

ROMANS
Lesson 250 – January 17, 2016

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

Good Morning!

Welcome to Barah Ministries...a Christian Church with a worldwide reach and an intimate impact on lives, through the provisions of our omnipotent God, the Lord Jesus Christ. One of His many provisions is the blessing of the internet, so that anyone with access can be reached with His Word. We're based in Mesa, AZ...my name is Pastor Rory Clark.

TODAY'S BIBLE LESSON
The Lord's Supper: Jesus is the Suffering Servant

Today we celebrate the Lord's Supper...a remembrance meal. We eat, by breaking bread...we drink, by tasting the fruit of the vine...and we look back to the Cross...a defining moment during the earthly life of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Many times when we suffer, we think there is something wrong. The truth? Not necessarily. We can all agree, as Christians, that tribulation is a regular part of our existence. First Peter, Chapter 5, Verse 9 says...

1PE 5:9

But resist Satan (God's enemy), (standing) firm in your faith, knowing that the same experiences of suffering are being accomplished by your brethren (other believers in Christ) who are in the world.

Tribulation, adversity, suffering is a regular part of the experience of believers in Christ all over the globe. Yet the natural tendency when we are suffering is to ask ourselves if God is punishing us...there is a natural tendency to connect our suffering to our sins. We reason that since we have been committing personal sins as believers in Christ, why wouldn't we suffer? It's only natural that God would make us suffer for our sins. Logical? Perhaps. But not at all true. Simply the human view of things. Looking at the situation through God's eyes...First Peter, Chapter 2, Verse 24 says...

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1PE 2:24

...and the Lord Jesus Christ Himself bore our sins in His own body on the Cross, so that we might die to the sovereignty of sin and so that we might live to righteousness; for by His wounds you were healed.

The Lord's suffering healed us. The Lord bore our sins...paid for our sins...took our sin out of the way, so there should not be the automatic thought that suffering connects to our sins. Our Lord suffered as well, yet not at all because of sin. Hebrews, Chapter 4, Verse 15 says...

HEB 4:15

For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin.

The Lord's suffering was voluntary. He loved us so much that he chose to do something for us that only He could do. He suffered the worst death in all of human history, crucifixion, to demonstrate His love for us, so that we would clearly see His love in action. He became for us, The Suffering Servant.

All of us suffer...all of us see those we love suffer. Suffering does not mean that things have gone wrong.

The Lord has fully taken part in our suffering. What's the worst suffering anyone could ever endure? The Lord's suffering was worse.

Today, as we celebrate the Lord's Supper, we'll get to see the power suffering brings to our lives by seeing the amazing benefits the Lord's suffering accomplished for us. Welcome to a place where you can learn about the Lord Jesus Christ and all He was willing to do for you.

MUSIC AND REFLECTION

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

WHEN YOU SUFFER

June Murphy

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Let's begin the lesson by worshipping the Lord in song...the opening song is WHEN YOU SUFFER, sung by June Murphy.

OPENING PRAYER

Let us pray...

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

Father, thank you for making it clear that suffering is a normal part of the battle of the Christian Way of Life...as we suffer, we do right to seek You and Your Word for our sustenance in times of trouble...today, we bow our heads, and we bend our knees, and we seek Your face...we relish Your thoughts...we seek Your guidance and we thank you that You are always there for us...

Help us make sense out of the suffering we experience...the confusion, the ridicule, the despair, and the hopelessness...give us the wisdom to use God the Holy Spirit's power, just as Your Son did at the Cross...help us to see how insidious Satan's disruptions can be...remind us of Your Son's sufferings so we can be sure that the Lord knows what we are going through...soothe us, and encourage us, and strengthen us in the face of our daily adversities...

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

TODAY'S BIBLE LESSON

The Lord's Supper: Jesus is the Suffering Servant

Let's begin the lesson by taking the offering. Join me in welcoming up Deacon Denny Goodall.

THE OFFERING

Deacon Denny Goodall

OFFERING VERSE

1TH 5:16-18

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Rejoice always; pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

OFFERING

FLIGHT OF THE EAGLE

Dave McClure, Instrumental

Thank you for your generosity.

TODAY'S BIBLE LESSON

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Human history was created to resolve a conflict between the Lord Jesus Christ, our God, and Satan. Yet we live in a world where people join hands and rock back and forth and sing the John Lennon song... "All we are saying is give peace a chance!" Yet the Lord tells us something very different in His Word about peace...

