

ROMANS
Lesson 301–July 31, 2016

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

Good Morning!

Welcome to Barah Ministries...a Christian Church based in Mesa, AZ...my name is Pastor Rory Clark. At Barah Ministries we are “pursuing the truth through the study of the Word of God.” We are committed to learn how to live our lives God’s way through our study of the Word of God. We believe God’s way is the ONLY WAY...and everything else pales in comparison to His way.

TODAY’S BIBLE LESSON

What Did We Learn From Paul in Romans Chapters 1 and 2?

Congratulations! To those of you who study regularly with Barah Ministries, you have invested three hundred hours over the last three years studying the first eight chapters of Paul’s letter to the Romans.

Paul’s letter to the Romans is the most thorough explanation of what the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ means to Christians, located in a single place. Romans is a summary of the Christian faith. It is the first letter a Christian should study after becoming a Christian. I can remember when we began this journey into the letter to the Romans, and I was asking myself, just as you probably say to yourself every time you hear it, “What more do I need to know about the gospel message?” I believe! Truly that question may have genius in it for its simplicity, but I’m sure you’ll acknowledge after three hundred hours of study, that these first eight chapters have taught us a lot about the gospel message, a lot about the Lord Jesus Christ...our God, and a lot about the Christian faith...things we never knew before.

Paul’s letter to the Romans explains how we are saved, why we are saved, and what it means to be saved. Every human being who has ever lived on planet earth gets to choose to be saved or to be lost. Every human being gets offered two ways to be saved...either by law through works...or by grace through faith. To think that our salvation is by law through works is the wide

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gate and the broad road that leads to destruction. Human righteousness is not good enough for admission to heaven. On the other hand, to think that our salvation is by grace through faith is the small gate and the narrow road. The righteousness that comes from God is the only way to heaven, a righteousness that is a free gift when we place our confidence in the Person and in the work of our Lord Jesus Christ at the Cross on our behalf.

Our salvation depends on God's strength and not on our weakness. Paul's letter to the Romans tells us, "Here is your problem, and there is only one solution." John, Chapter 14, Verse 6 says...

JOHN 14:6

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

When you say, "I believe," you are spending your faith. Everyone has faith, because it is a gift from God, and it can be spent as you will. The proper way to express faith is to always obey God. To be justified by our own works is impossible, because we sin. We cannot get right with God by our own merit. If we break the law a single time we are law breakers and we must pay the penalty of breaking the law, that is, suffering at the wrong end of the wrath of God. Grace by faith is the only escape from the sin problem. Paul's letter to the Romans does a magnificent job of explaining everything.

For the next few lessons we will bring to mind the things we learned in the first eight chapters as preparation for our study of the second half of the letter. Congratulations! If you have studied all three hundred lessons you have accomplished a feat that very few people who come to this earth have ever completed. My hat is off to you!

Welcome to a place where you can learn how to make a case for your uniqueness at the Judgment Seat of Christ.

MUSIC AND REFLECTION

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

CHANGE MY HEART O GOD

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Marinatha! Praise Band

The opening song for this lesson is *CHANGE MY HEART O GOD*
sung by Blank.

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 providing us with a group of imperfect people, the men who wrote the New Testament...men dedicated to teaching Your perfect Word...

Help us call to mind the insights you have planted in our souls and spirits in our study of Romans, through them, and give us multiple opportunities to share what we have learned with everyone with whom we come in contact.

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

Two announcements...as reminders....

BARAH MINISTRIES ANNOUNCEMENTS

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Coeur d'Alene Bible Conference

Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

August 5-6, 2016

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

The Lord's Supper Celebration

EVENING LESSON ONLY

6:00P-7:30P

August 7, 2016

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What Did We Learn From Paul in Romans Chapters 1 and 2?

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Let's begin our look back with Romans, Chapter 1...here's the introduction...

ROMANS 1:1

(This letter is written by) Paul, a bond-servant (a doulos...a voluntary twenty-four hour a day slave) of Christ Jesus, called as an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God the Father...

God had a plan for Paul's life and He has a plan for your life as well.

