

Journey Through Romans

ROMANS 2:1 to 16

YOU'RE NOT AS GOOD AS YOU THINK YOU ARE!

(Romans 2:1 KJV)

"Therefore thou art inexcusable, O man, whosoever thou art that judgest: for wherein thou judgest another, thou condemnest thyself; for thou that judgest doest the same things."

1. THE MORALIST

- a. Makes himself feel better by judging others
- b. Does the same things, so when he judges others; he is, in fact, condemning himself.
 - i. (Matthew 7:1-5 KJV) "Judge not, that ye be not judged. For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again. And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye? Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, Let me pull out the mote out of thine eye; and, behold, a beam is in thine own eye? Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye."
- c. "for thou that judgest doest the same things" – How does he do the same?
 - i. Not in the same way necessarily, but the same heart.
 1. Lust is Adultery - (Matthew 5:27-28 KJV) "Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery: But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart."
 2. Hate is murder - (Matthew 5:21-22 KJV) "Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not kill; and whosoever shall kill shall be in danger of the judgment: But I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment: and whosoever shall say to his brother, Raca, shall be in danger of the council: but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire."

(Romans 2:2 KJV)

"But we are sure that the judgment of God is according to truth against them which commit such things."

1. God's judgment is always true; it is always right.
 - a. "If I know my heart, I'm right with God. I have a good heart."
 - i. (Jeremiah 17:9 KJV) "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?"
 - ii. God will judge those who have broken His commandments. His judgment is not just of outward disobedience but heart attitudes. (Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 KJV) "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil."

(Romans 2:3 KJV)

"And thinkest thou this, O man, that judgest them which do such things, and doest the same, that thou shalt escape the judgment of God?"

1. Why do we think this way? "I will not be judged because I judge."
2. High School special program illustration...

(Romans 2:4 KJV)

"Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?"

1. Despise – think little or nothing of (Thayer's) – A self-righteous person would think little of God's goodness and forbearance and longsuffering.
2.
 - i. Goodness may be considered God's kindness to us in regard to our past sin. He has been good to us because He has not judged us yet though we deserve it.
 - ii. Forbearance may be considered God's kindness to us in regard to our present sin. This very day - indeed, this very hour - we have fallen short of His glory, yet He holds back His judgment against us.
 - iii. Longsuffering may be considered God's kindness to us in regard to our future sin. He knows that we will sin tomorrow and the next day, yet He holds back His judgment against us. (David Guzik, Enduring Word Commentary)
3. "the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance"
 - a. Repentance = Change of mind
 - b. Gift of God – Acts 11:18; Acts 5:31
 - c. Paul gave his testimony before King Agrippa: (Acts 26:16-18 KJV) "But rise, and stand upon thy feet: for I have appeared unto thee for this purpose, to make thee a minister and a witness both of these things which thou hast seen, and of

those things in the which I will appear unto thee; Delivering thee from the people, and from the Gentiles, unto whom now I send thee, To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me."

- d. (Lamentations 5:21 KJV) "Turn thou us unto thee, O LORD, and we shall be turned; renew our days as of old."

(Romans 2:5 KJV)

"But after thy hardness and impenitent heart treasurest up unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God;"

1. (Matthew 23:14 KJV) "Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye devour widows' houses, and for a pretence make long prayer: therefore ye shall receive the greater damnation."
2. Illus: Pharaoh in the book of Exodus.

(Romans 2:6 KJV)

"Who will render to every man according to his deeds:"

1. For the unsaved: (Revelation 20:12-13 KJV) "And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works."
2. For the saved: (Romans 14:10 KJV) "But why dost thou judge thy brother? or why dost thou set at nought thy brother? for we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ." (2 Corinthians 5:10 KJV) "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad."

(Romans 2:7 KJV)

"To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and immortality, eternal life:"

1. Paul argues like a good attorney. Always look at the conclusion of his argument to find out where he is going. The conclusion is: (Romans 3:19-24 KJV) "Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law: that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God. Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin. But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested,

being witnessed by the law and the prophets; Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference: For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:"

2. This is similar to Jesus' conversation with the rich young ruler. (Matthew 19:16-17 KJV) "And, behold, one came and said unto him, Good Master, what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life? And he said unto him, Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one, that is, God: but if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments."

(Romans 2:8 KJV)

"But unto them that are contentious, and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath,"

1. Do not obey (vs 8): (2 Thessalonians 1:7-8 KJV) "And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ:"
2. The truth (vs 8): (Colossians 1:5 KJV) "For the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, whereof ye heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel;"
3. Obey unrighteousness: (John 3:36 KJV) "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him."
 - a. "believeth not" = refuse to be persuaded. Refuse to believe.

(Romans 2:9 KJV)

"Tribulation and anguish, upon every soul of man that doeth evil, of the Jew first, and also of the Gentile;"

1. (John 3:19-20, 36 KJV) "And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reprov'd. ... He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him."

(Romans 2:10 KJV)

"But glory, honour, and peace, to every man that worketh good, to the Jew first, and also to the Gentile:"

1. (John 6:29 KJV) "Jesus answered and said unto them, This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent."

(Romans 2:11 KJV)

"For there is no respect of persons with God."

All ground is level at the cross. All sinners are equal before the law.

(Romans 2:12 KJV)

"For as many as have sinned without law shall also perish without law: and as many as have sinned in the law shall be judged by the law;"

Jews and Gentiles.

(Romans 2:13 KJV)

"(For not the hearers of the law are just before God, but the doers of the law shall be justified."

2. This is a message for the self-righteous hypocrite. The Jews prided themselves on having the law.
3. Doers of the law shall be justified – If anyone could do the law of God perfectly in both heart and life then they could be justified before God by the law.
 - a. (Matthew 22:37-40 KJV) " Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."
 - b. No man has ever loved God with all his heart, soul and mind or perfectly loved his neighbor as himself. To do these things would be to keep the law perfectly.

(Romans 2:14 KJV)

"For when the Gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these, having not the law, are a law unto themselves:"

(Romans 2:15 KJV)

"Which shew the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another;)"

God has written the moral law into men's hearts. Every man has a conscience. All over the world people know that it is wrong to steal, kill, commit adultery, etc.

(Romans 2:16 KJV)

"In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel."