

- I) V1-5 INTRO: Therefore you are inexcusable, O man, **whoever you are** who
In Ch. 1 Paul made it clear that God deals severely with those practicing sin
Ro 1:18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against **all ungodliness
and unrighteousness of men** who suppress the truth in unrighteousness
- II) He said that God had given witness to His own existence
He did so through conscience, and through creation
- III) Even though man has these witnesses, he still rejects them
His conscience can be seared, and creation can be worshiped
Professing to be wise, they became fools and as a result, worshiped creation
- IV) They worshiped idols of **humans, birds, 4 footed animals** and **creeping things**
Not only this, but they began to engage in improper sexual relationships
V26-27 The list of sins begins with same sex relationships
- V) I mentioned that **homosexuality** is mentioned first
Women/men exchanging **the natural use** for what is **unnatural** is condemned
Paul said they receive in themselves the **penalty of their error which was due**
- VI) The solution to such sins is receiving the truth of the gospel (V16)
The gospel is the **power of God** to anyone **who believes**
Pete
- VII) Gary Pomona Valley
Becky/Frank: changed through the Spirit and the Word
- VIII) V29-31 list various sins that can typify the one who does not know God
At first reading, many non-Christians agree that such behavior is wrong
There are many people who disapprove of this kind of behavior
- IX) Some people have high moral standards: They may be, and often are, religious
QUESTION: How does God deal with those who are considered **good people**?
- X) Here he makes it clear that even those considered good still do **bad things**
- I) V1 You are inexcusable, O man, whoever you are who judge, for in whatever

Ch 1 made it clear that the Gentile nations are without God

Eph 2:12 remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and **without God** in the world.

II) Ch 2:17 makes it clear that this chapter is primarily speaking of Jews

III) Here Paul reveals that unbelieving Jews who considered Gentiles unworthy of God are still inexcusable because they are guilty of the same sins, and will not escape judgment

IV) V2 But we know that **the judgment of God** is according to truth against those God judges according to the facts and not outer appearance
Jn 7:24 Do not judge according to appearance, but judge with righteous judgment

V) God's judgment is impartial and untainted
Ps 9:7-8 The LORD reigns forever; he has established his throne for judgment. He will judge the world **in righteousness**

VI) V2 God's judgment is against those **who practice** such things
Christian's sin, but it is not our way of life
1 Jn 3:6 No-one who lives in him **keeps on sinning**; No one who continues to sin has either seen him or known him.

VII) V3 And do you think this O man, you who judge those practicing such things
We need to remember how much God hates hypocrisy
The Pharisees were guilty of this sin
Mt 23:27-28 Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs, which indeed appear beautiful **outwardly**, but inside are full of dead men's bones and all uncleanness. Even so you also outwardly appear righteous to men, but inside you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness (Did not love, which fulfills the Law).

VIII) V3 **Thought**: Do you think you can get away with this because you are Jewish

I) In order to be saved from judgment, you must receive Christ

It is Jesus who paid our sins, and it is Jesus who saves us from judgment

Heb. 2:2-3 For if the message spoken by angels was binding, and every violation and disobedience received its just punishment, how **shall we escape** if we ignore such a great salvation? This salvation, which was first announced by the Lord, was confirmed to us by those who heard him.

II) V4 Or do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and
This gives us insight into heart of God
He provided for those who have broken His law

III) V4 Do you despise **the riches** of His goodness, forbearance and longsuffering
Despise: undervalue, underestimate, think lightly of, disregard
Riches: Superabundance; abounding; exceeding our greatest desires
Goodness: His moral goodness; His **kindness** exercised towards us
Forbearance: He has put up with us; restraint from revealing displeasure
Longsuffering: He has not acted immediately when we deserved punishment

IV) The question is: Why is God holding back His judgment
He holds back because He desires to save the rebels from judgment
2 Pe 3:9 The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

Ezek 33:11 Say to them, 'As surely as I live, declares the LORD, I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that they turn from their ways and live. Turn! Turn from your evil ways! Why will you die, O house of Israel?'

V) V4 Not knowing that the **goodness of God** leads to repentance
God's goodness is revealed in the sending of Jesus
Mt 13:45-46 The kingdom of heaven is like a merchant, seeking beautiful pearls: Who, when he had found one pearl of **great price**, went and sold all that he had, and bought it.