EZE 13:3

Thus says the Lord God, "Woe to the foolish prophets who are following their own spirit and have seen nothing."

False teachers teach false things. Verses 10 and 11...

EZE 13:10-11

It is definitely because they have misled My people by saying, 'Peace!' when there is no peace. And when anyone builds a wall, behold, they plaster it over with whitewash; so tell those who plaster it over with whitewash, that it will fall.

False teachers disguise the serious cracks in their messages with whitewash. The Lord says something very different about peace... Matthew, Chapter 24, Verse 6...

MAT 24:6

You will be hearing of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not frightened, for those things must take place, but that is not yet the end.

Warfare and its associated suffering are a very real part of our day-to-day experience in this world. Soul warfare is one such form of conflict...the

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battle that goes on every day in our souls is the source of much suffering. Our high priest, the Lord Jesus Christ, suffered the same spiritual warfare...Matthew, Chapter 4, Verses 1 to 11...

MAT 4:1

Then Jesus was led up by God the Holy Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.

MAT 4:2

And after the Lord had fasted forty days and forty nights, He then became hungry.

MAT 4:3

And the tempter (Satan) came and said to Him, “If You are the Son of God, and of course you are, command that these stones become bread.”

MAT 4:4

But Jesus answered and said, “It is written, ‘Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God.’”

We suffer when we listen to false teachers...we suffer when we heed the wrong instruction.

MAT 4:5

Then the devil took Jesus into the holy city and had Him stand on the pinnacle of the temple...

MAT 4:6

...and the devil said to Jesus, “If You are the Son of God, and of course you are, throw Yourself down; for it is written, ‘God the Father will command His angels concerning You’; and ‘On their hands they will bear You up, so that You will not strike Your foot against a stone.’”

MAT 4:7

Jesus said to him, “On the other hand, it is written, ‘You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.’”

We suffer when we take scripture out of its context.

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MAT 4:8

Again, the devil took Jesus to a very high mountain and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory...

MAT 4:9

...and the devil said to Jesus, “All these things I will give You, if You fall down and worship me.”

We suffer when we believe Satan’s lies and we implement them in our lives as if they are true.

MAT 4:10

Then Jesus said to him, “Go, Satan! For it is written, ‘You shall worship the Lord your God, and serve Him only.’”

MAT 4:11

Then the devil left Jesus; and behold, angels came and began to minister to Him.

The Creator-creature conflict...the reason human history exists. Because of Satan, what was a perfect world is now in conflict...and suffering is a part of the conflict. Ephesians, chapter 6, Verses 10 to 12 say...

EPH 6:10

...be strong in union with the Lord and in the strength of His might.

EPH 6:11

Pick up and put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil.

EPH 6:12

For our struggle is not against flesh and blood (humans), but our struggle is against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.

We handle suffering by using God’s armor...not our own...so that we can stand fast in the face of suffering.

Let’s enjoy the elements of the Lord’s Supper and then we’ll learn more about The Suffering Servant.

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THE LORD’S SUPPER CELEBRATION
Enjoying the Elements

Let’s enjoy the Lord’s Supper elements...

Following God’s request, we keep on celebrating CHRIST and His Cross on a regular basis...we eat to remember who He is...His PERSON...we drink to remember His WORK, the voluntary sacrifice He made at the Cross on our behalf as our substitute...and we are grateful for what God has done for us. First Corinthians, Chapter 11, Verses 23 and 24 say...

1CO 11:23

For I, Paul received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus Christ on the night in which He was betrayed took bread...

1CO 11:24

...and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, “This is, and keeps on being My body, which is broken for you; keep on doing this celebration for the purpose of remembering Me.”

When we eat the bread during the Lord’s Supper Celebration, we remember THE PERSON of the Lord Jesus Christ.

When we drink the cup, we remember THE WORK of the Lord Jesus Christ. First Corinthians, Chapter 11, Verses 25 and 26 say...

1CO 11:25

In the same way the Lord Jesus Christ took the cup after supper, representing His death on the Cross, saying, “This cup is a new testament forged with My blood; keep on doing this celebration, as often as you drink it, for the purpose of remembering Me.”

1CO 11:26

“For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.”

As you enjoy the bread and the cup, enjoy the memory of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ as well. Now and always, as the Lord’s Supper song reminds us to keep on giving thanks.

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LORD'S SUPPER SONG

DAY BY DAY

Godspell

TODAY'S BIBLE LESSON

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When we look back to the Cross we see the Lord Jesus Christ, our Suffering Servant. He was happy to go to the Cross to die for us. Hebrews. Chapter 12, verse 2 reminds us to...

