

Make Sure You Know Who the Judge (The Righteous Judge) Is!

Romans 2 Teaching

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Romans 2:1-11, "Therefore you are inexcusable, O man, whoever you are who judge, for in whatever you judge another you condemn yourself; for you who judge practice the same things. [2] But we know that the judgment of God is according to truth against those who practice such things. [3] And do you think this, O man, you who judge those practicing such things, and doing the same, that you will escape the judgment of God? [4] Or do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance? [5] But in accordance with your hardness and your impenitent heart you are treasuring up for yourself wrath in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God, [6] who "will render to each one according to his deeds": [7] eternal life to those who by patient continuance in doing good seek for glory, honor, and immortality; [8] but to those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness—indignation and wrath, [9] tribulation and anguish, on every soul of man who does evil, of the Jew first and also of the Greek; [10] but glory, honor, and peace to everyone who works what is good, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. [11] For there is no partiality with God.

Key Truths:

- ***We have no excuse to judge….when we do such things as what the sinner does!***
- ***God will give to each person according to what he has done.***
- ***God expects the same from all…He shows no favoritism.***

Four (4) Truths:

1. ***If we say we have special privileges, because of race, creed, color…or even as a nation, we are treading on the mercy of God.***
2. ***If we think, because of having our name inscribed in the Book of Life or, that we as a nation (Israel or United States), think that God has granted us a license to judge in lieu of being judged, we are being foolish and have an unrepentant, selfish heart.***

3. ***There is no "most favored Christian" or group of people in God's Kingdom….God says, "you are either for me or against me." No gray areas…in God's method of judgment.***
4. ***There is a great blending together of faith and works. Paul made it very clear that "a faith which did not issue in deeds was a travesty of faith. In fact, it was not faith at all."***

God's test of faith….

- ***The blood test***
- ***Does the DNA match God's Son's Blood?***
  D = Doer's of the Word and Not Hearers only.
  N = Name written in the Lamb's Book of Life;
  Next of Kin with Jesus. Definition of Next of Kin: those blood relatives of a person who in case of his death will be entitled to his estate.
  A = Atoned;
  Reconciliation between God and man found in the mediator..Jesus Christ.
- ***Do the actions match the words of the one he came to believe in?***

"Don't you know my plans for you; plans to prosper you and not to harm you. Plans to give you a hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11 Prerequisite to being in God's plan: You must accept His plan…and act on it.

Romans 2:12-16, "For as many as have sinned without law will also perish without law, and as many as have sinned in the law will be judged by the law [13] (for not the hearers of the law are just in the sight of God, but the doers of the law will be justified; [14] for when Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do the things in the law, these, although not having the law, are a law to themselves, [15] who show the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and between themselves their thoughts accusing or else excusing them) [16] in the day when God will judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ, according to my gospel.

Key Truths: It is not the hearers of the law who are counted as righteous…it is the doers of the law who will be counted righteous…in that day when God judges the hidden things of men according to the gospel through Jesus Christ.

The Jews had the law…they were expected to keep it.

The Gentiles did not have the law written down…but, they have it in their nature to know right from wrong. They have no excuse. Paul's argument was that in the very nature of man there is an instinctive knowledge of what he ought to do.

Neither Jew nor Gentile can claim exemption from the judgment of God. The Jew will be judged as to what is written and the Gentile as to what is written on the conscience.
The question: What did you do with what you knew?

How can we know we have been saved?

- ***Have you asked God to forgive you of your trespasses…sins that you know that you have committed?***
- ***Have you repented of those sins (turned from those sins…and desired a better way of life?)***
- ***Have you asked God to write your name in His book of life?***
- ***Are you living according to God's principles…what He has instructed us to do and not do?***
- ***When you fail God, do you truly ask God to forgive you and desire to not do that sin again?***
- ***Do you treasure the Word of God in your heart? Do you honor the family name?***

It is not what you have done for God…it is what God has done for you that makes us desire to do the things that He wants and desires us to do.
Ask yourself….is it for my honor or His honor that I do the work of Christ who saved me?

"For as many as received Him, to them gave them the power to become the Sons of God."

