

**A Warning to the Self-Righteous**  
**Romans 2:1-5**  
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**I. Recognize our self-righteousness (vv. 1-3).**

**A. We think too highly of our own righteousness (v. 1).**

We have a “tendency to be critical of everybody except ourselves. We are often as harsh in our judgment of others as we are lenient towards ourselves.” – John Stott

“[People] are forced to keep themselves in their own favour by observing the imperfections of other men.” - Thomas Hobbes

**B. We think too lowly of God's righteousness (vv. 2-3)**

**II. Respond to God's grace with repentance (vv. 4-5).**

**A. Self-righteousness presumes on God's grace (v. 4).**

Luke 13:4-5

<sup>4</sup>Or those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them: do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others who lived in Jerusalem? <sup>5</sup>No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.

2 Peter 3:9

<sup>9</sup>The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.

“God's purpose in his kindness is not to excuse sin but to stimulate repentance.”  
Douglas Moo

“Repentance means admitting specific wrong, recognizing your offensiveness to God, changing course, turning to Christ, and wishing with all your heart you had never made the mistake you now despise.” –Kevin DeYoung

### 95 Theses by Martin Luther

1. When our Lord and Master, Jesus Christ, said ‘repent’, he meant that the entire life of believers should be one of repentance.

Self-righteousness is the arch-nemesis of the gospel of Christ.

### **B. Self-righteousness intensifies God’s wrath (v. 5).**

<sup>5</sup> But because of your hard and impenitent heart you are storing up wrath for yourself on the day of wrath when God’s righteous judgment will be revealed.

Romans 3:23-24      <sup>23</sup> for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, <sup>24</sup> and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.