

**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. Romans, Chapter 12, Verses 1 and 2 say...

**ROM 12:1**

*Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God the Father, which is your spiritual service of worship.*

**ROM 12:2**

*And do not be conformed to this world, but keep on being transformed by God through the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God the Father is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.*

Welcome to a place where you can renew your mind.

**MUSIC AND REFLECTION**

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

**I AM BEAUTIFUL**

As God prepares your soul for this RENEWING, let's hear June Murphy worship our Lord in song. The opening song is I AM BEAUTIFUL.

**OPENING PRAYER**

*Let us pray...*

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

Show us the beauty of the tribulation You put us through...show us the beauty of the peace of God...

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

### **TODAY'S STUDY Romans 5 The Peace of God Surpasses Comprehension**

In the face of tribulation, God always gives us a way out. First Corinthians, Chapter 10, Verse 13 says...

1CO 10:13

*No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God the Father is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it.*

Our way of escape is the peace OF God. In this lesson we will learn the difference between having peace WITH God, and having the peace OF God...both of which can comfort us in times of tribulation. First, a few announcements...

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

The Next Lord's Supper Celebration

NEXT WEEK!

October 12, 2014

#### **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

No Face-to Face Teaching

October 19

THE WEDDING

Lessons will be provided on line.

#### **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

No Face-to Face Teaching

November 16 - December 7 – December 28

Lessons will be provided on line.

Conversational Bible Study  
Resident Congregation  
October 29

Conversational Bible Study  
Non-Resident Congregation  
November 5

Like  
BARAH MINISTRIES  
on  
Facebook

We're building quite an online community...nearly twenty-two hundred people have joined us on Facebook. Get your friends to like us today!

VISIT THE VETS  
October 12  
1:45PM

## **OFFERING**

Because we are online only today, we will not be taking an offering. However feel free to send your offering on your own. I want you to know how encouraging it is when we get your offerings...encouraging especially to me...because I get to keep on teaching because of you. Paul said it well, and he speaks for me...it is...

PHI 4:17

*Not that I seek the gift itself, but I seek for the profit which increases to your account.*

When you give, God makes sure you are compensated for it. Luke, Chapter 6, Verse 38...

LUK 6:38

*“Give, and it will be given to you...for by your standard of measure it will be measured to you in return.”*

Thank you for your generosity!

## **TODAY’S STUDY**

### **Romans 5**

#### **The Peace of God Surpasses Comprehension**

We are studying Romans...Chapter 5...the first five verses, and we are taking a look at two subjects...the peace of God...and tribulation. Let’s remind ourselves what these verses say. Romans, Chapter 5, beginning 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...*

With God we have a past which is an established fact...we are justified, we have God’s righteousness, therefore we have peace with God...God has nothing against us...

#### **ROM 5:2**

*...and through our union with Christ also we have obtained our direct access to a Person of privileged rank, God the Father, who placed us into this sphere of grace in which presently we stand; and through our union with Christ also we keep on exulting in hope of the glory of God.*

With God we have a future...we have absolute confidence that we will experience personally the glory of God. We are being conformed by God into His image. So if you believers in Christ think that there is something wrong with you...relax...God has you covered...

#### **ROM 5:3**

*And we not only exult in these things (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 God the Father, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance...*

God is shaping us with tribulation...

ROM 5:4

*...and perseverance brings about proven character; and proven character brings about hope...*

If you have any character whatsoever, thank God for it. It came from Him.

ROM 5:5

*...and hope does not disappoint, because the unconditional love of God the Father has been poured out within our hearts through God the Holy Spirit who was given to us by God the Father.*

I said something in last week's lesson, and as I listened to it again, it was so important, I think it bears repeating. The Lord considers it important to allow you to experience pressure to give you a chance to see the power of your faith in action. We often call the tribulation we experience testing...we'll say, "I think the Lord is testing me" ... as if the Lord is trying to see if you have any faith. Remember, the Lord is omniscient...He knows all the knowable...so He knows without testing you if you have faith or not. Testing from the Lord is for YOU! Testing in the face of tribulation is the means by which the presence, the quality, or the genuineness of anything is determined. One of the things that is tested is the presence of the peace of God in your soul. Turn in your bibles to Philippians, Chapter 4, Verse 1...

<Read Philippians, Chapter 4, Verses 1 to 8>

PHI 4:1

*Therefore, my beloved (divinely loved) brethren whom I long to see, my joy and my crown, in this way stand firm in the Lord, my beloved.*

Paul references the victor's wreath when he compares the Philippian believers to a crown...demonstrating his deep love for this congregation.

PHI 4:2

*I urge Euodia (which means "prosperous journey") and I urge Syntyche (which means "pleasant acquaintance") to live in harmony in the Lord.*

Paul is pleading for unity between two women...with a specific mention by name...because they were causing dissention in the church.

PHI 4:3

*Indeed, true companion, I ask you also to help these women who have shared my struggle in the cause of the gospel, together with Clement also and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the book of life.*

All believers in Christ have their names written in the book of life...these two women were not appropriating the peace OF God in their lives.

PHI 4:4

*Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice!*

Part of using the peace OF God is rejoicing about everything you have courtesy of the Lord.

PHI 4:5

*Let your gentle spirit be known to all men. The Lord is near.*

PHI 4:6

*Be anxious for nothing (stop worrying about anything), but in everything by prayer and supplication with a heart filled with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.*

The perfect counter for worrying, of course, is prayer. God is asking us to stop worrying and start living. Do you? When you do, 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 union with Christ Jesus.*

The motto of Northwestern University!