VI) V5 But in accordance with your **hardness** and your **impenitent** heart you are
Hardness: Stubborn; it is hardened because of a life of sin and is callused
Impenitent: Unrepentant; unwilling to change

I) V5 You are **treasuring up** for yourselves wrath in the day of wrath
Instead of laying up treasures in heaven, you are treasuring up wrath

- II) The day of wrath is when God executes His wrath against sinners
It is fully revealed on the final day of Judgment, when unbelievers are judged
Eph 5:6 Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of such things **God's wrath** comes on those who are **disobedient**.
- III) Your guilt is accumulating over time, but the punishment is meted out fast
They refuse to trust in Jesus and as a result will be judged
Jn 8:24 if you do not believe that I am He, you will die in your sins.
- IV) The result of rejecting Jesus: Wrath comes in the day of wrath
You are treasuring up for yourself wrath in the day of wrath
- V) **Treasuring up: Accumulating**; gathering and storing up
Your bank account is filled, and you will receive just penalty for your life
Eccl 12:14 For God will bring every work into judgment, including every secret thing, whether good or evil.
- VI) V6 Who will render to each one according to his deeds
This is God's final judgment on sinful humanity
- VII) What criteria will be used for His judgment?
- VIII) FIRST: God will render to each one **according to his deeds**
We need to understand: We are saved by grace apart from works
Eph 2:8-9 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith --and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God--not by works, so that no one can boast.
- IX) Our works are the evidence of true saving faith
Our salvation produces works that demonstrate we have been saved
Jas 2:17 faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead
Eph 2:10 For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.
- I) With this is mind Paul draws a contrast between believers and non-believers
Truly born-again believers will evidence their regeneration by certain works
V7, 10 Seeking glory, honor, and immortality, and working what is good

- II) V7 Notice that Paul says that genuine believers seek **for glory**
Genuine believers seek to bring God glory, which fuels and directs our lives
Mt 5:16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.
1 Co 10:31 Whether, then, you eat or drink or **whatever you do**, do all to the **glory of God**
- III) Believers also desire to go to heaven, to be with the Lord and receive glory
2 Ti 2:10 For this reason I endure all things for the sake of those who are chosen, so that they also may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus and with it eternal glory.
Ro 8:30 Those He predestined, He also called; those He called, He also justified; those He justified, He also glorified.
- IV) **Second**: We desire honor **from God**, and not people
Not worldly accolades, but to hear Jesus' voice of commendation
Mt 25:21 **Well done**, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!
- V) Third: We desire **eternal life** (immortality) fellowship with God, length of days
One day, this dying body will put on life
1 Co 15:53 this perishable body must put on the imperishable (**unending existence**), and this mortal must put on **immortality** (freedom from death; deathlessness)
Eternal life: Age abiding life, a quality of life
Jn 17:3
- VI) V8-9 But to those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth but obey
In contrast to this kind of life Paul speaks of the lifestyle of the unbeliever
Self-seeking: No place for anyone else, **self-absorbed**
This divides the body of Christ and brings strife into it
- I) The one who is **self-seeking** only thinks of themselves
Because of this, they tend to ignore or even not see other people's needs
Jas 3:16 For where envy and **self-seeking** exist, confusion and every evil thing is there

- II) One of the sad things about being self-seeking is the sin is often unrecognized
It is the trait of the narcissist, climbing over people to gain a position
Lu 11:43 Woe to you Pharisees, **because you love** the most important seats in the synagogues and respectful greetings in the marketplace
- III) They just don't see this sin in themselves
They are unable to have friendships if the friendship doesn't promote them
They desire relationships with the influential, using them as **steppingstones**
- IV) V8 **Disobedient**: Rebellious towards God (Ro 8:7)
This is in the nature of the unsaved: refusing to obey God
Eph 2:2 in which you *once walked* following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is **now at work in the sons of disobedience**
- V) **Unrighteous**: Unwilling to follow the Lord
Unrighteousness speaks of wickedness, injustice, morally wrong
They have yielded themselves to sin, and are servants of sin
Ro 6:16 Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves whom you obey, whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness?
- VI) Their future: Indignation, wrath, tribulation, and anguish
They will receive judgment for their works and will perish for eternity
Jer 17:10 I the LORD search the heart, I try the reins, even **to give every man according to his ways**, and according to the **fruit of his doings**.
Jn 5:28-29 Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, and shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation.
- I) V9 **tribulation** and **anguish** on every soul of man who does evil of the Jew
Tribulation speaks of being pressed down, burdened
This speaks of the incredible pressing down of the reality of the result of sin
- II) V9 anguish, which speaks of narrowness of a place you are in; lack of room
It refers to the anxiety and distress of mind that will be experienced

It speaks of the anxiety of being closed in, with no escape from punishment

- III) This will fall upon every person, not just of body but is spiritual punishment
It is anguish in the deepest part of man: it reminds us of Lazarus and Dives**
- IV) V9 to the Jew first and also to the Greek
This is going to apply to all of humanity, Jew and Greek alike**
- V) The Jewish people were and are a very privileged people in God's economy
They had the Law, the prophets, the Temple, the promises, and Messiah
These were great blessings, and made them more guilty**
- VI) The Gentiles will also be held accountable for what they know and do
Paul had already referred to conscience and creation
How they responded to these witnesses will be part of their judgment**
- VII) V10 but glory honor and peace to everyone who works what is good
The one working what is good has trusted Jesus, not just good works**
- VIII) V11 For there is no partiality with God
It speaks of those who have received Jesus**
- IX) This speaks of everlasting joy of believers, both Jew and Gentile alike
Ro 10:12 For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same
Lord is Lord of all, abounding in riches for all who call on Him**