ROMANS 1:2

...which gospel God the Father promised beforehand through His Old Testament prophets and which the Father revealed in the holy Scriptures...

Old Testament or New Testament...there is only one way to be saved...faith alone in the Lord Jesus Christ alone...a fact that both Testaments, Old and New, make perfectly clear.

ROMANS 1:3

...the gospel concerning the Father's Son (the Lord), who was born of a descendant of David according to the flesh (Jesus Christ)...

The Lord, God the Son, became flesh (Jesus Christ) and tabernacled among us.

ROMANS 1:4

...this One who was declared the Son of God with power by the resurrection from the dead, according to the revelation by God the Spirit of holiness, this Jesus Christ our Lord...

The Lord Jesus Christ is 100% God and 100% man in one person forever...the uniquely born One...and as an affirmation of Christ's Deity, He is the only person who has ever been resurrected from the dead.

ROMANS 1:5

...through whom we (Paul referring to himself) have received the grace of apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for His name's sake...

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God's plan for Paul, a Jew, was to bring the gospel to the Gentiles.

ROMANS 1:6

...among whom you also are the called ones, by the agency of Jesus Christ...

For all who are believers in Christ we are the elect, the called ones from God, created for a purpose.

ROMANS 1:7

...to all who are beloved (divinely love ones) of God the Father in Rome, called as saints (not sinners)...grace to you and peace from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

We learned that we are no longer sinners when we believe in the Lord Jesus Christ...instead we are saints! God has nothing against us...we have His peace.

ROMANS 1:8

First, I (Paul) thank my God the Father through Jesus Christ for you all, because your faith is being proclaimed throughout the whole world.

The gospel message then, and for all times, is proclaimed throughout the entire world...in friendly territory and in hostile territory...in every nook and cranny...everyone hears the gospel in a way they can understand it so they can decide.

ROMANS 1:9

For God the Father, whom I serve in my spirit in the preaching of the gospel of His Son, is my witness as to how unceasingly I make mention of you (in my prayers)...

ROMANS 1:10

...always in my prayers making request, if perhaps now at last by the will of God the Father I may succeed in coming to you.

Paul prayed regularly for the privilege of teaching the Roman believers face-to-face.

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ROMANS 1:11

For I (Paul) long to see you (face-to-face) so that I may impart some spiritual gift to you, that you may be established...

ROMANS 1:12

...that is, that I may be encouraged together with you while among you, each of us being encouraged by the other's faith, both your faith encouraging me and my faith encouraging you.

Paul is speaking of what happens when members of the body of Christ fellowship with each other.

ROMANS 1:13

I do not want you to be unaware, brethren (believers in Christ), that often I have planned to come to you (and have been prevented so far) so that I may obtain some fruit among you also, even as I am obtaining fruit among the rest of the Gentiles.

Paul wants to plant the seed of the gospel to reap a harvest of new believers.

ROMANS 1:14

I am under obligation (as if I have a debt to pay to the Lord) to teach both to Greeks and to barbarians, both to the wise and to the foolish.

A minister's job is to teach those who accept and those who reject the gospel...those who are smart and those who are not so smart.

ROMANS 1:15

So, for my part, I am exceedingly eager to preach the gospel (face-to-face) to you also who are in Rome.

ROMANS 1:16

For I (Paul) am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power (dunamis) of God the Father for providing salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek (without racial distinction).

As the chosen people, the Jews, (a specialized racial species who were trusted with the oracles of God), often made race an issue...they made "being Jewish" a condition of salvation, which it is not.

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ROMANS 1:17

For in the gospel, A RIGHTEOUSNESS FROM GOD is revealed from faith to faith (faith for salvation, for regeneration, for sanctification and for glorification...a faith from beginning to end) ...as it is written, “But the righteous man shall live by faith.”

Before and after believing in Christ, faith is the way we live. With everything God teaches us, we simply say, “I believe!” without any doubting.

ROMANS 1:18

For the WRATH OF GOD is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and against the unrighteousness of (unbelieving) men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness...

