

Introduction

Karen and I just hired a new realtor to help us sell our house in Tijeras. We are both very impressed with his knowledge of selling houses. When he came over and surveyed the house and property, he wanted to know about everything. He had an assistant with him, and he brought two photographers. They took outside photos with a drone, and they had a camera that took 360 degree pictures for the inside. In speaking with the realtor, he told us the things that other realtors and prospective buyers would be asking about. He wanted to be able to give knowledgeable answers to the questions that he knew that he would be asked. He also knew the most critical features to key in on in his marketing. He knew how the house would be judged by buyers, and he wanted to be fully prepared.

The Olympics are going on right now in Tokyo. Because of the Covid outbreak there are no spectators allowed, but it is being covered on TV and it is in the news. The Olympic gymnasts also know how they are going to be judged, and what the judges are looking for. They know the points for each element, and combination of elements. They prepare their routine to get the maximum points by the judges.

When it comes to the gospel, everyone is going to die and face judgment. We all have to stand before God and give account. It is eternally important for each of us to know how we will be judged. Many people today have some false notions about judgment. They think that God judges on the curve, and as long as we are better than some others we will be okay. Others think that God gives free passes to certain people, like the Jews. Others think that if they do enough good works, these will make up for the bad things they have done, and it is a works mentality. Most people really don't understand how God will judge our lives, so this is an important message for people to understand.

Our text today starts with the phrase, "therefore you have no excuse." Our passage is a continuation of the message last week, which I entitled, "Without Excuse." The first three chapters of Romans are about establishing the need for a Savior. We see all of us are going to have to give account to God, and that all of us are without excuse. Last week we saw that sinners and morally depraved people have no excuse because God has revealed His invisible attributes, His eternal power, and divine nature to everyone through creation. He has also revealed His wrath and the coming judgment of all men, so they are without excuse. In our passage today, Paul turns to the religious and self-righteous people. These are people that think they are doing great, and are in a position to judge the lives of others. Paul tells them that they too are without excuse in the coming judgment. I did not title this as Without Excuse Part 2 because the main thrust of the passage is not about being without excuse; it is about how God is going to judge. Next weeks' passage is about false expectations. It is a great follow-up message to the foundational message today on how God will judge everyone.

Today, we will be looking at seven principles of how God is going to judge everyone. First, we will see that God rightly judges. Second, He judges us according to our deeds. Third, we will see how He judges without partiality. Fourth, we will see how He judges those that have the law. Fifth, we will see how God judges those without the Law; He judges them with their internal law or conscience. Sixth, we will see how God judges through Jesus Christ.

Seven Principles of Judgment (Rom 2:1-16)

1. God will judge Righteously. (Rom 2:1-5)
2. God Will Judge According To Our Deeds (Rom 2:1-8)
3. God Will Judge Without Partiality (Rom 2:9-11)
4. God Will Judge by the Law (Rom 2:12-13)
5. God Will Judge by our Conscience (Rom 2:14-15)
6. God Will Judge the Secrets of Men (Rom 2:16)
7. God Will Judge Through Jesus Christ (Rom 2:16)

(Rom 2:1-16) “Therefore you have no excuse, everyone of you who passes judgment, for in that which you judge another, you condemn yourself; for you who judge practice the same things. {2} And we know that the judgment of God rightly falls upon those who practice such things. {3} But do you suppose this, O man, when you pass judgment on those who practice such things and do the same *yourself*, that you will escape the judgment of God? {4} Or do you think lightly of the riches of His kindness and tolerance and patience, not knowing that the kindness of God leads you to repentance? {5} But because of your stubbornness and unrepentant heart you are storing up wrath for yourself in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God, {6} who WILL RENDER TO EACH PERSON ACCORDING TO HIS DEEDS: {7} to those who by perseverance in doing good seek for glory and honor and immortality, eternal life; {8} but to those who are selfishly ambitious and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, wrath and indignation. {9} *There will be* tribulation and distress for every soul of man who does evil, of the Jew first and also of the Greek, {10} but glory and honor and peace to everyone who does good, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. {11} For there is no partiality with God. {12} For all who have sinned without the Law will also perish without the Law, and all who have sinned under the Law will be judged by the Law; {13} for *it is* not the hearers of the Law *who* are just before God, but the doers of the Law will be justified. {14} For when Gentiles who do not have the Law do instinctively the things of the Law, these, not having the Law, are a law to themselves, {15} in that they show the work of the Law written in their hearts, their conscience bearing witness and their thoughts alternately accusing or else defending them, {16} on the day when, according to my gospel, God will judge the secrets of men through Christ Jesus.”

