

Sermon # 5, Romans 2:1-16
October 13, 2002
Pastor Wesley G. Rowe
Calvary Bible Church

Romans 2:1-16

Turn with me in your Bibles this morning please to Romans 2. I remind you that we are studying the Book of Romans on Sunday mornings and we have completed our study of Romans 1.

However, Romans 1:18 began a lengthy section in Romans that does not end until we get through Romans 3:20. So today as we take up our study in Romans 2, we will be right smack dab in the middle of this lengthy section.

You'll recall from last week that I showed you that Paul breaks Romans 1:18-3:20 down into the following 3 sub-sections:

Romans 1:18-3:20 is a lengthy expose on sin and God's anger toward all mankind because of sin.

- A.) Rom. 1:18-32, God's Indictment of the Gentile world as Paul found it in his day-the whole Gentile world lacks righteousness.**
- B.) Rom. 2:1-16, God's indictment of any person who judges the Gentile world-every self-righteous person lacks righteousness.**
- C.) Rom. 2:17-3:20, God indictment of the Jews-every Jew lacks righteousness.**

Now I want to pick up the text in Romans 1:18 and read up to Romans 2 and I will briefly review what I taught you last Sunday from vv. 18-32 as I read. **Read ROMANS 1:18-32.**

The standards of judgment will be different for Jews and Gentiles. The standard for those who have heard the Word of God will be the Word of God. The standard for those who haven't heard the Word of God will be God's revelation in Nature/Creation, Conscience and what has been written on men's hearts from birth.

Now that's the condition of the Gentile world as Paul found it in his day. The whole Gentile world was filled with godlessness toward God and wickedness toward men.

Now we come to **Chapter 2:1-16, God's indictment of any person who judges the Gentile world-every self-righteous person lacks righteousness and therefore is also under God's wrath.**

Paul knows that there are always some who see and here about sin, but do not see themselves as sinners. So look at what Paul says to such a self-righteous person in vs. 1.

2:1, "You, therefore, have no excuse, you who pass judgment on someone else, for at whatever point you judge the other, you are condemning yourself, because you who pass judgment do the same things."

Romans 2:1, "You" not "they". Meaning, you, whoever you might be, who judges the Gentiles, you, each of you, commit the same things.

You will recall that Paul said back in Chapter 1:20, that the Gentiles were without excuse. Now he says that whoever sees the sins of the Gentiles or hears of them and subsequently judges them for their sins, you also have no excuse before God for this reason. The very things that you see or hear about in the Gentiles, you are guilty of many of the same things. Paul is saying to whoever is listening and troubled by the sins of the Gentiles that many of the same things that God has condemned the Gentiles for, whoever is judging is guilty of the same things. Think through the list God gave in Chapter 1 that the Gentile world was guilty of:

GODLESSNESS TOWARD GOD

- Not glorifying God**
- Not thanking God**

WICKEDNESS TOWARD MAN

- Shameful lusts**
- Lesbianism**

-Giving too much time and attention to created things
-Worship and/or serve created things

-Homosexuality
-Every kind of wickedness
-Greed
-Depravity
-Full of envy
-Murder
-Strife
-Deceit
-Malice
-Gossips
-Slanderers
-God-haters
-Insolent
-Arrogant
-Boastful
-Invent ways to do evil
-Disobey parents
-Senseless
-Faithless
-Heartless
-Ruthless
-Approve of those who sin

In v. 1 Paul is saying that we all stand guilty before God even if we don't think that we do. We all lack righteousness and are therefore are unqualified to pass judgment on others. For when we do, we condemn ourselves God says.

Now Paul is going to contrast God's judgment with man's judgment and Paul tell us 6 things about God who is qualified to judge every person.

While no man is qualified to righteously judge others, GOD IS!

6 Truths About God's Judgment!

1. God's judgment is based on truth-v. 2.

(Later called "God's righteous judgment"-v. 5)

Man often judges his fellow man and is a hypocrite in doing so for he does many of the same things. But God is perfectly righteous and when He says something is wrong and sinful, He is speaking the truth. And God has said that the things mentioned in Chapter 1 are wrong. -Even men's secrets will be judged by God-v. 16.

2. God's judgment against all sinners will be revealed in the future-v. 5.

3. God's judgment then will be completely impartial-v. 6.

"God will give to each person according to what he has done" v. 6
("For God does not show favoritism"-v. 11)

This great truth is very prominent in the Old Testament (Deut. 10:17) and seems to have made a profound impact upon almost every NT writer (Acts 10:34; Eph. 6:9; Col. 3:25; Jas. 2:9; I Pet. 1:17).

Deut. 10:17, "For the LORD your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God mighty and awesome, who shows no partiality and accepts no bribes."

Acts 10:34, ". . . God does not show favoritism."

Eph. 6:9, ". . . and there is no favoritism with God."

Col. 3:25, ". . . for there is no favoritism."

Jas. 2:1, 9, "My brothers, as believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ, don't show favoritism." But if you show favoritism, you sin and are convicted by the law as law-breakers."

I Pet. 1:17, "Since you call on a Father who judges each man's work impartially, . . ."

4. God's judgment will be characterized by wrath, anger, trouble

and distress-vv. 5-9.

**5. At God's judgment, escape is impossible-all will be there-
vv. 3, 16.**

It has been said that when men commit crimes through breaking human laws here on the earth, that there are 6 possible ways that a criminal can escape judgment.

Six Possible Ways For Criminals To Escape Human Judgment.

- 1.) He might break laws and it never be discovered.
"God's judgment is based on truth"-v. 2**
- 2.) He might break laws and be found innocent though
certainly guilty.
"God will judge men's secrets"-v. 16**
- 3.) He might break laws and physically flee beyond the reach
of the law.
"Do you think you will escape God's judgment?"-v. 3
"God will give to each person according to what he has
done" v. 6**
- 4.) He might break laws and his crimes never be discovered
until the Statute of Limitations has expired.**
- 5.) He might break laws and there be some failure in the
legal process after his arrest.**
- 6.) He might break laws and escape from prison and hide and
never be found.
"This will take place on the day when God will judge"-v.
16
"The day of God's wrath his righteous judgment will be
revealed" v. 5**

Nothing is more absolutely assured than that all men will face a judgment day in the future after this life.

6. Jesus will be the judge-v. 16.

In the Scriptures, Jesus is presented to us as Savior and as Judge. In this dispensation, in this age, you can meet Him as Savior. Later, you will have to meet Him as judge.

