



CHURCH | AT | BERGEN

COMMUNITY GROUP - QUESTION ONLY

Romans | Season 2, Ep. 1 | 2:1-5

Monday, April 20 - Sunday, April 26 (Week 12)

This Sunday, Pastor Mike began Romans Season 2 titled, "The Judgment of God" and we looked at Romans 2:1-5. Last week in Romans 1, Paul described the sinfulness of pagan culture, people who not only sin but celebrate and encourage others in their sin. Paul called them "progressive immoralists."

But in chapter 2, Paul turns his attention to a different, and equally dangerous, type of person: the religious hypocrite inside the church. These are people who condemn the sins of others while secretly practicing the same things themselves.

Paul's main point is this: Religious, judgmental hypocrites are just as evil, if not worse, than progressive immoralists, and they have no excuse before God.

Why worse? Because at least the progressive immoralist is consistent. What they say and what they do match. But the religious hypocrite contradicts themselves, condemning in others what they excuse in themselves. And this hypocrisy is incredibly destructive, it drives people away from Jesus, damages faith, and brings shame to Christ's name.

Paul asks a piercing question in verse 3: "Do you suppose that you will escape the judgment of God?" Then he exposes the root problem in verse 4: these people are presuming on God's kindness, patience, and forbearance, misunderstanding God's purpose.

God's kindness isn't meant to excuse our sin, it's meant to lead us to repentance.

When we experience blessing and God doesn't immediately judge our sin, that's not a green light to keep sinning. It's His patience giving us time to turn back to Him. But if we refuse to repent and keep taking advantage of His kindness, we're "storing up wrath" for judgment day.

The sermon ended with a challenging question: Are you more passionate about condemning the sins "out there" in culture than you are about killing sin in your own heart? Are you living a daily life of repentance?

The good news? For those who repent and trust in Christ, the debt is canceled, Jesus absorbed God's wrath on the cross for us.





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QUESTION #1 - The sermon asked: "Are you more outraged and angry at the sins and evils of the culture than you are by the sins and evils in your own heart?" Be honest . . . when you scroll on social media or watch the news, what gets you more fired up: cultural issues "out there" or your own need for repentance? Why do you think that is?

QUESTION #2 - Pastor Mike defined one of sin's greatest powers as "its unlimited capacity to make excuses for itself." He listed examples like "I'm tired," "I deserve it," or "I'll repent tomorrow." What's your most common excuse for a specific sin pattern in your life? What would it look like to stop making that excuse this week?

QUESTION #3 - Romans 2:4 says God's kindness is meant to lead us to repentance, not to excuse our sin. In the sermon, Pastor Mike asked: "If your life is much better than you deserve, are you living a life of repentance?" Where in your life might you be presuming on God's kindness or taking His blessings for granted while remaining comfortable in unrepentant sin?

QUESTION #4 - The sermon ended with a sobering warning about storing up wrath, but also the beautiful truth that "when a sinner confesses and repents, the debt is instantly canceled" through Christ. How does understanding that Jesus absorbed God's wrath for your sin change the way you approach daily repentance? Does it feel like freedom or obligation, and why?