Unbelieving men seek to distort and to block the learning of the gospel message (suppressing the truth). The whole human race stands condemned before God the Father, yet He provided His Son as a way out of the predicament. Rejecting a relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ has its consequences...and the wrath of God is a consequence that you wouldn't wish on your worst enemy.

ROMANS 1:19

...because that which is known about God the Father is evident within them (all the unbelieving...in fact all mankind); for God the Father made the knowledge of God evident to them.

In each one of us, the truth about God is written inside of us. And God makes what is written inside of us clear to every one of us. God hates sin, but loves sinners. God offers His own righteousness to sinners, and they can accept it or reject it.

ROMANS 1:20

For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes (His essence...His qualities), His eternal power (omnipotence) and (His) divine nature (His Deity), have been clearly seen (made manifest...made clearly visible...by God...on the inside of all mankind), being understood through what has been made, so that all mankind are without excuse.

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Notice the oxymoron...the invisible is CLEARLY SEEN...there is not one creature that will be able to say he didn't know anything about the Lord Jesus Christ. How do I know? God says so...here's what he says through Paul...

ROMANS 1:21

For even though they (unbelieving mankind) KNEW God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks (to Him for creating them), but (instead) they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened.

Unbelieving mankind rejects the clear evidence that the Lord Jesus Christ is God...they live the “yeah but what if” speculative life.

ROMANS 1:22

Professing to be wise, they (unbelieving mankind) became fools...

ROMANS 1:23

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

If you don't worship God, you will worship something else.

ROMANS 1:24

Therefore God the Father GAVE THEM OVER in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, so that their bodies would be dishonored among them.

There's nothing worse than when GOD GIVES YOU OVER to your own decisions.

ROMANS 1:25

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

Truth or lies? Creator or creature? What's your choice?

ROMANS 1:26

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For this reason God GAVE THEM OVER to degrading passions; for their women exchanged the natural function of sex (with men in marriage) for that which is unnatural (homosexuality with other women)...

ROMANS 1:27

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

We can kid ourselves...we can kid others...but we can't fool God... homosexuality is a sin. And be clear on this...God loves everyone unconditionally, even, and especially those who engage in homosexuality. So let's not forget how to separate the doer from the deed...how to separate the person from the things the person is doing...how to separate the sinner, whom God loves unconditionally, from the sin (homosexuality) that God abhors, along with all other sins.

ROMANS 1:28

And just as they (unbelieving mankind) 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...

ROMANS 1:29

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

ROMANS 1:30

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

ROMANS 1:31

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

God's permissive will allows us to receive the result of our sin...death.

ROMANS 1:32

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

Our reprehensible actions are fully deserving of God's condemnation.

MUSIC BREAK

FOREVER

Kari Jobe

TODAY'S BIBLE LESSON

What Did We Learn From Paul in Romans Chapters 1 and 2?

Let's take a look back at Romans, Chapter 2...

ROMANS 2:1

Therefore you (who have a mind to condemn others...like moral pagans and unbelieving Jews...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 (all have sinned and fall short of God's standards).

Since all of us have sinned, we do not own the prerogative to be relative in our thinking and to claim that our sins are somehow better than the sins of others...which amounts to judging. All sin all the time. God is the ONLY righteous judge.

ROMANS 2:2

And we know that the judgment of God the Father rightly falls upon those (people) who practice such things (judging).

ROMANS 2:3

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

All of us will stand before God in the future for an evaluation of our deeds (not our sins).

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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 (is what) leads you to repentance (a change of mind about Christ)?

God's grace is indeed amazing.

ROMANS 2:5

But because of your stubbornness and unrepentant heart you (unbelieving mankind) 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

...who will render to each person according to his deeds...

ROMANS 2:7

...to those (referring to believers in Christ) who by perseverance in doing good keep on seeking for glory and honor and immortality...to those eternal life...

ROMANS 2:8

...but to those (unbelieving mankind) who are selfishly ambitious and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness...to them comes wrath and indignation.