HEB 12:2

...keep on fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Suffering on our behalf was a joy to the Lord. And suffer He did. What is the significance of the Servant's suffering? Isaiah, Chapter 53...

ISA 53:1

Who has believed our (gospel) message? And to whom has the arm (the strength) of the Lord been revealed?

The Lord's strength has been revealed to everyone, yet everyone will not take advantage of His suffering.

ISA 53:2

For the Lord Jesus Christ grew up before God the Father like a tender shoot, and like a root out of parched ground...Jesus has no stately form or majesty that we should look upon Him, nor appearance that we should be attracted to Him.

There was nothing special about the Suffering Servant's appearance that we would automatically be attracted to Him. In fact, it was the opposite.

ISA 53:3

Jesus was despised and forsaken of men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and like one from whom men hide their face He was despised, and we did not esteem Him.

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His world contained the same suffering our world contained...those who were supposed to welcome Him with open arms...the Jews...rejected Him...were repulsed by Him...they refused to believe He was The One.

ISA 53:4

Surely our griefs Jesus Himself bore, and our sorrows He carried; yet we ourselves esteemed Him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.

He suffered for us...and as for the Jews of the time, they believed He was cursed by God when they saw His suffering...they believed He was being punished for sins...

ISA 53:5

But Jesus was pierced through for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; the chastening for our well-being fell upon Him, and by His scourging we are healed.

Instead, Jesus served. Whom did He serve? The rebellious! His enemies!

ISA 53:6

All of us like sheep have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; but the Lord has caused the iniquity of us all to fall on Him.

How did the Lord suffer?

ISA 53:7

He was oppressed and He was afflicted, yet He did not open His mouth; like a lamb that is led to slaughter, and like a sheep that is silent before its shearers, so He did not open His mouth.

The Lord's suffering was undeserved.

ISA 53:8

By oppression and judgment He was taken away; and as for His generation, who considered that He was cut off out of the land of the living for the transgression of my people, to whom the stroke was due?

People often talk about how their loved ones died too soon. The Lord was cut off in the prime of His life...at age 33...yet he considered His death to be timely.

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ISA 53:9

His grave was assigned with wicked men, yet He was with a rich man in His death, because He had done no violence, nor was there any deceit in His mouth.

The Lord was falsely accused and falsely categorized...yet it did not at all affect His sacrifice in the eyes of the ones who loved Him.

ISA 53:10

But the Lord (God the Father) was pleased to crush Jesus, putting Him to grief; if Jesus would render Himself as a guilt offering, God the Father will see His offspring, God the Father will prolong His days, and the good pleasure of the Lord (God the Father) will prosper in His hand.

The suffering and death of His servant was definitely God the Father's will, yet it was a suffering and death that led us to the life...

ISA 53:11

As a result of the anguish of Jesus's soul, God the Father will see it and be satisfied; by His knowledge the Righteous One, My Servant, will justify the many, as Jesus will bear their iniquities.

ISA 53:12

Therefore, I will allot Jesus a portion with the great, and He will divide the booty with the strong; because He poured out Himself to death, and was numbered with the transgressors; yet He Himself bore the sin of many, and interceded for the transgressors.

The Lord Jesus Christ, our Suffering Servant, voluntarily put Himself through hell for us...all of us. And therefore we are to enjoy suffering as much as He did. Philippians, Chapter 2, Verses 5 to 8...

PHI 2:5

Keep on having this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus...

PHI 2:6

...who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God the Father a thing to be grasped...

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PHI 2:7

...but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men.

PHI 2:8

Being found in appearance as a man, Jesus humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a Cross.

We enjoy the chance to look back and to see the fruit of suffering, knowing that our suffering will result in the same goodness, thanks to a God who wills to make it so.

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

ROM 1:16

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

PSA 62:1

My soul waits in silence for the Lord only; from Him is my salvation.

ACT 2:21

'And it shall be that everyone who calls on the Person of the Lord Jesus Christ will be saved.'

2PE 3:9

The Lord Jesus Christ is not slow about His promise of salvation, as some accuse Him of, but is patient toward all mankind, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance (a change of mind about having a relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ).

CLOSING SONG

THE WORD IS ALIVE

June Murphy

CLOSING PRAYER

Let us pray...

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THANKS - INTERCESSION - PETITION

And we pray that You continue to shape the messages from this pulpit that are an accurate reflection of You...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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