

# 3. God's righteous Judgment

Romans 2:1-16

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## Introduction

Have you ever been judged unfairly by one? Has anyone misjudged you or not assessed you according to all the facts?

In this section of the letter to the Romans we will examine God's righteous judgment of us. Paul explores the judgment of God to assure us that His judgment is completely fair for it takes all the facts into account dealing with each one of us appropriately. Please read Romans 2:1-16.

## We have no excuse

The way that God's judgment is shown to be righteous is that we actually confirm it every time that we condemn others for the things that we ourselves do. Please read 2:1-5.

1. Why are people left with no excuse?
2. On what basis does God judge people (2)?

3. What ought God's kindness lead people to do (4)?

4. Why are people storing up wrath for themselves (5)?

### Think about it

What do you think it might mean for someone to pass judgment on someone?

Who is the “you” in these verses? Who do you think Paul might have in mind?

Why would a person who passes judgment on others be showing contempt for God's kindness?

How do people condemn themselves?

## God rightly judges

The apostle said that God's judgment accords with the truth and that it is righteous. In verses 6 to 16 the apostle justified this statement. Please read these verses again to explore the basis of God's righteous judgment.

5. What principal is the basis of God's judgment (6,11)?

6. What type of person will receive eternal life (7))?

7. What type of person stores up wrath and anger for themselves (7)?.

8. What truth do people reject (1:18; 25)?

9. Who will come under the righteous judgment of God (9)?

## Think about it

How many people do you know who persevere in doing good?  
How many people will receive honor and glory and life because of the good they have done (3:10-12)?

Why does Paul say that God shows no favoritism?

## With or without the law

People often look for loopholes. A loophole is a way of evading the intent of what you know ought to clearly apply to you. Lawyers sometimes get people off paying penalties on technicalities. In verses 12-15 Paul rules out any legal loopholes. Please read these verses.

10. Who will be judged by the Law (12)?

11. How can those who have the law be declared to be righteous and how many of those who have the law will be declared righteous (13,20)?

## Think about it

On what basis will those who do not have the law be condemned?

What difference will having, or not having, the Law make to a person?

## Conclusion

It is foolish to think that we might somehow escape God's wrath. Even the Jews who had been given the Law are not immune to God's judgment. Having the Law offers no protection for hearing the Law doesn't mean that we have the power to obey the Law. Having the Law only means that it will be used to condemn us. On that day God will judge the secrets of our hearts through Jesus and everything will come to light.

## Think about it

What hope do you think people will have on this day if they stand alone before God to defend themselves?

How do you think we ought to respond to God's righteous judgment?

## Going Further

1. Please review the memory verses from the previous week putting verses 16 and 17 of chapter 1 together.

2. Read Romans 2:17 to 3:20 through several times throughout the next week and answer the questions for study 4.

3. In the next study Paul talks about circumcision and how having the law and circumcision led to many Jews having a misplaced confidence in these things. Please read the following OT passages that deal with the circumcision and the role it was meant to play and how for the Lord this outward sign ought to have reflected in an inward reality and how the Lord promised that one day that it would.

Genesis 17:1-27

Deut. 10:16, Jer. 4:4, Jer. 9:25-26

Jer. 31:31-34

Ezek. 36:26-27