow about His promise (of salvation), as some count slowness (that is, 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).*

God prefers to let us off the hook. And when an unbeliever chooses to believe in God the Father's Son, faith in the Lord Jesus Christ lets Him off the hook.

Why surprised? John, Chapter 14, Verse 6...

John 14:6

*Jesus said to him, "I am the way (to salvation), and (I am) the truth, and (I am) the (eternal) life (the resurrection life); no one comes to (God) the Father but through (believing in) Me.*

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If I were an unbeliever, I'd ask God to let me off the hook through believing in the Lord Jesus Christ. 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."*

Thanks for listening!

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**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).

That's [www.B-A-R-A-H-ministries.com](http://www.B-A-R-A-H-ministries.com).

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.