Romans 2:17 – 29, Indeed you are called a Jew, and rest[b] on the law, and make your boast in God, [18] and know His will, and approve the things that are excellent, being instructed out of the law, [19] and are confident that you yourself are a guide to the blind, a light to those who are in darkness, [20] an instructor of the foolish, a teacher of babes, having the form of knowledge and truth in the law. [21] You, therefore, who teach another, do you not teach yourself? You who preach that a man should not steal, do you steal? [22] You who say, "Do not commit adultery," do you commit adultery? You who abhor idols, do you rob temples? [23] You who make your boast in the law, do you dishonor God through breaking the law? [24] For "the name of God is blasphemed

among the Gentiles because of you," as it is written.[25] For circumcision is indeed profitable if you keep the law; but if you are a breaker of the law, your circumcision has become uncircumcision. [26] Therefore, if an uncircumcised man keeps the righteous requirements of the law, will not his uncircumcision be counted as circumcision? [27] And will not the physically uncircumcised, if he fulfills the law, judge you who, even with your [c]written code and circumcision, are a transgressor of the law? [28] For he is not a Jew who is one outwardly, nor is circumcision that which is outward in the flesh; [29] but he is a Jew who is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the Spirit, not in the letter; whose [d]praise is not from men but from God.

In this passage, Paul lets the Jews know (and Paul was one) that God is no respecter of persons. God shows no favoritism.
Jesus called the leaders of the Jews (Pharisees and Sadducees):

- ***Hypocrites***
- ***White-washed sepulchres (you try to polish up something that identifies the dead; you house the dead)***
- ***Thieves***
- ***Part of a wicked and adulterous generation***

Paul was saying at this point:

- ***Being a descendent of David…and part of Abraham's covenant does not mean anything unless the inward traits…and your actions from the heart match your outward dedication…your actions seen on the outside.***
- ***Circumcision to the Jew shows you are a Jew…only an outward sign of a covenant relationship. It is like a ring on the finger of a married person; it identifies the person as in a covenant relationship…but, it doesn't keep that person from dishonoring the relationship.***

  Paul says it is "the circumcision of the heart that God looks at, the keeping of the covenant in the heart…not the outward sign of obedience to the law when it is for show only."
- ***Gentiles have despised you for "abusing your relationship of special ties;" and "not living up to what you preach and teach."***
- ***Paul enjoyed and honored his heritage (being a Jew). He realized that his ethnic background was both a privilege and a hindrance.***
  - ✓ ***"Privilege" because He was a part of a great and honorable people that God loved and had entered into a covenant relationship.***
  - ✓ ***"Hindrance" because the actions of his people in the past (himself included) had made it difficult to be accepted amongst the Gentiles.***

Paul had a real difficult time relating to any race, any religious, any group of peoples….He had "betrayed their confidence"…in their way of thinking.

If the heart is corrupted and has been dishonored, you might fool men and get praise from them…but, not God.
If the heart of man has been circumcised by the Spirit, God is honored and praised.
What sins do you harbor in your mind?

What sins do we want to "overlook" and try to put over in the corner…or hide in the closet to pull out and use at times?

If the leaders of the Jews who had the law failed miserably in keeping the law in secret, what reason to believe that we who are "born in sin" will be able to escape from the sin temptations?

What do we have within us to keep us from yielding to the temptations of sin? 1 Corinthians 10:13

Is there any way that we can legitimately judge others if we have "sin in the camp of our hearts?"

Why do we feel that our prayers will be answered IF WE HAVE HIDDEN SINS IN OUR LIVES?

REMEMBER: HAVE FAITH IN GOD…NOT IN YOUR PRAYERS ALONE! We pray…but, we must make sure we have repented of our sins before we should expect God to answer our petitions to Him.
GOD IS FAITHFUL….EVEN WHEN WE ARE AMONGST UNFAITHFUL AND UNRELIABLE CHRISTIANS!



Isaiah 40:31, "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

Jeremiah 31:37, "This is what the Lord says:
'Only if the heavens above can be measured and foundations of the earth below be searched out will I reject all the descendants of Israel because of all they have done,' declares the Lord."