1. God Will Judge Rightly (Rom 2:1-5)

Paul begins with therefore, which ties us back to the preceding verse in Romans 1:32. He said that sinners knew the ordinance of God, but sinned and gave hearty approval to those that committed those same sins. These were vile sinners who were doing the most egregious deeds, but Paul turns to the self-righteous and moral people and tells them they are in the same boat; they are also without excuse. These self-righteous people were passing judgment on others, but were committing the same sins themselves.

(Rom 2:1) “Therefore you have no excuse, everyone of you who passes judgment, for in that which you judge another, you condemn yourself; for you who judge practice the same things.”

(Rom 1:32) “and although they know the ordinance of God, that those who practice such things are worthy of death, they not only do the same, but also give hearty approval to those who practice them.”

Jesus dealt very firmly with hypocrisy, especially the hypocrisy in the religious leaders in Israel. In Matthew 23, Jesus gave eight woes to the Pharisees and scribes, and each time He called them hypocrites. They would judge others but they would practice the same things that they judged others about. The Pharisees saw themselves as the light of the world. They saw themselves as the elite, favored and privileged people of God. They were God's chosen people. They were arrogant and self-righteous, so Jesus' woes to them were difficult for them to swallow. In fact, they were so enraged that they plotted how to put Jesus to death. John the Baptist preached a baptism of repentance, and he had also rebuked these religious leaders, and they refused to be baptized by him. Rather than listen to Jesus and John, they hardened their hearts and refused to repent.

(Matt 3:7-8) "But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers, who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? {8} "Therefore bear fruit in keeping with repentance;"

(Luke 7:30) "But the Pharisees and the lawyers rejected God's purpose for themselves, not having been baptized by John."

Paul had been a Pharisee and he fully understood where he had been and how these religious leaders thought. Paul addressed these morally upright, self-righteous, people and tells them that they are without excuse. They are sinners just like the morally depraved sinners in Romans 1. When we get to Romans 3, Paul concludes, "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." These self-righteous people also needed a Savior.

John the Baptist had warned them to repent before facing the wrath of God and they refused to be baptized by John. Jesus had preached to the religious leaders and they refused to listen to Him. Now, Paul is preaching the same gospel message. Paul states the judgment of God RIGHTLY falls upon those who practice such things. He tells them that the same standard will be applied to them that they have been using to judge others. Jesus had said the same thing in Matthew 7. He said that in the way we judge, we will also be judged, and by our standard of measure, it will be measured to us. It was wrong to think that God was going to use a different standard with them. God was going to judge rightly.

(Rom 2:2) "And we know that the judgment of God rightly falls upon those who practice such things."

(Matt 7:1-3) "Do not judge so that you will not be judged. {2} For in the way you judge, you will be judged; and by your standard of measure, it will be measured to you. {3} Why do you look at the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye?"

He tells them that they will not escape the judgment of God. This is a sobering statement to those that think they are morally superior and will not face the judgment of God. The truth is that we will all have to give account of ourselves to God. It was appointed for all men to die once and after this comes judgment. The most vile sinner and the most morally upright person will all have to give account to God, and God will judge rightly.

