

## ROMANS – CHAPTER 2

Vs 1 Romans chapter 1 applies to all mankind – even Paul’s readers, the Church at Rome.

Any believer who passes judgment on another, condemns himself.

- Why does a believer feel free to judge another man?  
It is because he considers himself better and therefore qualified- (on the basis of race, country, environment, education, culture, or religion)
- Paul amplifies this prohibition on judging in Romans 14, verses 1,3-4,9-10,13 (Gal 6:1)

Vs 2 We know...and yet hope that passing judgment on another will allow us to escape the same judgment

1 Cor 4:4-5

Vs 3 In a nutshell

Vs 4 Paul turns the focus to where it belongs – Us – Not them!

Our repentance

God exercises:

- Kindness – preserves, provides, and protects us
- Forbearance – God does not react harshly with us when we do not respond to His kindness but rather He continues on in kindness toward us.
- Patience – God keeps waiting even when lost men and saved Continue in their stubbornness. Rom 9:22-24

Vs 5 God’s patience often results in man “storing up wrath” Ex 34:6-8

NOTE: Lost man is accumulating the basis for his final judgment.

Rev 20:11-15

Vs 6 The basis of each judgment – works

Vs 7 The believer’s judgment 1Cor 3:10-15; 2 Cor 5:10; Rev 19:7-9  
Eternal life stresses the quality of the life to come.

Everlasting life stresses the length of it.

Vs 8 The unbeliever's judgment – again Rev 20:11-15; Jn 3:36;  
Lk16:19-31

Vs 9-10 Amplifies vs 7-8 Together God says:

- Those who seek for glory, honor, and immortality

Eternal life                      Honor

Glory                                      Peace

- Those who are selfishly ambitious and do not obey the truth but obey unrighteousness

Wrath                                      Tribulation

Indignation                              Distress

Vs 11-12 Judgment of Universal Condemnation

- All who have sinned (Rom 3:23) without the law (non-Jews) will perish without the law(their basis for their condemnation will be their conscience and their works)
- All who have sinned (Rom 3:23) under the law(Jews) will be condemned by the law. Rom 7:8-13; 1 Cor 15:56; 2 Cor 3:4-11

NOTE: Verse 13 through 29 deals with the Jew who had the advantage of possessing the Law.

Vs 13 Hearing God's Word (only) and not obeying it is of no value.

The Jews assumed they were acceptable to God because they Possessed the Law – NOT SO!

(Paul is not saying that anyone is justified by works. Rom 3:28; Gal 2:15-16 He is saying that having possession of the truth and not doing anything with it won't justify anyone James 1:22-25)

Vs 14-15 For Paul illustrates what he is saying.

Paul is describing a situation that is not real but illustrates his

Point non-the-less (similar to: I would go to heaven if I were perfect. True statement; will never happen)

Vs 16 (who will be justified) on the day...

- Jesus Christ will be the judge Heb 2:14-18; Jn 5:22
- God will judge the secrets of men Heb 4:12-13
- Men will be judged on the basis of God's Word which is presently in our possession Jn 12:47-48; Jn 5:45

REVIEW: God's judgment is:

- Right (true) vs 2; we sense it
- Based on our accumulated guilt vs 5
- According to works vs 6
- Without respect of persons vs 11
- Based upon what we have done with what we have vs 13
- Inclusive of the secrets of men's hearts vs 16

Vs 17-29 God's judgment is based on reality, not religious profession (warning; revealed religion provides no security to its professor if devoid of reality. This goes for both Jews and Christians.)

The Illustration by Interpretation applies to the Jew – yet...  
Would not an Application be relevant to the Christian?

Vs 17 But if you bear the name Christian, and rely upon Christ's teachings,  
And boast in God,

Vs 18 And affirm His will, and approve the things that are essential, being  
Instructed out of Christ's teachings,

Vs 19 And are confident that you, yourself (forget Christ) are a guide to the  
blind, a light to those who are in darkness,

Vs 20 A corrector of the foolish, a teacher of the immature, having in  
Christ's teachings the embodiment of knowledge and of the truth,  
who preach that one should not steal, do you (labor, performing with

your own hands what is good, in order that you may have something to share with him who has need Eph 4:28)

Vs 22 You who say that one should not commit adultery, (do you look on a woman to lust for her Matt 5:28)? You who abhor idols, do you (consider the members of your earthly body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry Col 3:5)?

Vs 23 You who boast in your Christianity, through your breaking Christ's teachings, do you dishonor God?

Vs 24 For the Name of God is blasphemed among (all the world's people groups) because of you (Christians), just as it is written.

Vs 25 For indeed salvation is of value if you practice Christ's teachings; but if you are a transgressor of those teachings, your baptism has become (meaningless).

Vs 26 If therefore the unsaved man keeps the teachings of Christ, will not his (present unsaved state) be regarded as (more valuable than your profession of faith)?

Vs 27 And will not he who is unsaved, if he keeps Christ's teachings, will he not judge you who though having the letter of Christ's teachings and baptism are a (violation) of those teachings?

Vs 28 For he is not a Christian who is one who is baptized; neither is baptism that which is outward in the (water)

Vs 29 But he is a Christian who is one inwardly; and baptism is that which is of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the letter; and his praise is not from men, but from God.

NOTE: Paul is not saying that lost people will be saved by their works. He is couching his teaching in "human terms" to declare that being saved is not the result of following rites, but rather it is a real relationship with Jesus Christ. When Christians do not take their salvation seriously it produces great confusion for the world who watches us.