

**ROMANS**  
**Lesson 203–June 21, 2015**

**Welcome To**  
**BARAH MINISTRIES**  
*a Christian Church*  
**Rory Clark**  
**Pastor-Teacher**

Good Morning!

Welcome to Barah Ministries...a worldwide Christian Church based in Mesa, AZ...my name is Pastor Rory Clark.

Happy Father's Day!

In June of every year, we honor fathers. In the United States of America, the first Mother's Day was celebrated in 1914, but a holiday honoring fathers did not become official until 1966, when President Lyndon Johnson declared that the third Sunday in June would be Father's Day. President Richard Nixon made this proclamation permanent in 1972. But this doesn't mean that the holiday was not celebrated before this time.

The idea for Father's Day is credited to Sonora Dodd, the daughter of American Civil War veteran William Jackson Smart, who was raised by her father after her mother's death during childbirth. While listening to a sermon at church on Mother's Day, she thought about all her father had done, not only for her but also for her siblings, and she decided that fathers should have a day, too. Because Dodd's father was born in June, she encouraged churches in Spokane, Washington to honor fathers that month. Thus the first Father's Day was celebrated in Spokane in 1910.

This Barah Ministries Father's Day celebration is dedicated to one of my favorite people ever...Deacon Denny Goodall. This is your first "real" Father's Day, Denny...last year at this time you were just barely getting used to having young William around...now it's official...you've got a few diaper changes and a couple of swim lessons under your belt, so you're officially a Dad! When your fathering is all said and done, I think William will think he lucked out...at least that's what I plan to tell him.

I was reflecting on my own fathering this week. If you want to know how I was as a father, you'll have to ask my children. Even though their

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assessment will be tainted by their intense desire to win the approval of their Dad...which, in my view, is an interference to the Parent-Child relationship...they were at the other end of my parenting, so they would be best to give it a grade. As for me, I'd have to give myself an "F" as a father if I am to be judged by how much my kids like me at this point in their lives. Frankly, they don't.

Yet I give myself an "A" in one fathering category...salvation...all of those I have fathered are saved...they believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and they have been exposed to His Word by a diligent desire to teach it to them, a desire that resulted in a Christian church called Barah Ministries.

I'm not being hard on myself by giving myself an "F" in fathering. It's just a realization of how inadequate human parenting is, especially mine. Human parents, especially fathers, no matter how dedicated they are, often get the blame for every malady affecting their children. Why? Because children are children, and because many of them remain children well into their adult years...nothing is ever their fault. Children look at life only from their own perspective. I think the real reason I deserve an "F," however, was my failure to realize who was really raising my children...the real Father... God the Father. Ultimately, I failed to recognize my total dependence on Him. Thankfully, He didn't let that keep Him from helping me.

Everything I learned about fathering, I learned from my mother. She was father and mother to me, and rather excellent at both. I thank her today for the excellent instruction she gave me in fathering, and I admire her for taking on the enormity of both tasks. It was a tough job, but she had the guts to give what many ridiculously call "tough love." That love that is falsely called "tough love" is really just outstanding parenting when a parent is willing to insist that their children consider excellence in every matter. To all those who say, "Just let kids be kids," I say, "To hell with you."

Fathers love...fathers plan...fathers provide...fathers protect...fathers instruct. In the instruction realm, fathers are the household prophets. Yet we know these things from Scripture about prophets...Mark, Chapter 6, Verse 4...

MAR 6:4

*Jesus said to them, "A prophet has honor, except in his own hometown,*

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*except among his own relatives, and except in his own household.”*

Matthew, Chapter 10, Verse 36...

**MAT 10:36**

*...and a man's enemies will be the members of his household.*

The Lord knows what he is talking about. As the prophet of the household, the father is given little honor. In the “world,” television and movies make fathers out to be buffoons, and if we are to listen to the “wisdom of the world,” fathers are worthless. Most fathers are described as absentee, deadbeat, womanizing, cheaters...terms seldom directed to moms. That's not a coincidence. Satan, the enemy of God doesn't value the authority in a home. When fathers are in the home, they are the authority according to God, a fact not at all agreed to by those who subscribe to the “wisdom of the world.”

But I see a different reality among my peers than the one the world is selling. I know a multitude of men who are outstanding fathers, and it is a pleasure to honor them today, not the least of them being Deacon Denny Goodall. Those of us Barah Ministries fathers, who are a bit down the road in the fathering realm, are cheering for you Denny, and are wishing you the best in your fathering journey.

Here are few things I would tell you, Denny, about fathering. First, get your son to Christ and His Word. You know that and you'll do that. It's never too early. Second, remember that fathering is a temporary job. Please let your kids have their chance to screw up their own lives without your interference when they become adults. Third, depend on God for everything. Until we recognize our total dependence on Him in all matters, we will interfere with His perfecting of us. God will perfect your fathering. Let Him.

Remember this...human parenting has a built in inadequacy...you. It's unfair, but people will expect you to be like God in your parenting. You are not. We all discover that at a point. I did, just this week, as I reflected on the inadequacies of my own parenting. God made my fathering what it is. I think He'll do a great job with you. I look forward to being there for you as you father William, every step of the way, and to providing you with the real

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substance that will make God as proud of your fathering as I am. That substance, of course, is the Word of God.

