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. In the face of the tribulations in your life, I pray that things you hear today from the Word of God will inspire you to move closer in your relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ and to take all of your instruction from Him.

MUSIC AND REFLECTION

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

I STAND AMAZED AT GRACE

Let's begin our worship of the Lord in song. The opening song is...I STAND AMAZED AT GRACE.

OPENING PRAYER

Let us pray...

We're grateful to you, our loving and Heavenly Father for the privilege of studying Your absolute truth...the Word of God...

We pray that You make clear to us Your guidance in our lives...we ask You to help us approach life with a spirit of enthusiasm, and with joy and with hope...Father, we ask You to bring out the best in us at the most critical moments when our best makes the most difference...we ask You to help us to unite as a body and to be good to each other...Father, help us encourage each other...help us to challenge each other...and today, as we study Your Word, help us to concentrate and to seek an understanding of what You are communicating to us and its relevance to our lives...

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

TODAY'S STUDY

Romans 5

Now That You Have Righteousness and Justification, Enjoy the Grace

The next passage in our study of Paul's letter to the Romans is on the subject of GRACE.

THE BOOK OF ROMANS

Chapter 5

GOD'S GRACE

Passage

Romans 5:1 to Romans 5:21

In Romans Chapter 1, we learned that as believers in Christ we have a responsibility to preach the gospel message to a lost and dying world. Romans, Chapter 1, Verse 8...

ROM 1:8

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

In Romans Chapter 2, we learned about the lifestyles offered by Satan, the enemy of God...the lascivious lifestyle, the religious lifestyle, the self-righteous lifestyle...all of which are fruitless pursuits...Romans, Chapter 2, Verses 9 to 11...

ROM 2:9-11

There will be tribulation and distress for every soul of everyone who does evil, of the Jew first and also of the Greek, but glory and honor and peace to everyone who does good, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For there is no partiality with God.

...God is not impressed with Satan's counterfeit lifestyles, nor should you be. Yet we are because they are easy to run.

In Romans Chapter 3, we learn we were born as guilty sinners...yet the Lord Jesus Christ died as a propitiation for us...as the ONLY perfectly satisfactory payment for our sins...Romans, Chapter 3, Verse 21...

ROM 3:21

But now, apart from the Law, the righteousness of God has been manifested (made clearly visible)...

The righteousness from God is our admission ticket to heaven.

In Romans Chapter 4, we learn that Jesus Christ was resurrected from the dead for our justification. Romans, Chapter 4, Verse 25...

ROM 4:25

The Lord Jesus Christ who was delivered over because of our transgressions, and who was raised from the dead because of our justification.

Now we move on to Romans, Chapter 5, where we will learn that we have peace with God the Father through the Lord Jesus Christ. The result of having righteousness and justification by faith is peace. A question for reflection, "Do you live a peaceful life?" We'll see two sections in this chapter...

Romans 5 - Section 1

ROM 5:1-11

Highlights God's great display of unconditional love

Romans 5 - Section 2

ROM 5:12-21

Highlights God the Father's restoration of Adam's Error Through Jesus Christ

Turn in your bibles to Romans, Chapter 5...

<LET'S READ ROMANS 5:1 to ROMANS 5:24 TOGETHER>

Grace! Romans, Chapter 6, Verse 14...

ROM 6:14

For sin shall not be master over you (the sovereign one over you), for you believers in Christ are not under law but you are under the sphere grace.

The Messages of Romans, Chapter 5? Now that you have the righteousness of God...now that you have been justified...now that you have spent your faith in Christ when you could have been unbelieving...God will always deal with you in grace from now on! Because of grace, you have peace. And by the way, by way of reminder, you did nothing to earn or deserve any of God's free gifts. Now it's time to enjoy what God did for you in grace.

Human beings aren't very good at enjoying what God has done for them in grace...we prefer worrying...

EXAMPLES:

How do you know if you're a good man?

How do you know if you are a good woman?

How do you know you are in a relationship with a good man?

How do you know you are in a relationship with a good woman?

Evidence!

God has given us ample evidence of His goodness. Trust him. Some of God's creatures are living their lives to reflect His goodness. Look at the evidence. Trust them. Let's look at the first few verses of Romans, Chapter 5 in detail to see what we can discover...let's begin at Verse 1...

ROM 5:1

Therefore, having been justified on the principle of faith in the past, we believers in Christ now and forevermore keep on having peace with God the Father through our union with the Lord Jesus Christ...

