

*Expositional Preaching from the Authorized Version of the Holy Bible*  
Current Book: Romans – Message 8

2017 VISION: *Prioritizing God*

**Scriptures for Today: Romans 2:1-16 – The righteous judgment of God; Paul’s gospel declared.**

**Title of Today’s Message: In Light of Judgment Day – *Understanding the truth of God’s judgment.***

## INTRODUCTION

Last week, we saw recorded and preserved forever in the Word of God a list of sins – crimes **AGAINST** God – which are done by people who have rejected God’s light and truth. They are crimes that are punishable in God’s courtroom by death and an eternal hell. The progression of sin leads God to give people over to a reprobate mind – spiritual darkness. The most shocking truth may just be that people **KNOW** the deserved judgment of God is coming for their crimes against Him, and yet they not only continue in them but have **PLEASURE** in others doing them! Today, we will see Paul under the inspiration of the Holy Ghost take an entire chapter to detail specifics about the righteous judgment of God. The crimes presented in chapter 1 must be considered in light of the manner in which all people will be judged by God. We will discover that the Bible is very clear – there is a **DAY** coming in which **God shall judge** the **SECRETS** of men **by** Jesus Christ. And, this truth of judgment coming and the responsible and accountability of all people towards God for the light and truth He has given is a leading tenant in the gospel that Paul preached! Sometimes, God makes things very simple for us to see in the Bible when we read and study. The word “*law*” is recorded **21** times in chapter 2!

## PREACHING NOTES

1. Romans chapter 2 begins with *the judgment of God* as its **CONTEXT** and content.

- ✓ We are **sure** that *the judgment of God* is according to truth against **those who sin against God**.

Genesis 18:25            “Shall not **the Judge** of all the earth do right?”

Romans 3:4            “God forbid: yea, **let God be true**, but every man a liar...”

NOTE            When Paul wrote this letter to the Romans, he wanted to put all those crimes against God in their proper context. Why does it matter what a person does? Why should we care? God is the Judge of all the earth, and He cares! God will do what is right! God’s judgment is just.

- ✓ Some people’s sin is open and obvious while others speak against sin and **do the SAME things**.

1 Timothy 5:24            “Some men’s sins are open beforehand, going before to judgment; and some men they follow after.”

Numbers 32:23            “Behold, ye have sinned against the LORD; and be sure your sin will find you out.”

Matthew 15:7-8            “**Ye hypocrites**, well did Esais prophesy of you, saying, This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me.”

Matthew 23:13, 14, 15, 23, 25, 27, 29    “**Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites!**”

Luke 18:11            “The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, **God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican.**”

Job 27:8            “For **what is the hope of the hypocrite**, though he hath gained, when God taketh away his soul?”

NOTE            The hypocrite looks at the list in chapter 1 and says in his heart, “*Those people are wretched sinners! I am glad that I am not like them.*” Yet, he is a miserable sinner also! The hypocrite will NOT escape the judgment of God no matter what he thinks! God is just and holy. Jesus rebuked hypocrites to the face. We must be careful not to be hypocrites (*as Laodiceans*)!!

- ✓ God's wrath is **stored up** against those with a hard, impenitent heart **who refuse to repent**.
  - 2 Chronicles 30:8 *"Now **be ye NOT stiffnecked**, as your fathers...but yield yourselves unto the LORD...and serve the LORD your God, that the fierceness of his wrath may turn away from you."*
  - Psalms 95:8 *"**Harden not your heart**, as in the provocation, and as in the day of temptation..."*
  - Isaiah 30:13 *"Therefore **this iniquity shall be to you as a breach ready to fall**, swelling out in a high wall, whose breaking cometh **SUDDENLY at an instant.**"*
  - Ezekiel 33:11 *"Say unto them, **As I live, saith the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked**; but that the wicked TURN from his way and live: TURN YE, TURN YE from your evil ways; for **WHY WILL YE DIE, O house of Israel?**"*

NOTE      What a dreadful thought that sinners have wrath being stored up against them for their sin against God! God has no pleasure in their destruction. And, the goodness of God is even now leading people in love and mercy and grace to repentance, but they despise it. **TURN!**

- ✓ Every person **makes a choice to obey or disobey** truth and will bear the **eternal consequences**.
  - Deuteronomy 30:19 *"I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: **therefore choose life**"*
  - Joshua 24:15 *"And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, **choose you this day whom ye will serve**"*

NOTE      The responsibility falls entirely on each individual. God has given every person the choice. He is not a respecter of persons. He gives to each what is deserved. He does not desire for someone to spend eternity in torment in hell. If He did, He would not have sent His Son!! He did not create robots who could not choose to disobey Him. He created people with light and truth in them and gave them freedom to choose to love Him back. Most do not.

## 2. In **THE DAY** when God **shall JUDGE** the *secrets of men* **by Jesus Christ** according to MY gospel.

- ✓ *All Gentiles* will be judged and sentenced by the light given them and the **LAW** in their hearts.
- ✓ *All Jews* will be judged and sentenced by the light given them and the **LAW** given to them.
  - John 1:9 *"That was the true Light, **which lighteth every man** that cometh into the world."*
  - Romans 2:15 *"Which **shew the work of THE LAW** written in their hearts..."*
  - Acts 7:53 *"Who have **received THE LAW** by the disposition of angels, and have not kept it."*
  - Galatians 2:21-22 *"For **if there had been a law given** which **COULD HAVE given life**, verily righteousness **SHOULD HAVE BEEN by the law**. But the scripture hath concluded ALL under sin..."*

NOTE      When Gentiles (like us) do by nature the things contained in the Law, we prove to ourselves and others the moral law is **IN** us from birth! To this inner moral law, we are responsible and held accountable. This is important truth Paul wanted the Romans (*and us*) to know!

- ✓ There is a **DAY of judgment** coming in which all crimes against Almighty God will be **revealed**.
  - Hebrews 9:27 *"And as it is **appointed unto men once to die**, but after this THE JUDGMENT"*
  - Acts 17:30-31 *"And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but **now commandeth all men every where TO REPENT: Because he hath appointed a day**, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that **he hath raised him from the dead.**"*

NOTE      Modern churches and bibles have removed "*judgment*" [KJV 294 in 285 verses; NIV 132 in 128 verses; NASB 158 in 151 verses; RSV 173 in 166 verses; NKJV 190 times in 186 verses] from THEIR vocabulary and gospel. Yet, this truth is the leading tenant of the gospel Paul preached and that which was committed to his trust! In context, verse 16 teaches that THE GOSPEL given to him directly from Jesus Christ is also A LAW! In other words, you must obey it or perish!