(Rom 2: 3) "But do you suppose this, O man, when you pass judgment on those who practice such things and do the same *yourself*, that you will escape the judgment of God?"

(Rom 14:12) "So then each one of us will give an account of himself to God."

(Heb 9:27) “And inasmuch as it is appointed for men to die once and after this *comes* judgment,”

Paul tells these religious, self-righteous group of people that they have not considered the riches of God’s kindness and tolerance and patience. He tells them that they did not know that the kindness of God leads to repentance. They have had a stubborn and unrepentant heart and are therefore storing up wrath for themselves in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God. They are also without excuse and God will judge them righteously in the day of wrath.

(Rom 2:4-5) “Or do you think lightly of the riches of His kindness and tolerance and patience, not knowing that the kindness of God leads you to repentance? {5} But because of your stubbornness and unrepentant heart you are storing up wrath for yourself in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God,”

2. God Will Judge According To Our Deeds (Rom 2:1-8)

In the first three verses Paul uses the word practice three times. There is a connection between the judgment and the things that we practice, which are the deeds that we do. God judges rightly, and He judges according to our deeds.

(Rom 2:1-3) “Therefore you have no excuse, everyone of you who passes judgment, for in that which you judge another, you condemn yourself; for you who judge **practice** the same things. {2} And we know that the judgment of God rightly falls upon those who **practice** such things. {3} But do you suppose this, O man, when you pass judgment on those who **practice** such things and do the same *yourself*, that you will escape the judgment of God?”

In verse six, Paul states that God “will render to each person according to his deeds.” God will judge each one of us on what we have practiced in our lives. We will be rendered according to our deeds. Paul makes it very clear that those who by perseverance in doing good sought for glory and honor and immortality will receive eternal life. He said that those who are selfishly ambitious and do not obey the truth, and obey unrighteousness, they will receive wrath and indignation. God is going to render to each person according to his deeds.

(Rom 2:6-8) “who WILL RENDER TO EACH PERSON ACCORDING TO HIS DEEDS: {7} to those who by perseverance in doing good seek for glory and honor and immortality, eternal life; {8} but to those who are selfishly ambitious and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, wrath and indignation.”

Martin Luther, the great reformer, struggled with the book of James. He said it didn’t express the “nature of the Gospel.” He thought James’ message of faith by works contradicted Paul’s statements about justification by faith. He said, “Therefore St James’ epistle is really an epistle of straw, compared to these others, for it has nothing of the nature of the Gospel about it.” He proposed that the epistle of James be taken out of schools, saying, “We should throw the epistle of James out of this school.”¹

The truth is that God will judge us according to our deeds. We are saved by faith, but our works and our deeds are going to be judged. When a person confesses Jesus as Lord, there is a spiritual

¹ <https://zondervanacademic.com/blog/martin-luther-james-bible>

birth. The old things begin to pass away and new things begin to happen in the person's life. James was stating that when someone has genuine faith, it will be evidenced by good deeds in his life. That is not a contradiction at all. We are not saved by works or deeds. Paul was very clear about this. In Ephesians 2, he wrote that we are saved through faith and not as a result of works. In Titus 3:5 he tells us that we are saved, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy. Paul was clear that we are saved by grace through faith and not as a result of works. But, when God judges people, He will judge according to their deeds. Our good and righteous deeds are evidence of the genuine faith and conversion, but those deeds can never save us, as they remove the sins in our lives. Only God's forgiveness through Jesus can atone for our sins.

(Eph 2:8-9) "For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, *it is* the gift of God; {9} not as a result of works, so that no one may boast."

