

## Romans 2:6~8, part 2

I can't imagine a more important passage of scripture, than the one before us this morning... With one continuous stroke of the pen, Paul has written down, the *unchanging*, the *unwavering* "*Divine Principles of the Judgment of God.*" Principles, that God will use to judge every man, woman, boy and girl.

At the heart of this passage, we find... "The Basis of God's Judgment..."

<sup>6</sup>Who... (God) will render to every man according to his deeds:

**T:** The "*Righteous Judge*" will look at the life we have lived here on earth, taking into account every piece of evidence, and on the basis of what he finds, will render **His Righteous, Impartial Judgment**...

<sup>7</sup>To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honor and immortality... He will render *eternal life*:

<sup>8</sup>But unto them that are contentious, and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness... He will render *indignation and wrath*...

★ God will "*Render His Verdict*" on the basis of the "*Content of our life*..."

<sup>6</sup>Who... (God) will render to every man according to his deeds:

Now, someone may ask... Doesn't the scripture teach that we cannot be saved by our "*Works*?" That salvation comes only by "*faith in Christ*?"

It does... There is no other way! Scriptures clearly teach, that there is no other way of salvation, other than through faith in Jesus Christ, and his finished works on the cross...

**T:** But listen very closely... For a man to be judged by his deeds, by the product of his life, is not a "*Contradiction*" to faith in Christ...but rather, it is a "*Confirmation*" of faith in Christ!

★ Listen, to fully understand this passage, one must first understand a very important truth...  
**Our lives become an infallible index to what we believe**...

Our lives are the "*Window*" of the soul... The "*Mirror*" of the heart...

What we "*believe*", what we "*love*" will be manifested in the things we do, in what we give ourselves too!

This is well illustrated, by simply looking at society... we can see that...

- **Some have a heart for children**... You don't have to be told, it's obvious to you by how they react when they are around children...

- **Some have a heart for the elderly**... Reflected by their tremendous love and concern for them. They go sit with them, bath them, take care of them, etc... And I thank God for these folks... I don't have that.

- **Some have a heart for the outdoors**... Reflected by their longing to be just outside... They enjoy hiking, strolls through the park, fishing, hunting, etc...

- **Some have a heart for working with their hands...** Reflected by their love to create, and build, etc... Some may find that odd...but actually its not. Actually, the bible says that two things bring great satisfaction to man... Eating, and the satisfaction that comes from a job well done! We could contrast that with those who have a heart for “*sorry ness*...” Reflected by never working, by never holding a job...

Some people “*Reflect*” that they think, spending time with their family is “*important*” by...WHAT? Spending time with their family. While at the same time, others “*Manifest*” that they do have the same view of family...by their lack of spending time with them! They “*reflect*” a greater love for something else by what they give themselves too!

**I could go on and on with this...but you get the point... It’s easy to see the hearts of people, by simply looking to their lives...**

The old cliché, “**Actions speak louder than words... IS TRUE!**”

(Ps 90) Moses said this... *We live our lives as a tale that is told...*

In other words, our lives are an open book... Our day-to-day life is telling a story...

**Q:** Can I ask you a personal question...**Do you have a heart for God?**

<sup>6</sup>Who will render to every man according to his deeds: <sup>7</sup>To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honor and immortality, eternal life: <sup>8</sup>But unto them that are contentious, and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath...

<sup>8</sup> *...are contentious* ...comes from the Greek word, *eritheia*... Which has at it’s root meaning, “*a hireling*...” Everything he does is for the purpose of pleasing self. He does what he does, for what he will receive, what he gets out of it... **Contentious** ... would be better translated, “*selfishly ambitious*...”

Read verse 8, using that word...<sup>8</sup>*But unto them live their lives for selfish ambition, and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness..... indignation and wrath.*

**T:** **A close examination of this person’s life will reveal they have lived their life for themselves!**

There’s no greater understanding of Paul’s point, as is stated in Matthew 16...

**(Matthew 16)** <sup>24</sup>Then said Jesus unto his disciples, *If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.*

A call to every man, to *the Lordship of Jesus Christ!*

Isn’t that the “*simple and clear message*” of the gospel? Isn’t the gospel a call to all men to turn from their sin, their “*transgressions*” against God, and submit themselves to the Lordship of Jesus Christ!

