

Judged According to Our Deeds

(Rom 2:6-10)

- I. We have already seen that the judgment of God is/will be:
 - A) According to truth (v.1)
 - B) According to the degree His mercy and goodness have been flaunted
 - C) In proper proportion to that which has been “treasured up”
- II. Now we come to the 4th point, that it will be according to each man’s deeds
 - A) This judgment is upon “all men” (v.6, 9 & 10)
 - 1. Rom 2:11- There is no respect of persons with a just and righteous God
 - 2. Judgment is universal and individual
 - i. Judgment will not be by nation, family, denomination or church
 - a) This is important because of the mindset of the Jews in Paul’s day, and repeated by professing Christians today
 - b) Matt 25:31-41- False teaching of dispensationalism on national judgment
 - 1) Rev 20:1-15- False teaching concerning 2 judgments separated by 1000 years
- III. Not only is the Jew not exempt, but judgments comes upon him first (time and intensity)
 - A) Rom 3:1-2- Because of all the advantages the Jew had
 - B) 1 Pet 4:17- For the same reasons and to a greater extent the judgment will come upon those making a profession of faith
 - 1. Luke 12:48- To whom much is given much is required
 - 2. Rev 2:9- “Those who say they are Jews and are not”
- IV. Paul again proves his point from the Old Testament scriptures
 - A) Remember that what the apostle is primarily doing is proving the guilt of all mankind, including the Jew who thought he was beyond the wrath of God
 - 1. Psa 62:12, Prov 24:12- “judged according to deeds”
 - i. Ex 32:34- “In the day I visit, I will visit their sin upon them”
 - ii. Job 34:10-12- God MUST render to man according to his deeds
 - iii. Matt 16:27- “I will reward every man according to his works”
 - iv. 2 Cor 11:13-15- Hypocrites’ end is according to his works
 - B) Paul is not introducing a new topic here, he is still condemning the world of sin; but by the very nature of the truth of God’s judgment, the rewards of the righteous enter into it
- V. The world divided into 2 groups: the righteous and the unrighteous
 - A) Matt 7:16- “Ye shall know them by their fruits”

1. This is the main idea presented in this passage from Romans
 - B) Rom 2:5- "The revelation of the righteous judgment of God"
 1. The works will be manifest openly and the truth and righteousness of God's division will be proven by the "fruits" shown
 - C) There is no 3rd group in scripture, neither is there any 3rd location of the dead
 1. The bible says not a word about any second chance after death
 2. Neither is there any mention of a limited duration to punishment
- VI. Paul describes each group in a 3-fold manner:
- A) Their general attitude towards God and the things of God
 - B) General tenor of their life
 - C) Actual conduct and deeds
 1. Righteous
 - i. Seeking glory- all that God is and has for His people (rather than the world)
 - a) Rom 5:2- "Rejoice in hope of the glory of God"
 - b) Col 3:1-2- "Affection set above"
 - c) Rom 8:30- "Glorified"
 - 1) 1 Cor 1:30- Redemption of the body
 - (a) Phil 3:20-21- "Fashioned like unto His glorious body"
 - ii. Seeking honor- Concerned with what God thinks and not the world opinion of us
 - a) John 5:44- "Ye seek not the honor that comes from God"
 - b) Luke 16:19-31- Compare Dives honor to Lazarus lack in this world
 - c) Acts 12:20-23- Herod's worldly honor
 - iii. Seeking Immortality- Incorruptibility, that which can not perish, neither causes harm or suffers loss, undefiled, not tainted
 - a) 1 Pet 1:4- "Inheritance incorruptible reserved in heaven"
 - b) 1 Cor 15:50-54- "Corruptible must put on incorruption"
 - 1) The righteous SEEK (not sought one day) these things because they currently lack them in perfection
 - (a) Matt 5:6- "Hunger and thirst after righteousness"
 - 2) Phil 1:6- Christ finishes any work He starts, therefore the fruit is the certain proof of the new birth
 - (a) Rev 2:10- Persevere
 - (b) Matt 10:22- Endure
 - (c) Heb 10:38-39- "If any man draw back...."
 - (d) Luke 8:15- "bring forth fruit with patience"
 - (e) Gal 6:9- "in due season we reap if we faint not"
 - 3) This doesn't mean the Christian doesn't fall
 - (a) Prov 24:16- Righteous falls 7 times

- (b) 1 Tim 6:12- “Fight the good fight of faith”
 - (c) 2 Tim 4:7- “I have fought a good fight”
 - iv. Rom 2:10- Actual conduct of the righteous = “worketh good”
 - a) Doing their utmost to keep the commands of God
 - 1) John 14:15, 15:10, 1 John 2:3, 3:22, 5:2-3, Rev 12:17, 14:12
 - 2) John 15:5- Abide in Him
 - 3) 1 John 3:6- “Whosoever abideth in Him sinneth not”
 - (a) A Christian falls, but he does not “abide” in sin
 - 2. Unrighteous
 - i. Contentious- Opposed to God and His commands, contending with God and striving to have his own way
 - a) Gen 3:1- “Hath God said....?”
 - b) Rom 8:7- “Carnal mind is enmity with God”
 - ii. Doesn’t obey the truth- Fights against the commands and judgments of God, and will not accept truth as truth no matter how obvious
 - a) Rom 1:18- “Hold the truth in unrighteousness”
 - b) John 8:31-44- Children of the devil
 - iii. Obeys unrighteousness- Follows after the ways of the world, the devil and the flesh
 - a) Eph 2:1-3- Walking according to the prince of this world
 - b) Gal 5:17- 21- Works of the flesh
- VII. Final destinies/inheritances revealed in that day
- A) Change of construction in the passage, where “rendered” only applies to first group
 - 1. “He will render (pay, reward, gift, yield)” -vs_ “there shall be/remain”
 - i. John 3:18- Condemned already
 - ii. John 3:36- “Wrath of God abideth on him”
 - B) Payout
 - 1. Rom 2:7- “Eternal life” to the righteous
 - i. Glory
 - ii. Honor
 - iii. Eternal life
 - 2. Rom 2:8-9- “Indignation, wrath, tribulation and anguish” to the unrighteous
 - i. Indignation- God’s attitude toward sin fully manifested
 - a) Revealed in eternal “tribulation and anguish upon their “souls” (compare Rev 6:9 & 20:4)
 - 1) This is not mere mortal suffering, it is of mind and spirit
 - b) 2 Cor 4:8- Believers are troubled and not distressed (same 2 words)
 - 1) 2 Thess 2:7-10- Rest for one group and torment for the other
 - (a) Luke 16:19-31- Dives’ torment and Lazarus’ rest

- (b) Mark 9:42-48- “Where their worm dieth not”
- ii. Anguish- “Torment”
 - a) Eternal remorse and loss, acutely aware of what has been forfeited
 - b) “Weeping and gnashing of teeth”
 - 1) Matt 8:12, 13:42 & 50, 22:13, 24:51, 25:30
 - c) Believers have eternal “life,” but the lost simply have existence and will never go out of existence
- C) The world hates this doctrine, and it brings out in them exactly the qualities Paul described in “contention,” and “hold the truth as unrighteous”
 - 1. Were this truth not found throughout the scriptures, no honest preacher would ever preach it, it is terrible, and yet it is true and therefore MUST be preached