(Tit 3:5) "He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit,"

3. God Will Judge Without Partiality (Rom 2:9-11)

God judges righteously, and He judges according to our deeds. The third principle of how God judges is without partiality. There will be tribulation and distress for every soul who does evil, to the Jew first and also of the Greek. In Romans 1:16, Paul wrote that he was not ashamed of the gospel for it is the power of God for salvation to the Jew first and also to the Greek. Here, He writes there will be tribulation and distress for every soul who does evil, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. God's salvation message went first to the Jews and His judgment also goes first to the Jews. Paul writes that there will be glory and honor and peace to everyone who does good, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. Then, we have the key phrase about God's judgment. "For there is no partiality with God." God is going to judge both Jews and Gentiles alike. This is another blow to the self-righteous Jews who thought that they were going to all be saved because they were descendants of Abraham. Paul is telling them that just because they are Jews and physical descendants of Abraham, they are still going to be judged and those who practice evil will face the wrath of God. Only those Jews that do good will get glory and honor and peace.

(Rom 2:9-11) "*There will be* tribulation and distress for every soul of man who does evil, of the Jew first and also of the Greek, {10} but glory and honor and peace to everyone who does good, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. {11} For there is no partiality with God."

In 1984, when I was playing professional golf and living in Orlando, Florida, I made it through the local U.S. Open qualifier, and went up to Atlanta for the regional qualifier. I was playing the best golf of my entire twenty-year career. At the regional qualifier, the 18th hole was a par five and with a good tee shot, it could be easily reached. I hit a great drive down the middle of the fairway. When I got down to the landing area I could not see my ball. I found it in an old sprinkler head hole in the middle of the fairway. The ball was about six inches below the fairway and there was absolutely no way to hit the ball; it was totally unplayable. The rule book allows the local officials to mark areas as "Ground Under Repair," and in those areas you would get a free drop. An old sprinkler hole easily qualifies in that category, especially in the middle of the fairway, but it did not have a white circle painted around the hole. So, I called for a U.S. Open official to give me a ruling. A big red-headed man with freckles all over his face drove up in a cart and I told him that I would like to take a free drop for an area that should have been marked as Ground Under Repair. He looked at me, and said, "Boy, where are you from?" I told him that

I was from Orlando, and he gave me a quick glance and said to play it as it lies. I told him that I would play two balls and appeal the ruling when I got in, and he drove off. I hit a four iron for a second shot with the free drop and easily made birdie. With the second ball, I took a one stroke penalty to drop the ball out of the sprinkler hole, and with that ball I made a five. At the end of the round the official had spoken with the other officials and no relief was given. I shot seven under par for the two rounds and missed going to the U.S. Open that year by one shot, the one-shot penalty in the middle of the fairway cost me going to the Open. I had been on the PGA Tour a number of years and I knew what the ruling should have been. But, there was definitely partiality being shown in that unrighteous decision by the local official. When everyone stands before God, it won't matter if you are from Georgia or Florida, or a Jew or a Gentile, we will get an unbiased, impartial, righteous decision from an impartial Judge.

In Colossians 3, Paul addresses slaves and tells them to do their work heartily unto the Lord. He said that each person will be rewarded according to his work. Then, he writes that those who do wrong will receive the consequences of the wrong without partiality. God is not a God of partiality. The Greek word is *prosopolempsia* (Strong's G4382), and it literally means to accept a face. It is to show favoritism or partiality. When God judges us according to our works, it does not matter if it is a Jew, Greek, male, female, slave, or master. God judges without partiality.

(Col 3:25) "For he who does wrong will receive the consequences of the wrong which he has done, and that without partiality."

In Acts 10, God sent Peter to see Cornelius and his household. Cornelius was a Gentile so for Peter to go to his house and to preach the gospel to a Gentile was not acceptable at that time. God gave Peter a vision of unclean meat being brought before him, and being told to eat it. Then, after the vision, Cornelius' entourage came and asked Peter to go back with them, which he did. While preaching to Cornelius and his household, the Holy Spirit fell upon them, just as it had to the Jews at Pentecost. Then, Peter exclaimed, "I most certainly understand now that God is not one to show partiality." God does not show partiality over the gospel message and will not show partiality in His judgment. He will render to both Jews and Gentiles according to their deeds.