Romans 3:1 – 8, "What advantage then has the Jew, or what is the profit of circumcision? [2] Much in every way! Chiefly because to them were committed the oracles of God. [3] For what if some did not believe? Will their unbelief make the faithfulness of God without effect? [4] Certainly not! Indeed, let God be true but every man a liar. As it is written: "That You may be justified in Your words, And may overcome when You are judged." [5] But if our unrighteousness demonstrates the righteousness of God, what shall we say? Is God unjust who inflicts wrath? (I speak as a man.) [6] Certainly not! For then how will God judge the world?
[7] For if the truth of God has increased through my lie to His glory, why am I also still judged as a sinner? [8] And why not say, "Let us do evil that good may come"?—as we are slanderously reported and as some affirm that we say. Their condemnation is just.

A great title for this session would be"
"God's fidelity and Man's Infidelity."

Fidelity = careful observance of duty, or discharge of obligations; loyalty; adherence to the marriage contract; exactness, as in a copy.
Infidelity = breach of trust; unfaithfulness to a charge or a moral obligation; an unfaithful act; marriage unfaithfulness; adultery; lack of belief in a certain religion.

In this particular passage Paul carries on an argument with an imaginary objector.
Certain basic thoughts of Paul about the Jews:

- ***He believed the Jews to be in a special position in regard to God.***
  Paul believed that their special position was one of special responsibility; the Jews believed it to be on of special privilege.
  God entrusted the Jews with the Ten Commandments…not a privilege, but a responsibility goes with that.
  God said to them, "You are a special people; therefore, you must live a special life."

He did not say, "You are a special people; therefore you can do what you like."
He did say, "You are a special people; therefore you must do what I like."
God's special choice was for special duty.

- ***All through Paul's writings there are three basic facts presented about the Jews:***
  1. ***God was justified in being harder on the Jews in discipline. The more opportunity a man has to do right, the greater his condemnation if he does wrong.***
  2. ***Not all the Jews were unfaithful.***
     Paul never forgot the faithful remnant.
  3. ***Paul was always sure that God's rejection of Israel was not final.***

This passage contains two (2) great universal human truths:

(1) The root of all sin is disobedience.
(2) Once a man has sinned, he displays an amazing ingenuity in justifying his sin
(When a man sins, the need is not for ingenuity to justify his sin, but for humility to confess it in penitence and in shame).

Romans 3: 9 – 18, "What then? Are we better than they? Not at all. For we have previously charged both Jews and Greeks that they are all under sin.[10] As it is written: "There is none righteous, no, not one;[11] There is none who understands; There is none who seeks after God. [12] They have all turned aside; They have together become unprofitable; There is none who does good, no, not one." [13] "Their throat is an open [a]tomb; With their tongues they have practiced deceit"; "The poison of asps is under their lips"; [14] "Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness."[15] "Their feet are swift to shed blood [16] Destruction and misery are in their ways; [17] And the way of peace they have not known." [18] "There is no fear of God before their eyes."

The Jews and Gentiles are a like….we are sinners.

- ***Under the same power of sin***
- ***Under the same condemnation for that sin***
- ***Under the same destructive course without Christ.***

Verse 12 is interesting…It states, "all have gone out of the way, they have together become worthless….unprofitable, gone wrong, gone bad…..Greek word, achreioo…meaning "to render useless"…
Like milk that has gone sour.

Human nature without Christ is a soured and useless thing.

It is a terrible description of human nature in its Christless state. It describes three (3) things about this human nature (without Christ):

- ***(1) A character…whose characteristics are ignorance, indifference, crookedness and unprofitableness.***
- ***(2) A tongue…whose notes are destructive, deceitful, malignant.***
- ***(3) A conduct…whose marks are oppression and injurious.***

There is none good…none righteous….not one!

All of this…is the result of disregard for God.

For Paul…he saw the evil of human nature very clearly…
Yet, to him…the evil nature was not a call to hopelessness…..but a challenge to hope.
We are to say to ourselves….when memory starts to fail…we are to remember, not to ever forget this….that
"I am a great sinner and that Jesus Christ is a great Savior."

Every act of terror…is the result of a sinful nature.
Every act of sin….is the result of disobedience…and a rebellious, selfish heart.

Paul never underrated the sin of man
And
He never underrated the redeeming power of Jesus Christ!