Whatever God does, it is done forever. God does not change His mind.

James, Chapter 1, Verse 17...

JAM 1:17

Every good thing given and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shifting shadow.

Now, as a result of the Lord Jesus Christ and His Cross, God the Father has nothing against you...this is called PEACE...and this is an objective and certain fact, not a "maybe so."

Romans 5:1-2...Peace With God

PAST We Were Justified in the Past

PRESENT We Stand in the Sphere of Grace Now

FUTURE Absolute Confidence in Our Future of Glorification

ROM 5:1

Therefore, having been justified on the principle of faith in the past, we believers in Christ now and forevermore keep on having peace with God the Father through our union with the Lord Jesus Christ...

Sin has been judged through Christ, our substitute...God the Father is perfectly satisfied...the One we were guilty of betraying has forgiven us forever, and has paid for our error...thus the barrier to a relationship with God, sin, is removed by the blood of Christ and His Cross forever and ever...all claims against us are dismissed...and because of the Law of Double Jeopardy, we can't be tried for the same crime twice. God doesn't try you twice for your sins...they were tried and dismissed at the Cross... and therefore you are free not to try yourself twice for your sins.

Who among us, who is a believer in the Lord Jesus Christ, is not at peace with God? We all are at peace with God. Those of us who think that human effort gains peace with God...these are the ones who are not at peace with Him. Romans, Chapter 4, Verse 5...

ROM 4:5

But to the one who does not work for salvation, but instead believes in the Lord Jesus Christ who justifies the ungodly (sinners), this person's faith is credited as righteousness.

Therefore, to those of you who think going to church, confessing sins, being a good person is spiritual...let me be the one to disappoint you. We have all run the religious, the self-righteous (legalistic), and the lascivious lifestyles, every one of us, and if we are honest with ourselves, we have found them all to be without merit. They have done nothing for us except educate us on what not to do. But how do you know you are at peace with God? When very little fazes you...Philippians, Chapter 4, Verse 7...

PHI 4:7

And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Unbelief, the opposite of faith, robs us of our peace. What is peace?

PEACE

God has nothing against you

The barrier between God and man has been torn down by Christ and His Cross

Turn to Ephesians, Chapter 2, Verse 14...

EPH 2:14

For the Lord Jesus Christ Himself is our peace, who made both groups (Jews and Gentiles) into one group and broke down the barrier of the dividing wall...

EPH 2:15

...by abolishing in His flesh the enmity, which is the Law of commandments contained in ordinances, so that in union with Himself He might make the two into one new man, thus establishing peace...

EPH 2:16

...and so that He might reconcile both the Jews and the Gentiles in one body to God the Father through the Cross, by the Cross having put to death the enmity.

Everything with God is singular. No two groups. One. Unity. Satan tore down the unity. The Lord restored it. There is no more enmity between us and God. What is enmity?

ENMITY

A condition of hostility between parties

Take a five-minute break and we'll continue our study of Romans 5.

BREAK

Awesome is the Lord Most High Somewhere Over the Rainbow

Welcome back!

ROM 5:1

Therefore, having been justified on the principle of faith in the past, we believers in Christ now and forevermore keep on having peace with God the Father through our union with the Lord Jesus Christ...

Romans Chapter 5, Verse 2...

ROM 5:2

...and through our union with Christ also we have obtained our introduction (direct access to a Person of privileged rank) into this grace in which we stand; and through our union with Christ also we keep on exulting in hope of the glory of God.

Romans 5:1-2...Peace With God

PAST We are Justified in the Past

PRESENT We Stand in the Sphere of Grace Now

FUTURE Absolute Confidence in Our Future of Glorification

We believers in Christ are the chosen ones of God in the past...we believers in Christ are, right this minute, in a standing of favor with God...God is very fond of us, both right now and forevermore...and **in the future** we have the absolute confidence, as a result of our union with Christ, that we have already received every benefit that Christ receives, including glory. John, Chapter 17, Verse 22...

JOH 17:22

"The glory which You (God the Father) have given Me (the Lord Jesus Christ) I have given to them (believers in Christ), that they may be one, just as We are one..."

Colossians, Chapter 3, Verse 4...

COL 3:4

When Christ, who is our resurrection life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory.

Romans, Chapter 8, Verse 17...