Happy Father's Day to you Denny, and to all fathers out there, and to all the mothers who have had to play the role of father as well.

**MUSIC AND REFLECTION**

*Be Occupied with the Person of the Lord Jesus Christ*  
Enjoy the Singing of His Praises

*DANCE WITH MY FATHER*  
*Luther Vandross*

The opening song is DANCE WITH MY FATHER by Luther Vandross.

**OPENING PRAYER**

*Let us pray...*

We're grateful, Heavenly Father, for the privilege of studying Your absolute truth...the Word of God...

Thank you for making men in Your own image who agree to the role of fathering and who endure in the fathering capacity, even without the appreciation of the world and without the honor they are due from family...comfort them with Your honor and shape them into people who are reflections of your unconditional love...

And even though human Dads are inadequate to do all the things that You do Father, help them to use Your example as guidance, and help them not to get discouraged or to grow weary as they endure the injustices of the task...

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

**TODAY'S STUDY**

**Can You Deliver Yourself?**

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Of course not! It's not until we realize our total dependence on God to deliver us that we begin to be Christians who are functioning in the New Self.

The third passage of Romans, Chapter 7 ends with an expression of frustration from the apostle Paul, in Verse 24...

ROM 7:24

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

This is an expression of frustration from a man who is trying to live the law, when he has been freed from the law of sin and death. Wretched indeed is the one who is entangled in this frustrating and fruitless lifestyle. Have you given up on the self-life yet? Paul had the answer to his question of deliverance in Philippians, Chapter 4, Verse 13...

PHI 4:13

*I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.*

My dear friend, Pastor John Farley, shared these revelations about God's deliverance...

**PASTOR JOHN FARLEY**

The sinner (an unbeliever) struggles in vain to find forgiveness and peace until he looks outside himself to CHRIST who made peace by the blood of His Cross.

It's not until we realize our total dependence on God to save us that we are ready to be Christians. Pastor Farley continues...

**PASTOR JOHN FARLEY**

The saint (a believer in Christ) struggles in vain to find victory over sin by self-effort, and is frustrated completely until he looks outside himself to God the Holy Spirit for enabling power.

In vain. It's not until we realize our total dependence on God to deliver us that we begin to be Christians who are functioning in the New Self. Self-help is vain in the manner of salvation. Self-help is vain in the matter of sanctification. Paul asks accurately WHO will free me...Paul can neither

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free himself nor deliver himself, any more than the sinner can save himself. After a few announcements, we'll enjoy the final passage in Romans Chapter 7, a single verse, and Paul's declaration of the source of our freedom. It's not until we realize our total dependence on God to deliver us that we begin to be Christians who are functioning in the New Self.

**BARAH MINISTRIES ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**VISIT THE VETS**

**TODAY!**

June 21

1:45PM

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

No Face-to-Face Teaching

July 5, 2015

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

The Next Lord's Supper Celebration

July 12, 2015

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

Next Deacon's Meeting

July 18, 2015

7:30AM MST

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

Barah Ministries

Coeur d'Alene Conference

Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

August 7-8, 2015

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

Barah Ministries

Pennsylvania and New York Bible Conference

Binghamton, NY

September 18-19, 2015

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**TODAY’S STUDY**

**Can You Deliver Yourself?**

Of course not! It’s not until we realize our total dependence on God to deliver us that we begin to be Christians who are functioning in the New Self. The third passage of Romans, Chapter 7 ends with this expression of frustration from the apostle Paul, in Verse 24...

ROM 7:24

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

Paul calls his body, with its indwelling sin, “the body of this death.” Can you relate? Don’t you wish, sometimes, that this internal enemy would just go away and leave you alone? In Romans, Chapter 6, Verses 6 Paul called “the body of this death” something else...

ROM 6:6

*...knowing this, that our old self was crucified with Christ, in order that our **body of sin** might be done away with, so that we would no longer be slaves to sin...*

Paul called it the body of sin. This “body of (indwelling) sin” is “the body of this death.” Who, indeed, will set Paul, or any of us free from this body? The final passage of Romans, Chapter 7 is also the final verse of the chapter, and it reveals the answer...

ROM 7:25

*Thanks be to God the Father through Jesus Christ our Lord (who delivered us)! So then, on the one hand I myself with my mind am serving the law of God, but on the other, with my flesh I am serving the law of sin.*

The regenerate mind and indwelling sin in the body are at odds. There is a battle between them for our attention all the days of our lives. Yet we, as believers in Christ, are delivered, through no fault of our own, from the battle. Romans, Chapter 7, Verse 25...the first part...

ROM 7:25

*Thanks be to God the Father through Jesus Christ our Lord (who delivered us)!*

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After a short music break we'll investigate the beauty of our deliverance.

**MUSIC BREAK**

*GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS*

*Chris Rice*

**TODAY'S STUDY**

**Can You Deliver Yourself?**

No...you can't. That's the bad news. The good news is that our deliverance happened at the Cross. It's done. You have already been delivered. Yet as Christians, we love worrying about things that God has done for us. We love inserting ourselves into matters that are already finished. We love helping God. But He doesn't need our help.

