

ROMANS
Lesson 151–November 30, 2014

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.

Our condemnation at physical birth and our salvation at the moment we believe in Christ is not because of anything we have done...it is because of what a representative, a federal head, has done on our behalf. Titus, Chapter 3, Verse 5...

TIT 3:5

The God who is our Savior (the Lord Jesus Christ) saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in self-righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and by the renewing through the agency of God the Holy Spirit...

A sinner who believes what God says in this matter thinks pretty highly of himself. Welcome to bible study where you are encouraged to think highly of yourself and to let the Lord Jesus Christ do the saving work on your behalf.

MUSIC AND REFLECTION

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

HIS STRENGTH IS PERFECT

Let's begin our worship of the Lord with an opening song. Here's June Murphy to sing...HIS STRENGTH IS PERFECT.

OPENING PRAYER

Let us pray...

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

Perfect us through Your strength, and help us in this lesson to know that our strength is nothing.

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

TODAY'S STUDY

Our Condemnation and Our Salvation is Not Because of What We Have Done

Let's look at Romans, Chapter 5, Verses 12 to 21 in detail...turn there please...we begin at Romans, Chapter 5, Verse 12...

ROM 5:12

Therefore (the spiritual plan of salvation by one single Redeemer is based on the same principle as the human plan) ...just as through one man, Adam, sin entered into the world, and death entered the world through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all men were considered by God to have sinned when Adam sinned...

The important idea to bring forward about this verse is what happened to every human being, including you, when the federal head of the human race sinned. His sin created a situation for all of us...death...both spiritual and physical death. The result of Adam's work as our representative...as the federal head of the human race...was passed on to us. It's not our fault but it is God's plan for each of us.

The Lord wants us to know that our condemnation and our salvation come, not because of our own actions, but because the actions of a representative on our behalf. "In Adam" we were placed into condemnation ... "In Christ" everyone has the option of salvation. Each of us choose the boss to whom we sell our soul. To amplify the point that it is our representative, not our personal sins, that determines our salvation, Paul gives a piece of evidence in Romans, Chapter 5, Verse 13...

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ROM 5:13

...for until the Mosaic Law was given personal sinning was in the world, but personal sinning is not imputed (put into an account...charged as a wage due) when there is no law (forbidding it).

You can't violate a law if there is no law. So for 2500 years, from Adam until Moses, even though there was personal sinning in the world, it was not credited against anyone's account as the issue in salvation because there was no law that people could violate...no direct order from God to do this or to not to do that. The first law that God gave was the Mosaic Law. God gave Adam life, not law. God gave Adam a direct command by God that was for Adam's benefit. God gave Adam a choice, to let Adam know he was a free agent who could act independently from God. Adam was not a puppet. Neither are we. Genesis, Chapter 2, Verses 16 and 17...

GEN 2:16

The Lord God commanded the man, saying, "From any tree of the garden you may eat freely..."

GEN 2:17

"...but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it you will surely die (dying you will die)."

God's commands are not laws. They are requests to free will. God was saying to Adam, "**You have free will...use it as you wish...and know that the use of your will has consequences.**" <Parenting> Genesis, Chapter 3, Verse 6...

GEN 3:6

When the woman (Isha) saw that the tree (of the knowledge of good and evil) was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was desirable to make one wise (as Satan had deceived her to think), she took from its fruit and ate; and she gave also to her husband with her, and he ate.

Your personal sins did not condemn you to death. The sin of the federal head of the human race, Adam, condemned you to death. So even though those who lived between Adam and Moses did not commit personal sins by direct disobedience of a command from God, they got the penalty of physical death anyway, because they were born "In Adam" like all of us.

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It's not our fault, but it is our circumstance. All of us are condemned to the Lake of Fire from birth. First Corinthians, Chapter 15, Verse 22a

1CO 15:22a

For “in (union with) Adam” all mankind is set to die the second death...

What is the second death? Revelation, Chapter 20, Verse 14...