ROM 8:17

...and if we are children of God, and we are, we are heirs also, heirs of God the Father and fellow heirs with the Lord Jesus Christ...if indeed we suffer with Him, and we are, so that we may also be glorified with Him.

What is glory?

GLORY

The expression of God's total satisfaction, total pleasure, total delight with someone or something...the reflection of the essence of God

Here is an expression of the glory of God the Father...Matthew, Chapter 3, Verse 17...

MAT 3:17

...and behold, a voice out of the heavens (the voice of God the Father) said, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well-pleased."

Our New Position in Union with Christ means we have bold, confident, and direct access to our God. Ephesians, Chapter 2, Verse 18...

EPH 2:18

...for through the Lord Jesus Christ we both (Jews and Gentiles) have our (direct) access in one Spirit to the Father.

Ephesians, Chapter 3, Verse 12...

EPH 3:12

...in whom we have boldness and confident (direct) access through faith in Christ Jesus the Lord.

Look at Romans, Chapter 5, Verse 3...

ROM 5:3

And we not only exult in this (our past...righteousness and justification... our present...peace...our future...glory), but we also keep on being exulted by God the Father in our tribulations that are given to us by the Father, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance...

We have a misperception, as Christians, about suffering...about tribulation. In Satan's kingdom, the lie is planted that "no one should have to suffer." We adopt it. Then we are shocked when we are afflicted. Yet the Lord gives us tribulation, afflictions, and suffering for our personal and spiritual development. Acts, Chapter 14, Verses 21 and 22...

ACT 14:21

After they had preached the gospel to that city (Derbe) and had made many disciples, Barnabus and Paul returned to Lystra and to Iconium and to Antioch...

ACT 14:22

...strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to continue in the faith, and saying, "Through many tribulations we must enter the

kingdom of God."

Turn to First Thessalonians, Chapter 3, Verse 1...

1TH 3:1

Therefore when we (Paul referring to himself) could endure it no longer, we thought it best to be left behind at Athens alone...

1TH 3:2

...and we sent Timothy, our brother and God's fellow worker in the gospel of Christ, to strengthen and encourage you Thessalonians as to your faith...

1TH 3:3

...so that no one would be disturbed by these afflictions of mine; for you yourselves know that we have been destined for afflictions.

Paul describes his ministry in Second Corinthians, Chapter 6, Verses 4 to 10...turn there please...

2CO 6:4

...but in everything commending ourselves as servants of God, in much endurance, in afflictions, in hardships, in distresses...

2CO 6:5

...in beatings, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labors, in sleeplessness, in hunger...

2CO 6:6

...in purity, in knowledge, in patience, in kindness, in the Holy Spirit, in genuine love...

2CO 6:7

...in the word of truth, in the power of God; by the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and the left...

2CO 6:8

...by glory and dishonor, by evil report and good report; we are regarded as deceivers and yet we are true...

2CO 6:9

...we are regarded as unknown yet we are well-known, we are regarded as dying yet behold, we live; we are regarded as punished yet not put to death...

2CO 6:10

... we are regarded as sorrowful yet we are always rejoicing, we are regarded as poor yet we are making many rich, we are regarded as having nothing yet we are possessing all things.

Second Corinthians, Chapter 4, Verse 17 sums it up...

2CO 4:17

For momentary, light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison...

We Christians are to enjoy what God has done for us in the past...God took care of your past...it will not catch up with you. We Christians are to enjoy what God is doing for us now...God is taking care of your present...we Christians have peace in "the good times" and we have peace in "the bad times" ... James, Chapter 1, Verse 2...

JAM 1:2

Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials...

We Christians eagerly await the things God will do for us in the future.

The Promises of the Lord Jesus Christ

When God makes a promise... it's a guarantee!

2PE 1:4a

For by His glory and excellence the Lord Jesus Christ has granted to us His precious and magnificent promises, so that by them you may become partakers of the divine nature...

EPH 1:3

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us believers in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in union with Christ...

ROM 8:32

God the Father who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him over for us all, how will He not also with our union with Him freely give us believers in Christ all things?

PRO 3:5-6

Trust in the LORD with all your heart And do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He will make your paths straight.

CLOSING SONG

Count it All Joy

CLOSING PRAYER

Let us pray...

THANKS - INTERCESSION - PETITION

We pray You continue to provide us with Your unadulterated Word...we ask this through the power of God the Holy Spirit, in Christ's name, Amen.

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

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