

Romans 2:6~8

The Judgment of God... From 1:18 ~ 2:16, in one form or another, Paul makes reference to this Judgment, over 15 times... Speaking of the day in which God will Judge every man, by Jesus Christ, the *Great Judge*...

Most people have the false idea that a “*God of Love*” will never judge them, send his wrath on them...

Quoting A.W. Tozer... The vague and tenuous hope that God is too kind to punish the ungodly has become a deadly opiate for the consciences of millions. It hushes their fears and allows them to practice all pleasant forms of iniquity, while death draws every day nearer and the command to repent goes unheeded...

Quoting A.T. Pierson... God’s anger was seen to be not a passion, but a principle—the eternal hatred of wrong, which corresponds with the eternal love of right, and which is only another aspect of love.

Take our children for example... Our love for them not only is manifested in hugs and kisses, it also causes us fight to the death for them against harm!

God will Judge... and God will judge when Jesus Christ returns...

Here in chapter 2:1~16... Paul lays out the “*divine*” principles of “*judgment*...”
The very principles that WILL be the Standard used to Judge men!

According to verse 2, that this judgment will be based on *truth*...

Which speaks to the “*True Justice*” of this Judgment. This is in comparison to the “*darkened judgment*” of the man Paul is speaking too!

According to verse 6, this judgment will be based on a man’s deeds...

In verses 7~8, Paul speaks to the *Characteristics*...

According to verses 9~11, this judgment will be completely fair, and without partiality...

According to verse 12~14, this judgment will be according to our knowledge...

According to verse 15, even our conscience and our thoughts will be used...

He concludes in verse 16, by stating...

(Vs 16) ¹⁶In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel.

...the secrets of men ... κροοπ-τοσα speaking to the *private: the hidden, the inward, that which is concealed, that which is covered*...

The point is, this will be a very “*thorough*” investigation... if there’s any *unrighteousness* there at all... God will find it in that day!

Nothing will be overlooked, nothing left unchecked...

Conversion Story of David Marks (1805~?)... *The Water will Boil*...

Now listen very closely... this morning, we will look at the heart of this passage...

“The Basis of God’s Judgment...”

⁶Who... (God) will render to every man according to his deeds:

“The Basis of God’s Judgment... will be that of the deeds, the works of man.”

Not what you know...not what you believe or don't believe to be true...not religious affiliation, etc... But God will take a scrutinizing look at the content of your life and mine...

(Matthew 16) ²⁴Then said Jesus unto his disciples, **If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.** ²⁵For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it. ²⁶For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul? ²⁷For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works.

(2Corinthians 5) ⁹Wherefore we labor, that, whether present or absent, we may be accepted of him. ¹⁰For 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.

(Revelations 20) ¹¹And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. ¹²And 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. ¹³And 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. ¹⁴And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. ¹⁵And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

... ^{12b} which were written in the books... God is keeping an account! And that's exactly what Paul says here in Romans 2:5...

⁵But after thy hardness and impenitent heart **treasures up** unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God; ⁶Who will render to every man according to his deeds:

T: A Man's "Guilt" or "Innocence" will be determined by the life he has lived!
God will look at my life...the life I have lived here on earth, and on the basis of what he finds, will render His Righteous, Impartial Judgment...

And you will be judged in the exact same manner. As will every person who has ever lived.

⁶Who... (God) will render to every man according to his deeds:

Now, you may say... hold on preacher... The bible says that we are not saved by works, but that we are saved *by Faith* in Jesus Christ... And that is exactly right! There is no other way!

We could cite Ephesians 2:8~9... A very well known and often quoted verse...

⁸For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: ⁹Not of works, lest any man should boast.

No doubt, it is but by the "Grace & Goodness" of God, that we are saved! But read the very next verse...

¹⁰For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

Speaking of the "Works" that Christ Jesus has done in our lives...

The truth Paul is speaking here, is this... It is not a challenge or contradiction to “*saving faith*...” The only way a man or woman is “right” with God comes only by “*Faith!*” Paul made that clear back in 1:16~17...the “*just* shall live by faith...”