(Acts 10:34) "Opening his mouth, Peter said: "I most certainly understand *now* that God is not one to show partiality,"

(Eph 6:9) "And masters, do the same things to them, and give up threatening, knowing that both their Master and yours is in heaven, and there is no partiality with Him."

In 1 Peter 1:17-19, Peter gives us a great verse about judgment and salvation. He said that God impartially judges according to each one's work. Then, he adds that we are not redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold from our futile way of life, but with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, the blood of Christ. We are impartially judged according to our work, but we are redeemed and saved by the blood of Christ. It is by faith that we are saved, but God will judge our works.

(1 Pet 1:17-19) "If you address as Father the One who impartially judges according to each one's work, conduct yourselves in fear during the time of your stay *on earth*; {18} knowing that you were not redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers, {19} but with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, *the blood* of Christ."

4. God Will Judge by the Law (Rom 2:12-13)

Paul has already mentioned that God will judge the Jews and the Gentiles alike. Then, he mentions that those without the law will also perish without the Law and all who have sinned under the Law will be judged by the Law. The Jews, who had the Law given to them, and knew the Law, were going to be judged by the Law, that is the Mosaic Law. The Jews had God's law given to them through Moses. They knew God's principles. They knew what God considered right and wrong, and clean and unclean. There was no excuse for those that had God's Law.

(Rom 2:12-13) "For all who have sinned without the Law will also perish without the Law, and all who have sinned under the Law will be judged by the Law; {13} for *it is* not the hearers of the Law *who* are just before God, but the doers of the Law will be justified."

In Romans 3:20, Paul tells us that by the works of the Law no flesh will be justified. We will be judged by the Law, but we cannot be justified or saved by the Law. Then, Paul said, "for through the Law comes the knowledge of sin." The Jews knew what was the right thing to do, and they knew what was sin; they had knowledge of sin. Therefore, they were without excuse for they knew what was right and sinned anyway.

(Rom 3:20) "because by the works of the Law no flesh will be justified in His sight; for through the Law *comes* the knowledge of sin."

In James 4:17, God tells us that the "one who knows the right thing to do and does not do it, to him it is sin." The Jews knew the right things to do because God had entrusted them with His Law, and they had not done what God told them to do. They were guilty of disobeying God's law.

(James 4:17) "Therefore, to one who knows *the* right thing to do and does not do it, to him it is sin."

5. God Will Judge by our Conscience (Rom 2:12-15)

For the Gentiles, who did not have the Law, God said that those who have sinned without the Law would be judged without the Law. Then, in verse fourteen, he clarified and said, "for when the Gentiles who do not have the Law do instinctively the things of the Law, these, not having the Law, are a law to themselves, in that they show the work of the Law written in their hearts, their conscience bearing witness and their thoughts alternately accusing or else defending them."

(Rom 2:12) "For all who have sinned without the Law will also perish without the Law, and all who have sinned under the Law will be judged by the Law;"

(Rom 2:14-15) "For when Gentiles who do not have the Law do instinctively the things of the Law, these, not having the Law, are a law to themselves, {15} in that they show the work of the Law written in their hearts, their conscience bearing witness and their thoughts alternately accusing or else defending them,"

God has given everyone a conscience. Our conscience is like a moral compass that tells us right from wrong. Even though the Gentiles did not have the Law, they had a conscience to guide their actions. The problem with using our conscience is that it can be seared and/or defiled. A conscience that is seared or defiled will not give correct readings. It is like an instrument in the

cockpit of a plane, and if it is not working, the plane could crash. There have been several jets that have crashed because of wrong altimeter readings. Our lives can crash if our consciences are defiled or seared. In 1 Timothy 1:19, Paul exhorted the church to keep faith and a good conscience because some have suffered shipwreck in regard to their faith for rejecting their conscience. The key for keeping a good conscience is to calibrate it with the Word of God. The second key for keeping a good conscience is to always obey it and keep a good conscience. Paul testified that he had kept a good conscience his entire life.

