

## Romans Chapter Two

In Romans 1 Paul tells us that when we fail to honor God and give Him thanks, we begin to get on a slippery slope away from God.

1. God's eternal power, invisible attributes and divine nature are evident to all through creation
2. Mankind (the unrighteous and ungodly) suppresses this truth
3. Mankind become foolish in their hearts and futile in their thinking
4. Idolatry – worshipping the creation, not the creator
5. Sexual immorality – God gave them up
6. Sexual perversion – God gave them up
7. Depraved mind – God gave them up
8. All manner of unrighteous behavior
9. They knowingly reject their knowledge of God's righteousness, encourage others.

Hence **PAGAN MAN IS CONDEMNED**

Chapter Two Condemns Moral Man (Gentiles) and Religious Man (Jews)

### Principles of God's Judgment

VS 1 – all of us are hypocrites – we judge others yet we are just as guilty

1. **God will judge all of us according to TRUTH** –

**John 17:17** Sanctify them<sup>[a]</sup> in the truth; your word is truth.

**John 12:47-48** If anyone hears my words and does not keep them, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world but to save the world. <sup>48</sup> The one who rejects me and does not receive my words has a judge; the word that I have spoken will judge him on the last day.

God's goodness, His forbearance, His patience and kindness should lead us to repentance; however we express ingratitude. Our hardness of heart and lack of penitence will earn us God's wrath.

2. **According to our DEEDS**.

God will not judge us until the end of our days. We will be judged for our works and our words and our obedience from the heart.

**1 Peter 1:17-18** And if you call on him as Father who judges impartially according to each one's deeds, conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile, <sup>18</sup> knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your

forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, <sup>19</sup> but with the precious blood of Christ,

**Revelation 20:12** And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Then another book was opened, which is the book of life. And the dead were judged by what was written in the books, according to what they had done.

3. **God will Judge Without Partiality** – God is no respecter of persons. All will stand equally before Him. The rich will be judged the same as the poor. The General as the Private, The Bishop as the newest convert, the educated as the uneducated, etc.

**Acts 10:34, 35** So Peter opened his mouth and said: “Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup> but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him.

4. **According to the Light we Have** – general principle is that we are accountable for what we know. The Jews had the knowledge of God’s law – they were accountable. Knowledge of God is not enough. It is only when we willfully and joyfully obey from the heart. In the final analysis it is our deed that reflect our faith.

**Matthew 7:21** Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.

**John 14:23** Jesus answered him, “If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him

It is not knowing what was written on tablets of stone (Moses) but what is written in our hearts.

5. **The Secrets of Men’s Heart** – This is again about the motives and intents of one’s heart, which only God can see. Only God is qualified to be our judge. It is not our job to judge others because we often do not have all the information.

**1 Samuel 16:7** But the LORD said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the LORD sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the **heart**.”

**Matthew 15: 8-9** ““This people honors me with their lips. but their heart is far from me; <sup>9</sup> in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.’

**1 Corinthians 4:5** Therefore, do not pronounce judgment before the time, before the Lord comes, who will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Then each one will receive his commendation from God.

**Romans 11:53** Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!

### **People Without the Law vs 13-15; 26-27**

- Gentiles do not have the Law like the Jews did, yet they did the right thing according to the Law
- The fruit was the same, with the Law and without the Law
- The conscience was convicting them inwardly – showing them their sin – need for grace/mercy
- Conscience does not make one ‘righteous’

### **Religious Man – Also Falls Short**

Vs 17-25 –

- The Jews were guilty of breaking God’s law.
- They proposed to be guides, light, teachers for others yet they failed themselves (arrogance)
- Living by rules always fails – we are inconsistent
- Rules are not bad, they just point out our sinfulness

Vs 28-31 – The Inward vs the External