

The Book of Romans

The Gospel of God

Romans 2:6-11

The Impartial 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, (*He will give*) eternal life;

⁸ but to those who are selfishly ambitious and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, (*there will be*) 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.

(Romans 2:6-11)

God's Impartial Judgment

1. He judges according to works

- this is a basic principle of biblical religion – Old and New Testaments
- Matthew 16:27; John 5:28-29; 2 Corinthians 5:10; Revelation 20:12

God's Impartial Judgment

2. He gives eternal life to those who do good

- those who persist in a lifestyle of good works (cf. Gal. 6:8-10; Matt. 25:31-46)
- those who are seeking glory, honor and immortality

God's Impartial Judgment

3. He gives wrath to those who do evil

- those for whom selfishness is the basic motivating principle
- those who disobey/disbelieve God's truth but obey unrighteousness

God's Impartial Judgment

➤ Apparent Inconsistencies

- Paul seems to imply a salvation by good works
- this seems to contradict his later emphasis on justification by faith apart from works
 - Rom. 3:28; 4:5; 5:1

God's Impartial Judgment

➤ Possible Solutions

1. Theoretical/Hypothetical

- Paul upholds faithful obedience to the Law as a theoretical means of justification
- the power of sin prevents anyone from meeting this condition in order to merit salvation
- God provides the only means of salvation by faith in Christ apart from works

God's Impartial Judgment

➤ Possible Solutions

2. ???