(1 Tim 1:19) “keeping faith and a good conscience, which some have rejected and suffered shipwreck in regard to their faith.”

(Titus 1:15) “To the pure, all things are pure; but to those who are defiled and unbelieving, nothing is pure, but both their mind and their conscience are defiled.”

(1 Tim 4:2) “by means of the hypocrisy of liars seared in their own conscience as with a branding iron,”

(Acts 23:1) “Paul, looking intently at the Council, said, “Brethren, I have lived my life with a perfectly good conscience before God up to this day.”

The Gentiles may not have had God’s Law, but they did have a conscience. God gave everyone a moral guide to help them. Those without the Law will be judged without the Law. They will be judged by that internal law or conscience. Just as the morally depraved were without excuse, those without the Law are also without excuse. God is a righteous judge and will judge according to everyone’s deeds, and will judge based on whether they did what was right according to His Law or the internal law, the conscience.

6. God Will Judge the Secrets of Men (Rom 2:16)

The sixth principle is that God will judge the secrets of men. In verse sixteen Paul said, “God will judge the secrets of men through Christ Jesus.” We know that there is nothing hidden from God. He knows our thoughts before we even speak them. There is nothing hidden from God and all things will come to the light. There are no secrets before God, and God will judge not just the outward actions, but the secrets of the heart. He will judge these secrets through Jesus Christ.

(Rom 2:16) “on the day when, according to my gospel, God will judge the secrets of men through Christ Jesus.”

In Luke 12, Jesus spoke to His disciples and told them to beware of the leaven of the Pharisees. He went on to say that there is nothing covered up that will not be revealed, and hidden that will not be known. God is going to judge the secrets of men. Jesus went on to say, “Accordingly, whatever you have said in the dark will be heard in the light, and what you have whispered in the inner rooms will be proclaimed upon the housetops.” God knows all things. He knows our thoughts. He knows the things we do when we are by ourselves, thinking there is no one who sees or is watching. God sees and hears and knows everything. On the judgment day, He will judge the secrets of men.

(Luke 12:1b-3) “...He began saying to His disciples first *of all*, “Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy. {2} “But there is nothing covered up that will not be revealed, and hidden that will not be known. {3} “Accordingly, whatever you have said in the dark

will be heard in the light, and what you have whispered in the inner rooms will be proclaimed upon the housetops.”

On judgment day, even our careless words that we speak will be judged. God hears everything, and the secret things will be judged. The best thing we can do is to acknowledge our sins and confess them to the Lord. We can't hide those sins. He already knows about them, and those things in secret will come to light and be judged.

(Matt 12:36) “But I tell you that every careless word that people speak, they shall give an accounting for it in the day of judgment.”

7. God Will Judge Through Jesus Christ (Rom 2:16)

The seventh principle of judgment is that God will judge through Jesus Christ. In John 5:22, we find that the Father does not judge anyone, but He has given all judgment to the Son. Jesus came to earth as the Son of Man and He came to save. However, He is going to be the one through whom everyone is judged. All judgment has been given to the Son.

(Rom 2:16) “on the day when, according to my gospel, God will judge the secrets of men through Christ Jesus.”

(John 5:22) “For not even the Father judges anyone, but He has given all judgment to the Son,”

When God sent the Son into the world, it was not to judge the world, but to save the world through Him. Those that believe in Christ are not judged, but those who do not believe in Christ have already been judged, because they did not believe in the only begotten Son of God.

(John 3:17-18) “For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him. {18} He who believes in Him is not judged; he who does not believe has been judged already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.”

In Acts 17, Paul was preaching in Athens and said, “God is now declaring to men that all people everywhere should repent, because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead.” Paul was telling these men in Athens that they should repent because they are going to be judged by Jesus on a fixed day.