REV 20:14

Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire.

The way to get out of being “In Adam” and the way to get “In Christ” has been the same for all time...John, Chapter 3, Verse 36...

JOH 3:36

He who believes in the Son has eternal life (the ZOE life); but he who does not obey the (command to believe in the) Son will not see (the Zoe) life, but instead the wrath of God the Father (the Lake of Fire) abides on him.”

Continuing in Romans, Chapter 5, Verse 14...

ROM 5:14

Nevertheless (even though personal sins were not imputed to anyone) physical death still reigned as the king from Adam until Moses, even over those who had not sinned in the likeness of the offense of Adam (direct disobedience to a command), (this Adam) who is a type (a federal head, like) the Lord Jesus Christ, who was to come (as a different kind of federal head).

We are under a death that we did not cause. “Death reigned” means that death is the sovereign of the unbeliever, the sovereign of all of us at physical birth. To summarize verses thirteen and fourteen, even for those without law, for those with no crediting of personal sinning to their account, they were still sinners because of Adam's sin.

In God's eyes, sin is disobedience...the failure to use your will to agree with God...First John, Chapter 1, Verse 9...

1JO 1:9

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If we (that is, anyone) confess our sins (agree with God that we are sinners as unbelievers), He (God the Father) is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins (just the way God does everything, once and for all time) and to cleanse us (anyone, once and for all time) from all unrighteousness.

A very simple summary...if you choose to stay “In Adam,” your condition at physical birth, he is your representative, your federal head, and the result is condemnation. If you are “in Christ,” He is your representative, your federal head, and the result is salvation, righteousness and justification. The expression, in this passage that highlights the benefits of your representative? “By the one.” Romans, Chapter 5, Verse 15...

ROM 5:15

*But the free (grace) gift (of salvation) from God (the word charisma in Greek) is not like the (“gift” from the) transgression from Adam. For if by the transgression made **by the one** (Adam) the many died, and they did, **much more** did the grace of God the Father and the gift of salvation through grace **by the one** Man, Jesus Christ, abound to the many (who choose to take advantage of Christ’s gift).*

In other words, we have much more reason to expect that if through Adam’s error there was passed a “free gift” of condemnation to all mankind, it has to be much more true that through the Lord Jesus Christ, the Savior, the free gift of salvation will pass to the many...AND...it will provide much more benefit than Adam’s “gift.” Romans, Chapter 5, Verse 16...

ROM 5:16

The free (grace) gift (of salvation) from God the Father (the word charisma in Greek) through the agency of Christ is not like that “gift” which came through the one, Adam, who sinned; for on the one hand the judgment arose from one transgression of Adam resulting in condemnation for all, but on the other hand the free gift (of salvation...charisma) arose from the many transgressions being laid on the back of Christ for payment resulting in one righteous act of justification by Christ.

When you have a representative, a federal head...the act of the head is credited to everyone under him. Adam’s act gave us sin. Christ’s act offered us righteousness. What is God’s attitude toward sinners? He wants

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to give them much more...He offers grace...His grace abounds...His grace is offered in abundance. Romans, Chapter 5, Verse 17...

ROM 5:17

For if by the transgression by the one, Adam, death reigned as king through the one, and it did, much more those who receive the abundance of grace and the gift of righteousness will reign as king in the resurrection life through the One, Jesus Christ.

If you are a believer in the Lord Jesus Christ, death is no longer your king. YOU are the king, reigning through your union with Christ. Do you think of yourself as the child of a king? Does your mindset and your lifestyle resemble the mindset and the lifestyle of a child of a king? Believers ought to act like “victors valiant.” Satan, the enemy of God, seeks to deceive you, using doubt and worry and sin so you won’t know how powerful you are. Next...verses to summarize the passage under study. Romans, Chapter 5, Verse 18...

ROM 5:18

So then as through the principle of one transgression there resulted condemnation to all men, even so through the principle of one act of righteousness there resulted justification of life to all men.