We can't get used to the fact that we have to look outside of ourselves for the deliverance.

Our deliverance happened at the Cross. When we believers in Christ placed our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ for salvation, we identified ourselves with His death on the Cross. Deliverance! That's when the deliverance Paul is wondering about happened. It already happened in the past. First Corinthians, Chapter 1, Verse 18...

1CO 1:18

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

Unbelievers reject the word of the Cross which is dependence on Christ...a stab in the heart of the self life...the "I can do it on my own" life ...the dependence on Christ and His Cross is power to the believer...the power to be saved. But when we put ourselves in struggle mode, as Christians love to do...as Paul has done here...we forget what has been done for us...and we wail... Romans, Chapter 7, Verse 24...

ROM 7:24

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



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God the Father, through the Lord Jesus Christ, in the power of God the Holy Spirit has delivered us already. Paul made four discoveries in Romans Chapter 7...and I wonder, have you made these discoveries in your own life?

**PAUL’S DISCOVERIES IN ROMANS 7 <REVEAL>**

We have indwelling sin (the flesh) in our bodies

We are powerless against indwelling sin (the flesh)

Indwelling sin is not who we are

We have been delivered from indwelling sin’s grip by Christ

So in case you missed it, we died to sin...Romans, Chapter 6, Verse 11...

**ROM 6:11**

*Even so (believers in Christ) consider yourselves to be dead to sin, but alive to God the Father in union with Christ Jesus.*

In case you missed it, we died to the law, which gives sin its power...  
Romans, Chapter 7, Verse 6...

**ROM 7:6**

*But now we believers in Christ have been released from the Law, having died to that by which we were bound, so that we serve in newness of the Spirit and not in oldness of the letter.*

In case you missed it, we are in the sphere of grace... Romans, Chapter 6, Verse 14...

**ROM 6:14**

*For sin shall not be master over you, for you are not under law but under grace.*

In case you missed it, our will is impotent against sin and the law. Can we deliver ourselves? Absolutely not. Romans, Chapter 7, Verse 25...

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ROM 7:25

*Thanks be to God the Father through Jesus Christ our Lord (who delivered us)! So then, on the one hand I myself with my mind am serving the law of God, but on the other, with my flesh I am serving the law of sin.*

How does your ignorance of your own deliverance by the Lord Jesus Christ show up in your daily life?

The struggle.

If you're not ready to stop the struggle...to recognize who you are in Christ...if you still want to depend on yourself...then God and those around you will wait patiently for your personal recognition of something they know has already happened in the past...you are already delivered...you can't deliver yourself.

Your personal recognition will come when you agree with the apostle Paul in Second Corinthians, Chapter 12, Verses 7 to 10....

2CO 12:7

*Because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, for this reason, to keep me from exalting myself, there was given me a thorn in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me—to keep me from exalting myself!*

2CO 12:8

*Concerning this I implored the Lord three times that it might leave me.*

2CO 12:9

*And He has said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for divine power is perfected in human weakness.” Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me.*

2CO 12:10

*Therefore I am well content with weaknesses, with insults, with distresses, with persecutions, with difficulties, for Christ's sake; for when I am weak, then I am strong.*

The whole point of indwelling sin is to keep you from exalting yourself. Is it working?

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So the messages of Romans 6 and 7...you died with Christ...you are alive to God the Father. You died to sin. You died to the law. The indwelling One, God the Holy Spirit has a ministry against “indwelling sin,” the flesh in you. You are no longer condemned. You have peace with God. God the Holy Spirit is in charge of your walk...your Christians lifestyle. In faith, you have full assurance that what you want you already have. Your will has no role in your deliverance, that was already accomplished at the Cross. You were delivered from sin. More importantly, you were delivered from self.

There is no good in you. There is nothing to look inside of yourself for. If you don't know that by now, you are oblivious. No worries. If you missed the sequences and the instruction of Romans, Chapters 5 to 7, you still have Corinthians, Galatians, and Ephesians to look forward to. They will teach the lessons all over again...PEACE, SIN, LAW, and FREEDOM.

Thanks be to God who delivers us.

**When the Lord Jesus Christ  
Promises Salvation, It's a Guarantee!**

ROM 3:10

*...as it is written, “There is none righteous, not even one”*

ROM 5:8

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

JOH 3:17

*For God the Father did not send the Son (the Lord Jesus Christ) into the world to condemn the world, but the Father sent His Son into the world that the world might be saved through believing in Him.*

JOH 1:12

*But as many as received the Lord (taking advantage of the free gift of salvation), to them He gave the right (once and for all time) to become children of God...to those who believe in Christ's name...*

**CLOSING SONG**

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*HE'S BEEN FAITHFUL*  
*June Murphy*

**CLOSING PRAYER**

*Let us pray...*

**THANKS - INTERCESSION - PETITION**

And we pray that You continue to shape messages from this pulpit that accurately reflect Your unconditional love, Your glorious Person, Your lucid thinking, Your impeccable work, and Your magnificent 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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