In the context of this passage, Jesus was correcting Peter... In this passage, Peter had confessed Jesus to be “*the Christ!*” Upon his confession, Jesus began to reveal to Peter and the other disciples, the WILL of GOD... Upon hearing of what was going to take place, Peter began to rebuke Jesus, telling Jesus how things were going to be... Jesus replied...

<sup>23</sup>But he turned, and said unto Peter, *Get thee behind me, Satan: thou art an offence unto me: for thou savor not the things that be of God, but those that be of men.*

Jesus quickly corrected Peter, informing him that he was headed down the wrong path. Peter was following his own wishes. Peter was following his own will and desire...

**T:** Jesus just made it abundantly clear to Peter, that if anyone was going to follow Him, that it would require them to set “*Self*” aside.

He would no longer follow what he wanted, what he thought...his will...

In verses 25~27, Jesus stops, and makes his point crystal clear!

<sup>25</sup>For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it.

Jesus made it clear, there are only “*Two Choices*” to choose from... Every man will live out his life, in one of the two ways...

You can either, “*Live your life for you...*” <sup>25</sup>For whosoever will save his life shall lose it:

One can choose to pursue his own will, pursuing his own purposes and goals in this life...

Or, you can “*Surrender your life to Christ*” <sup>25b</sup>and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it.

★ Upon making his point, in verse 26, Jesus asked them a question, a question that in no doubt, caused them to consider the implications of choosing to “*keep his life...*”

<sup>26</sup>For 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?

What are you going to do...when you come to the end of your life...regardless of what you achieve, what you attain, what you acquire, or what you do... What are you going to do, when you stand before the “*Great Judge of all the earth*”, and give an account to him?

What will you say to Him? What will you “*Give*” Him?

I love the clarity in which Christ speaks... He is telling all those around Him that day, and to us here today who are listening to His words, He is making it clear... If you want to “*Keep your life*”...than you can, that is your choice. If you want to pursue your own will, your own way of life, (*not necessarily evil*), **just not** “*surrendering your life*” to the “*Will of God*”...you can...

**His point is this**... You have a choice to make...But I want you to know this, what you will receive, on the day when you stand before God, each of you will be given exactly what you deserve!

<sup>27</sup>For 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.

★ Every man will reap what he has sown... A principle that Paul states in Galatians... (Galatians 6) <sup>7</sup>*Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man sows, that shall he also reap.* <sup>8</sup>*For he that sows to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that sows to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.*

Let me ask you this... Isn't that a fair judgment? Judgment according to “*our deeds*”, according to the life we have lived, is in no means a contradiction of Salvation by Faith in Christ Jesus!

Quiet the contrary, our life will manifest true faith in Christ, if we have “*lost our life for his sake...*”

Our lives will manifest either one of two things...

One, it will reveal we have followed Him, marked by a life of ...<sup>7b</sup> *patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honor and immortality, eternal life:*

The only other option, is our life will reveal that we have not, but rather lived for our own accord! Marked as those who...<sup>8</sup> *are contentious, (live for self) and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath...*

Its just the “*opposite*” of the life described in verse 7... This mans life would not bear the “marks” of one, who lives his life for the glory & honor of God, seeking the spiritual, eternal things of God! But rather, it would “reflect” a life lived for SELF!

*MacArthur described it this way...* The life of an “*Unregenerate Man*” is described as one which is totally wrapped up in himself, and having no place in his life for God!

*And I'd like to add to that...* That's in contrast to that of the man who has been “*born again...*” **whose life is God!**

*Quoting MacArthur...* The road to hell is here very simply defined as the spirit of antagonism against the lordship of Jesus Christ. The unregenerate person by nature, is selfishly ambitious, and his enmity against God leads him to disobey God's truth an instead to obey unrighteousness. (Living for self...)

(V8) To “*Such people*” God will render **wrath and indignation**... The Greek word Paul uses here is that of *Orge*. It signifies the strongest kind of anger, that which reaches fever pitch, when God's mercy and grace are fully exhausted!

It will manifest in the end of God's patience and tolerance with unregenerate, unrepentant mankind, in the manifestation of his final, furious anger which he will vent on those who works, lives or deeds, evidence their persistent and unswerving rebellion against Him!

This passage ought to cause every one of us in this room, to take an “*honest evaluation*” of our own lives, to see what it consist of! Let me say...

*Quoting MacArthur...* 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?**”