Through one man...Adam...there is condemnation for all through no fault of his own. Through one man...Jesus Christ...there is salvation and righteousness and justification available as an option for all through no work of his own. Romans, Chapter 11, Verse 6...

ROM 11:6

But if salvation is by grace, and it is, it is no longer on the basis of works, otherwise the grace gift of salvation is no longer by means of grace.

This is the picture of unconditional love. The enemies of God would say otherwise...they refuse to see the love...they look at the graciousness of this no work salvation offer and distort it. It’s sad how many people are living under the Satanic deception that they have to do something to earn salvation.

Take a five-minute break.

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BREAK

*Everlasting God
Somewhere Over the Rainbow*

Welcome back! Our condemnation and our salvation is not because of what we have done. Here's the Lord Jesus Christ's message in this Romans, Chapter 5, Verses 12 to 21 passage, to the entire human race.

A MESSAGE FROM THE LORD

“Just so you are not confused, there is nothing worthy in any of you. You are all condemned at physical birth by the act of another. You are all born ‘In Adam.’ And just so you are not confused, you cannot do one single thing to save yourself.”

He backs it up with Ephesians, Chapter 2, Verses 8 and 9...

EPH 2:8-9

For by grace you have been saved through faith; and the grace the faith and the salvation is not of yourselves, it is the free gift of a gracious God; and your salvation is not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.

The Lord continues...

A MESSAGE FROM THE LORD

“I give you the option of being in union with me, and I will save you.”

He backs it up with John, Chapter 3, Verses 17 and 18...

JOH 3:17

For God the Father did not send God the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him.

JOH 3:18

He who believes in the Lord Jesus Christ is not judged; he who does not believe in the Lord Jesus Christ has been judged already, because he has not believed in the Person of the uniquely born Son of God (uniquely born...100% God and 100% Man in one person forever).

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Romans, Chapter 5, Verse 19...

ROM 5:19

For as through Adam's disobedience the many were made sinners, even so through the obedience of the Lord Jesus Christ the many will be considered righteous before God the Father.

Here's the question each of us ask ourselves as a result of this verse... "Am I a sinner in God's eyes?" If you are an unbeliever, and do not believe in Christ, if you have rejected a relationship with Christ, in God's eyes you are a sinner. Therefore you should consider yourself to be a sinner. You are "In Adam." He made you a sinner.

If you are a believer in Christ, in God's eyes you are NOT a sinner. You are "In Christ." Therefore you should NOT consider yourself to be a sinner (even though you still engage in personal sinning).

Through one unrighteous act...the transgression...Adam's act as the federal head of the human race...all were made sinners...spiritually dead ones.
Through one righteous act...the resurrection from the dead...Christ's act as the federal head of a spiritual race...all were made saints...spiritually alive ones.

To repeat, we were NOT made sinners through our own personal sins...we were made sinners through Adam's sin as the federal head of the human race. We were not innocent before the time we committed our first personal sin. Adam's sin made us guilty. We were born as children of wrath according to Ephesians, Chapter 2, Verse 3...

EPH 2:3

...we too, all of us, formerly lived in the lusts of our flesh, indulging the desires of the flesh and the desires of the mind, and all of us were, by nature, children of wrath...

But here's the beautiful thing.

Not one of your sins...not one of my sins...not one of anyone's sins...no matter how despicable you may think your sins are...no matter how despicable you may think another person's sins are...whether the person is

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an unbeliever...whether the person is a believer in Christ...no person's sins will EVER be counted against them. The Lord Jesus Christ paid for them all at the Cross. First John, Chapter 2, Verses 1 and 2 say...

1JO 2:1

My little children (believers in Christ), I (John) am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, and we do, we have an Advocate with God the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous One...

1JO 2:2

...and Jesus Christ Himself is the propitiation for our sins (the ONLY perfectly satisfactory payment in the eyes of God the Father); and not for ours (as believers in Christ) only, but also for those (sins) of the whole world (unbelievers as well).