PHI 4:8

*Finally, brethren, whatsoever is true, whatsoever is honorable, whatsoever is right, whatsoever is pure, whatsoever is lovely, whatsoever is of good repute, if there is any excellence (and there is) and if there is anything worthy of praise, and there is, let your minds dwell on these things.*

So what is the difference between peace WITH God from Romans, Chapter 5, 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...*

...and the peace OF God in 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.*

As a result of the Lord Jesus Christ's saving work at the Cross, all of us have peace WITH God. God has nothing against us. This is an established fact in the past, and the result is that this fact stands finished forever. You will always and forevermore have peace with God. This peace is the kind that might exist between the Hatfield's and the McCoy's, two feuding families from the south who had an intense dislike for each other. Peace is as if two parties who had an intense hatred with each other sign a sincere peace treaty and agree never to fight again. At the Cross, the Lord Jesus Christ's work opened a door between God and mankind that has taken away the possibility of a barrier between God and man ever occurring again. We have peace WITH God. God has nothing against us. Romans, Chapter 8, Verses 31 and 32...

ROM 8:31

*What then shall we say face-to-face with these things? If God the Father is for us, and He is, who can be successful against us?*

ROM 8:32

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

He will. We believers in Christ have peace WITH God. Do you also have the peace OF God? Let's find out when we come back from a five-minute break.

## **BREAK**

*Somewhere Over the Rainbow*

Welcome back!

Believers in Christ have peace WITH God. Romans, Chapter 5, 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...*

What do you do when your soul is troubled? What do you do in the face of tribulation? The peace OF God is something you can choose to take advantage of in times of tribulation. 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.*

A discussion we had in a Conversational Bible Study with the resident congregation prompted this lesson. Will two believers, who each have peace WITH God, also have the peace OF God? Maybe. They can if they choose it to be so.

What are you like when you hear the news or when you read a newspaper? The latest scare in the news is Ebola. Yesterday, on a flight home, I jokingly asked another passenger for a sip of his water. He said, "I would, but with all I'm reading about Ebola, I better be cautious!" Okay. So that's why I say don't watch the news. Because you never know when, on the same day, you're going to get Ebola, get carjacked by a black guy in the Bed Bath and Beyond parking lot, and be beheaded by ISIS.

You choose to appropriate the peace of God when you rest in the face of tribulation. Hebrews, Chapter 4, Verse 1...

HEB 4:1



*Therefore, if we believers in Christ are to fear anything, let us fear if, while a promise remains of entering His rest, any one of you may seem to have come short of it.*

The peace OF God is something you can pick up and use at any moment. Paul describes it in Philippians, Chapter 4, Verses 11 to 13...

PHI 4:11

*Not that I (Paul) speak from want, for I have learned to be content in whatever circumstances I am.*

When you choose the peace OF God, you are content regardless of circumstances, including tribulation. Appropriating this peace can be **LEARNED!**

PHI 4:12

*I know how to get along with humble means, and I also know how to live in prosperity; in any and every circumstance I have learned the secret of being filled and going hungry, both of having abundance and suffering need.*

What's the secret to having the peace OF God?

PHI 4:13

*I can do all things through Christ who keeps on strengthening me.*

Do you experience calmness in the face of anxiety while in the midst of your tribulations? You'd probably say, "No!" Well don't be shocked. Few of us really use the assets we have when it is time to use them. Worry, anxiety, drama and freaking out are easier choices than trusting God and His Word through faith in times of trouble.

In times of tribulation, we believers in Christ must remind ourselves that we live in a sphere of grace given to us by God the Father...turn in your bibles to First Peter, Chapter 1, Verse 3...

1PE 1:3

*Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy (forgetting our past indiscretions) has caused us believers in Christ to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ from the dead...*

1PE 1:4

*...to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you...*

When we use scripture to remind ourselves who we really are during tribulation, we can use the peace OF God.

1PE 1:5

*...you believers in Christ who are protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.*

A reminder that you can use the power of God as the peace OF God in your soul.

1PE 1:6

*In this protection, in this truth, you greatly rejoice, even though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been distressed by various trials...*

1PE 1:7

*...so that the proof of your faith, being more precious than gold which is perishable, even though tested by fire, may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ...*

When you choose to use the peace OF God during trials, you prove your faith.

1PE 1:8

*...and though you have not seen Jesus Christ, you love Him, and though you do not see Christ now, but believe in Him, you greatly rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory...*

1PE 1:9

*...obtaining as the outcome of your faith the salvation of your souls.*

Our joy is not a product of our circumstances. It's a product of our mindset. Colossians, Chapter 3, Verse 2...

COL 3:2

*Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth.*

When we set our minds on God and His Word and not on our circumstances, bleak though they may be at times, we have the peace OF God. Look at James, Chapter 1, beginning at Verse 2...

JAM 1:2

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

JAM 1:3

*...knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance.*

JAM 1:4

*And let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.*

What a great description of the peace OF God. James, Chapter 1, Verse 12...

JAM 1:12

*Blessed is a man who perseveres under trial; for once he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him.*

God always provides the way of escape for suffering...it's the peace OF God.

So remember...it is an established fact that each of us believers in Christ have peace WITH God...in times of tribulation, you get to choose whether or not you use the peace OF God, which is you counting on God and His Word about your circumstances and your experience.

**The Promises of the Lord Jesus Christ**

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

EXO 14:13

*“Do not fear! Stand by and see the salvation of the Lord which He will accomplish for you today...”*

ISA 40:29

*He gives strength to the weary, to him who lacks might He increases power.*

1PE 5:6-7

*Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God the Father, that He may exalt you at the proper time, casting all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you.*

## **CLOSING SONG**

You Own Me

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

**[www.barahministries.com](http://www.barahministries.com)**