T: Listen very closely... For a man to be judged by his deeds is not a “*Contradiction*” to faith in Christ...but rather, it is a “*Confirmation*” to his faith in Christ!

“Our Lives” will manifest whether we have “Genuine Faith” or not!

A perfect biblical illustration is that of James 2...

¹⁴What *doth it* profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? **can faith save him?**

¹⁵If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, ¹⁶And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what *doth it* profit? ¹⁷Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone. ¹⁸Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: show me thy faith without thy works, and I will show thee my faith by my works. ¹⁹**Thou believe that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble.** ²⁰But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead? ²¹Was not Abraham our father justified by works, when he had offered Isaac his son upon the altar? ²²Seest thou how faith wrought with his works, and by works was faith made perfect? ²³And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the Friend of God. ²⁴**Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only.** ²⁵Likewise also was not Rahab the harlot justified by works, when she had received the messengers, and had sent *them* out another way? ²⁶**For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.**

MANY in our society, MANY in our churches today “*Profess*” to believe in God, in Jesus Christ... But the problem is, **their life is saying something else!**

Quoting John MacArthur... The primary thrust here, is that God does not judge us on the basis of our profession... He does not judge us on the basis of our relationships, He does not judge the Jew on the basis of his Abraham heritage, He does not judge you on the basis of your identification with a church... He judges on the basis of the product of your life!

The “Only Testimony” that will be heard that day, will be that of “our lives!” We won’t be permitted to say a word with or “lips”, but rather, God will look to our lives **to see what it is saying!**

Now mark this... The actions of men, form an infallible index to their character... That is what scripture says over and over... ***You shall know them by...? ...by the “fruits” they bear!***

⁶Who... (God) will render to every man according to his deeds:

In verse 7, Paul goes as far, as to list the “*Fruits*” or the “*Deeds*” of the man, to whom will be rewarded with eternal life!

(Vs 7) Listen... **Eternal Life belongs to...** **To them** who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honor and immortality, eternal life:...

It is the person, whose “LIFE” is characterized by these deeds, who is the one who will escape the judgment of God, and receive eternal life! Notice, he doesn’t mention any outward deeds...but the inner longings of the heart. This man’s heart has been turned upward!

Paul declares that those who “live by faith...” leave a distinct footprint, as they walk through this world... **leaving behind a distinct path.** As does those who do not follow Him do...

A “life of Faith” will be reflected by what you seek, by *what you strive for, what you long for, what you love*... Such things that will be *reflected in our deeds*, in how we live out our life!

But at the same time, it will also be manifested of those who do not walk by faith... even though they be religious, kind, good moral people... People that might do anything for you, good neighbors... But that is not, the “*deeds*” that Paul is referring to... Paul is referring to the “deeds” of the heart that has been changed, *into the direction of God!*

Verse 7 describes someone whose *heart is heavenward*, while verse 8, describes a *heart that is earthly!*

There are those I meet, those in the church that profess Jesus as Lord that I have no doubt or concern for whatsoever! I mean, their lives have been changed by the gospel! Their speech is different, what they love is different, everything about them is different... And what a blessing they are to me... I enjoy being around them...

But then, there are those that I am very concerned about... Their lives do not bear the pattern Paul speaks of in verse 7...

⁶*Who... (God) will render to every man according to his deeds:*

According to this scripture...

How we live on this earth, **WILL DETERMINE** where we will spend eternity!

The question will not be whether a man is a Jew, or whether he is a Gentile, whether he is a heathen, whether he is religious, whether he goes to church or whether he doesn't go to church...

The issue is, does his life manifest “**obedience to God?**”

Listen, Paul hasn't got there yet, he will in chapter 3, but its really a question of the Lordship of Jesus... Now, **Jesus is Lord**...that's not in question!

The question is... **Is Jesus Lord of your life?**

Not what we “*Say*” but what we “*Do*” answers that question...

If Jesus is your MASTER, then your life will manifest one that of a SERVANT.

If He is your GOD...then your life will manifest WORSHIP to HIM.

If He is LORD...then your life will manifest “*obedience*” to his bidding...

“The Basis of God's Judgment...”

⁶*Who... (God) will render to every man according to his deeds:*