God the Father decided that sinners could be saved one way only...by accepting the payment of the Lord Jesus Christ on their behalf, who took the wrath of God the Father on His back instead of us. What an insult to God when anyone thinks he could ever do anything that would be more pleasing to God the Father than what Jesus Christ did at the Cross. God the Father might ask you who think you can save yourself, "You think you're better than my Son?" NOT! If you don't like that, if you don't believe that, then you aren't looking at things through God's eyes.

We believers in Christ are one with Christ in His death, one with Christ in His resurrection, and one with Christ in His life. That's what the bible means when it says we are "In Christ." Therefore, in God's eyes, believers in Christ are completely acceptable to God in every way, and they are loved unconditionally. If you wonder what God is thinking about His creatures, that's it. Romans, Chapter 5, Verse 20...

ROM 5:20

The Law came in (alongside of sin) so that the transgression (law breaking) would increase (abound); but where sin (law breaking) increased (abounded), God's grace abounded (overflowed) all the more...

God gave us the law to reveal our sinful condition. Some of us break the law. Some of us think we're good enough not to break the law, we resist, then we break the law. We learn that we are indeed sinful. Then God gave

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us an overflow of grace. He promised that no matter how much we sin, we will be flooded by grace. Second Corinthians, Chapter 12, Verse 2...

2CO 12:2

I know a man “In Christ” (Paul is talking about himself here) who fourteen years ago—whether in the body (physically alive) I do not know, or out of the body (physically dead) I do not know, God knows—such a man was caught up (taken up) to the third heaven (the residence of God).

Looking ahead to Second Corinthians, Chapter 12, Verse 7...

2CO 12:7

Because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations (from my visit to the third heaven), for this reason, to keep me from exalting myself (so that I would not become conceited), there was given me a thorn in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me—to keep me from exalting myself!

All of us have a weakness we cannot conquer without God’s help.

2CO 12:8

Concerning this thorn in the flesh, I implored the Lord three times that it might leave me.

2CO 12:9

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

God floods us with grace, and it is totally sufficient. Romans, Chapter 5, Verse 21...

ROM 5:21

...so that, just as “In Adam” sin reigned in death, even so grace would reign through righteousness to eternal life through union with Jesus Christ our Lord (“In Christ”).

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Our condemnation is based on Adam’s act...just as the condemnation of angelic creatures was based on Satan’s act...and salvation comes through Christ’s act.

Angels in the Supreme Court of heaven are looking down on us at this very moment to see exactly why Satan and the fallen angels are destined for the Lake of Fire...for their refusal to reconcile their broken relationship with Christ, and not because of an unrighteous act on their part...not for breaking the law, but for rejecting Christ. First Corinthians, Chapter 4, Verse 9...

1CO 4:9

For, I (Paul) think, God the Father has exhibited us apostles last of all, as men condemned to death; because we have become a spectacle to the world, both to angels and to men.

In the first century, in The Coliseum at Rome, one version of entertainment for fifty to eighty thousand people was to watch Christians being executed for their faith. A frequent question in the minds of the natural men who looked on in horror as Christians were mauled by lions was, “Why would someone want to die for these beliefs?”

It’s pretty easy for me to see why they would die. If me dying advances the cause of the One who died for me, I am willing to do it.

Our condemnation and our salvation is not because of what we have done, but because of what has been done by the one who represents us. Who represents you?

The Promises of the Lord Jesus Christ

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

ACT 16:31

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

JOH 14:6

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Jesus said to doubting Thomas, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through believing in Me.

JOH 3:36

He who believes in the Son has eternal life (the ZOE life); but he who does not obey the (command to believe in the) Son will not see (the Zoe) life, but instead the wrath of God the Father abides on him.”

CLOSING SONG

You Raise Me Up

CLOSING PRAYER

Let us pray...

THANKS - INTERCESSION - PETITION

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

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