

ROMANS 2:1-16
GOD'S JUDGMENT & OURS

A FEW REMINDERS ABOUT PAUL'S PURPOSE IN WRITING ROMANS AND THE 1ST CHAPTER

- Longest letter and most detailed in setting out Paul's soteriology
- Written to the church and saints in Rome that is a combination of Jewish and gentile believers, and Paul addresses both audiences in various ways in this epistle
- Paul starts with and commits 15% of this epistle to hamartiology – the study of sin starting in 1:18-32 (notice the pronouns)
- Paul is establishing the really, really bad news before he announces the great news of the Gospel

ROMANS 2:1-2

- You, therefore, have no excuse, you who pass judgment on someone else, for at whatever point you judge another, you are condemning yourself, because you who pass judgment do the same things. Now we know that God's judgment against those who do such things is based on truth. (NIV)
- 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. But we know that the judgment of God is according to truth against those who practice such things. (NKJV)

CHARACTERISTICS OF GOD'S JUDGMENT OF MANKIND

- God's judgment is according to truth -- vs. 2 (in contrast to 1:18)

ROMANS 2:1-6

- You, therefore, have no excuse, you who pass judgment on someone else, for at whatever point you judge another, you are condemning yourself, because you who pass judgment do the same things. Now we know that God's judgment against those who do such things is based on truth. So when you, a mere human being, pass judgment on them and yet do the same things, do you think you will escape God's judgment? Or do you show contempt for the riches of his kindness, forbearance and patience, not realizing that God's kindness is intended to lead you to repentance?
- But because of your stubbornness and your unrepentant heart, you are storing up wrath against yourself for the day of God's wrath, when his righteous judgment will be revealed. God "will repay each person according to what they have done".

CHARACTERISTICS OF GOD'S JUDGMENT OF MANKIND

- God's judgment is according to truth -- vs. 2 (in contrast to 1:18)
- God's judgment is righteous --- vs. 5
- God's judgment is based on what we do -- vs. 6, 7, 9, 10, 12-15
 - 2 Corinthians 5:6-10. "We must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad"
 - Rev. 20:11-15

ROMANS 2:7-11

To those who by persistence in doing good seek glory, honor and immortality, he will give eternal life. But for those who are self-seeking and who reject the truth and follow evil, there will be wrath and anger. There will be trouble and distress for every human being who does evil: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile; but glory, honor and peace for everyone who does good: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile. For God does not show favoritism.

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 - Rev. 20:11-15
- God's judgment brings sure delight or sure dread and distress -- vs. 7-10
- God's judgment is impartial and fair -- vs. 11

ROMANS 2:12-16

All who sin apart from the law will also perish apart from the law, and all who sin under the law will be judged by the law. For it is not those who hear the law who are righteous in God's sight, but it is those who obey the law who will be declared righteous. (Indeed, when Gentiles, who do not have the law, do by nature things required by the law, they are a law for themselves, even though they do not have the law. They show that the requirements of the law are written on their hearts, their consciences also bearing witness, and their thoughts sometimes accusing them and at other times even defending them.) This will take place on the day when God judges people's secrets through Jesus Christ, as my gospel declares.

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- God's judgment is sure and specific – vs. 16

SO WHAT?

1. Please don't play roulette with your life and the eternal ramifications of your choice regarding Jesus.
2. Pray more heartily, more fervently, more consistently for those in your life who are lost without Jesus and be prepared for those moments when the Spirit says to you "now go and share what I put on your heart to share."
3. We more deeply acknowledge the depth of wrath and anger that was rightly due ourselves, and live from even more overwhelmingly grateful hearts for Jesus, our sin-eater and redeemer.