The question you have to ask yourself is this...when God the Father pours forth the reservoir He is storing up for you, will it be filled with wrath or recompense? If you are an unbeliever at the time of your physical death, then it will be filled with wrath. If you are a believer in Christ, it will be filled with recompense.

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...

With God there is no racial distinction, no social distinction, and no gender distinction...

ROMANS 2:10

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...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.

ROMANS 2:12

For all who have sinned without the Law (the Gentiles), will also perish without the Mosaic Law (because the Mosaic Law is written on their hearts)...and all who have sinned under the Mosaic Law (the Jews) will be judged by the Mosaic Law...

ROMANS 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.

The Law can justify only those who don't break the law...and there is no human being to whom this applies...we are all lawbreakers.

ROMANS 2:14

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

ROMANS 2:15

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

The Gentiles were not under the Mosaic Law but they were under the Law written in their hearts...they have consciences that evaluate their actions, whether right or wrong...and when they sin, they were under the same indictment as those who sinned under the Mosaic Law... They stood condemned, in a state of spiritual death, and they were helpless and hopeless to do anything about the predicament.

ROMANS 2:16

...on the day of God's righteous judgment when, according to my gospel, God the Father will judge the secrets of men through Christ Jesus.

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The biggest secret of men will be their attitude toward Christ. None of us, on our own merits, can earn either the righteousness of God or the justification from God. The Lord Jesus Christ in the flesh is the only member of true humanity to keep the Law perfectly...thus He is just. Creatures are not. And now a word to the Jews...

ROMANS 2:17

But if you bear the name “Jew,” and of course you hearers do, and you rely on the Mosaic Law and boast in your special status with God...

ROMANS 2:18

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

ROMANS 2:19

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

ROMANS 2:20

...that you are a corrector of the foolish...that you are a teacher of the immature...having in the Mosaic Law the embodiment of knowledge and of the truth...

ROMANS 2:21

...you, therefore, who teach another...do you not teach yourself (are you walking your talk)? You who preach that one shall not steal, do you steal?

ROMANS 2:22

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

ROMANS 2:23

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

All of these rhetorical questions demand a “yes” answer.

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ROMANS 2:24

For it is written, “The name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you”...

ROMANS 2:25

For indeed physical circumcision is of value if you practice the Mosaic Law; but if you are a transgressor of the Mosaic Law (and all of you are), your circumcision has become uncircumcision (just foreskin).

Once we break the law, we are the manifestation of unrighteousness.

ROMANS 2:26

So if the uncircumcised man (the Gentile) keeps the requirements of the Mosaic Law, will not his uncircumcision be regarded as circumcision?

Rhetorical question with an answer...“Yes!”

ROMANS 2:27

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

Rhetorical question with an answer...“Yes!”

ROMANS 2:28

For he is not a Jew who is one outwardly (whitewashed tombs), nor is physical circumcision that which is outward in the flesh.

God judges the hearts...

ROMANS 2:29

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

Rituals are not the Christian Way of Life. The Christian Way of Life is a commitment, in faith to count on God for everything. Many of the Jews had forgotten this. Paul reminds them. So what did we learn in Romans

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Chapters 1 and 2? We all get to decide for or against Christ. It is not a ritual...it's a relationship. The Lord is calling all of us to the freedom of salvation...to the freedom of being saved...will you come?

GOD WANTS YOU!

Make the Most Important Decision of Your Life

ACTS 16:30

“...the jailer asked, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?”

ACTS 16:31

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

ACTS 4:12

“And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given to mankind by which we must be saved (except the name of the Lord Jesus Christ).”

JOHN 14:6

Jesus said to the apostle Thomas, the doubting one, “I am the way (to salvation), and (I am) the truth (the Word of God), and the (resurrection) life; no one comes to the Father but through believing in Me.”

ACTS 2:21

‘And it shall be that everyone who calls on the Person of the Lord Jesus Christ for salvation will be saved.’

CLOSING SONG

CALLING YOU TO FREEDOM

June Murphy

CLOSING PRAYER

Let us pray...

Thanks for coming!
Thanks for watching!
Thanks for listening!

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