



# CHURCH | AT | BERGEN

## COMMUNITY GROUP - QUESTION ONLY

Romans | Season 2, Ep. 2 | 2:6-11

Monday, April 27 - Sunday, May 3 (Week 13)

### Overview

In this sermon, we explored one of the most challenging, and ultimately hopeful, passages in Romans. Paul presents us with a sobering reality: God will judge every person according to their works, placing them into one of two categories: the righteous or the unrighteous.

### The Two Categories

The Righteous (verses 7, 10) are described as those who "by patience in well doing seek for glory and honor and immortality" and will receive eternal life. These words: glory, honor, peace, and immortality, echo what Adam and Eve had in the Garden of Eden before the fall. God's original promise was simple: "Do this and live." Obey perfectly, and you inherit eternal life. The Unrighteous (verses 8-9) are those who are self-seeking, disobey the truth, and do evil. They will face wrath, fury, tribulation, and distress.

### The Crucial Point

Here's what makes this passage so challenging: no one falls into the righteous category on their own. Paul isn't showing us a path we can walk to save ourselves, he's showing us a standard we cannot meet. Romans 3:10 makes it crystal clear: "None is righteous, no, not one." Pastor Jordan argued that the "righteous" category is hypothetical, it describes what would be required if we could earn salvation through works. But since "all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23), every single one of us stands guilty before God's judgment.

### The Good News

This is where the gospel breaks through! Paul is building his case to show us why we desperately need the power of the gospel (Romans 1:16). We were under an impossible command: be perfect or face judgment. But Jesus Christ lived the life we could not live. He perfectly obeyed God's law and earned the righteousness we could never achieve. Then, in an incredible exchange, He took our judgment and gave us His righteousness. On the cross, while the world was still screaming "do this and live," Jesus declared: "It is finished."

### The Bottom Line

Righteousness is not earned through our works, it is received through faith in Jesus Christ. As 2 Corinthians 5:21 says: "For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God." We shift from the "unrighteous" category to the "righteous" category not because of what we've done, but because of what Christ has done for us. This is the power of the gospel to all who believe.



CHURCH | AT | BERGEN



# CHURCH | AT | BERGEN

## COMMUNITY GROUP - QUESTION ONLY

Romans | Season 2, Ep. 2 | 2:6-11

Monday, April 27 - Sunday, May 3 (Week 13)

**QUESTION #1** - According to this sermon, why is no one able to meet God's standard of righteousness through their own works?

**QUESTION #2** - Where in your life are you currently tempted to try earning God's approval or love through your own efforts?

**QUESTION #3** - Pastor Jordan said Paul is "showing you the standard so you recognize that you don't meet it." Why is it important to truly grasp our inability to save ourselves before we can appreciate the gospel?

**QUESTION #4** - When you reflect on the truth that Jesus took your judgment and gave you His righteousness, what emotions does that stir in your heart?

**QUESTION #5** - How does understanding this "great exchange" (Jesus becoming sin so you could become righteous) motivate you to share the gospel with others?

