

Romans Refresh

Renewing Gospel-Centrality

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Romans Overview

- I. Letter Introduction (1:1-15)
- II. Exposition of the Gospel (1:16-11:36)
- III. Ethical Outworking of the Gospel (12:1-15:13)
- IV. Letter Closing (15:14-16:27)

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II. Exposition of the Gospel (1:16-11:36)

- A. The Gospel Explained Comprehensively (1:16-3:26)
 - 1. Theme-Thesis Statement (1:16-17)
 - 2. Indictment of Humanity Under Sin (1:18-3:20)
 - 3. The Righteousness of God in Christ (3:21-26)

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2. Indictment of Humanity under Sin

- a. God's wrath against idolatry (1:18-32)
- b. God's wrath against the self-righteous judge (2:1-16)
- c. God's wrath against those who rely on the Law (2:17-3:20)

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¹Therefore you are without excuse, O man, everyone of you who passes judgment, for in that which you judge another, you condemn yourself; for you who judge practice the same things.

²And we know that the judgment of God rightly falls upon those who practice such things.

³But 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? ⁴Or 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?

⁵But 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, ⁶who WILL RENDER TO EACH PERSON ACCORDING TO HIS DEEDS:

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⁷to those who by perseverance in doing good seek for glory and honor and immortality, (He will render) eternal life; ⁸but to those who are selfishly ambitious and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, (He will render) 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, ¹⁰but glory and honor and peace to everyone who does good, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. ¹¹For there is no partiality with God.

(Romans 2:1-11)

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God's Impartial Judgment

1. Who is the "you" in this section?

- the self-righteous moralist who condemns others for their unrighteous behavior
- these stand self-condemned because they practice the same things as the others
- they are deceived about the coming, inescapable judgment of God

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God's Impartial Judgment

2. What is the basis for God's judgment?

- it is according to a person's works which manifest the whole person
- He gives life to those who persevere in a good work and wrath to those who obey unrighteousness
- it is not based on any external factor – race, status, position, wealth

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¹²For 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; ¹³for *it is* not the hearers of the Law *who* are just before God, but the doers of the Law will be justified. ¹⁴For when Gentiles who do not have the Law do instinctively the things of the Law, these, not having the Law, are a law for themselves, ¹⁵in 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, ¹⁶on the day when, according to my gospel, God will judge the secrets of men through Christ Jesus.

(Romans 2:12-16)

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God's Impartial Judgment

3. What about those without the Law?

- those who have sinned (not kept the Law) will perish in God's judgment
- those without the written law fully possess the knowledge of God's will "written in the heart"
- in God's impartial judgment there is no advantage to possessing the Law

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God's Impartial Judgment

Q: How then shall we "escape" God's impartial judgment?

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