

Romans

How to be a Christian without Being Religious!

Lesson 2

Romans 2:1-29

The Judgment of God

1. What do we tend to do when we read about people who commit the sins listed in Romans 1:28-32 (v. 1)? What does Paul say about us when we condemn others for these “horrible” sins?
2. How did Jesus “raise the bar” when it comes to committing sin? See Matthew 5:21-22 and 27-28. According to James 2:10, what must one do to break God’s law? Are you guilty of breaking the law? What does that make you?
3. (Challenge question) According to Romans 2, there are three bases for God’s judgment. In other words, God judges according to three standards. What are they (vv. 2, 6, and 12)?
4. Would God be justified in judging us all and simply destroying us? If so, why doesn’t He (v. 4)? What is the purpose of God’s kindness and patience? See Titus 2:11 and II Peter 3:9. How have you responded to His kindness and patience?
5. How does Paul describe the heart of a man who will not surrender to God’s grace (v. 5)? What did the prophet Ezekiel see happening to the heart of men when he looked into the future? See Ezekiel 36:26-27. Can you think of an event in the New Testament that Ezekiel might have been prophesying about? See Acts 2:1-4.
6. What is promised in God’s Word for those who refuse His grace and mercy? (See v. 5-6). When will this take place? See Revelation 20:11-15.
7. In vv. 7-10, Paul appears to be suggesting that good deeds will entitle one to eternal life, glory and honor. What Paul is stating here is that **if** anyone could live a perfect life, that is, “persist in doing good,” he would be rewarded with eternal life. However, Scripture makes it clear that “no one is righteous!” See Romans 3:10 and 23. What is the one good deed (work) which a man must do in order to be saved? (You can express this “work” in one word.) See John 6:29.

8. Who will be held more accountable on Judgment Day, those who have heard the Word of God clearly or those who have rarely if ever heard it (vv. 12-13)? See Luke 12:48. (Compare the average American with someone growing up in a Muslim country.)
9. Express in your own words, how Paul suggests that God has revealed Himself to us through our consciences (vv. 14-15). The moral argument for the existence of God suggests that if there is a universal moral law then there must be a Moral Law Giver.
10. Will we be able to hide our innermost thoughts from God on Judgment Day (v. 16)? See Hebrews 4:12-13 and Psalm 33:13-15.
11. Who is Paul speaking about in verses 17-24? (Religious individuals or pagans). What is the chief sin of someone who is very pious and religious? See Proverbs 8:13, Daniel 5:20 and Luke 18:9-14.
12. Circumcision was an outward sign that a Jew was a part of God's family and a recipient of God's covenantal promises. Scripture teaches clearly that God is not impressed with what is on the outside of a man. What does God look at? See I Samuel 16:7. What kind of heart is God interested in (v. 29)? Read Isaiah 29:13. What is God not impressed with?
13. How would you define a "circumcised heart?" See Deuteronomy 30:6; Psalm 51:17; Jeremiah 24:7; and, Ezekiel 36: 26-27.
14. Who circumcises the heart (v. 29)? See Colossians 2:11. When does this circumcision take place? See Ephesians 1:13-14. (Circumcision denotes inclusion and a seal denotes ownership). See II Corinthians 1:21-22.
15. Has your heart been circumcised? If not, why not and why not now? If you are unsure, then read Romans 10:9-10, and do what it says.