(Acts 17:30-31) “Therefore having overlooked the times of ignorance, God is now declaring to men that all *people* everywhere should repent, {31} because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead.”

In 2 Timothy 4:1, Paul charged Timothy to preach the word, and he charged him in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead. The world is going to be judged through Jesus.

(2 Tim 4:1) “I solemnly charge *you* in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by His appearing and His kingdom:

Conclusion and Applications

In these first three chapters of Romans, Paul is establishing the fact that all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. The most vile and depraved sinners in Romans 1 are without excuse. The religious and self-righteous people in Romans 2 are also without excuse. God is going to judge all of us according to our deeds. He is a righteous judge and will rightly judge all of us. He is also an impartial judge. It does not matter what age, what sex, what color, what nationality, or what social status you have, God is going to judge impartially. God will also judge us according to the Law. To the Jews, who had been given The Law, they will be judged according to that Law. For the Gentiles, who did not have The Law, He will judge without the Law. He will judge them by the law within them, their conscience. He will judge the secrets of men, as there are no secrets kept from God; He sees, hears, and knows everything. Finally, we saw that God will judge through Jesus Christ. The Father gave that responsibility to Jesus, and so the judgment will go through Him.

We live in a day of easy believism. If you say the sinners prayer, you will get a free pass to heaven. People do not concern themselves with their works or deeds, as that is not how they get saved. The Scriptures clearly state that we are saved by faith, but at the same time it clearly states that we will be judged according to our works. There are lots of people today that claim to be Christians, yet their works do not confirm their faith. The message today is that it is not who we call ourselves, it is really about what our works declare about our faith. When God looks at your life and you have to give account for your works, what will He say? What will you say when God asks you about your works?

Jesus is the Judge and all judgment is going through Jesus. In John 5:24, Jesus said that if we believe in Him we have eternal life and do not come into judgment. We will still have to give account, and He will look at our deeds, but we do not face judgment for our sins.

(John 5:24) “Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life.”

What is your relationship with the Judge? Have you repented and put your trust in the risen Jesus who will judge us in righteousness? If you have never asked Jesus to come into your life and forgive you of your sins, and would like to confess Him as Lord, I invite you to pray with me right now. The best time to prepare for the day of wrath is today and by inviting Christ into your life. Please pray with me.

“Father God, I believe that You raised Jesus from the dead. Jesus, I believe You are the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. I ask You to come into my life and forgive me of my sins. I confess You as the Lord of my life today, and I ask You to help me walk in good works that You have prepared in advance for me to walk in. Help me to number my days so that I can present to you a heart of wisdom on that day that I give account. Help me to bring glory, honor, and praise to You all of my days. I ask this in Jesus’ name. Amen.

Q & A

Introduction (Rom 2:1-16)

1. **God Will Judge Rightly** (Rom 2:1-5, Rom 1:32, Matt 23, Matt 3:7-8, Luke 7:30, Rom 3:23, Matt 7:1-3, Rom 14:12, Heb 9:27)

2. **God Will Judge According To Our Deeds** (Rom 2:1-8, Eph 2:8-9, Tit 3:5)

3. **God Will Judge Without Partiality** (Rom 2:9-11, Rom 1:16, Col 3:25, Acts 10:34, Eph 6:9, 1 Pet 1:17-19)

4. **God Will Judge by the Law** (Rom 2:12-13, Rom 3:20, James 4:17)

5. **God Will Judge by our Conscience** (Rom 2:12-15, 1 Tim 1:19, Titus 1:15, 1 Tim 4:2, Acts 23:1)

6. **God Will Judge the Secrets of Men** (Rom 2:16, Luke 12:1-3, Matt 12:36)

7. **God Will Judge Through Jesus Christ** (Rom 2:16, John 5:22, John 3:17-18, Acts 17:30-31, 2 Tim 4:1)

Conclusion and Applications