

# Sin and Condemnation: The World's need to get right with God

(47)

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[Romans 1:18-3:20](#)

(Continuation from 10/09/16)

## C. God's Case Against the Moralist: Judgment, [Romans 2:1-16](#)

[Romans 2:1-16 \(NASB\)](#)

<sup>1</sup>“Therefore you have no excuse, every one of you who passes judgment, for in that which you judge another, you condemn yourself; for you who judge practice the same things.

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

<sup>3</sup>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?

<sup>4</sup>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?

<sup>5</sup>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,

<sup>6</sup>who WILL RENDER TO EACH PERSON ACCORDING TO HIS DEEDS:

<sup>7</sup>to those who by perseverance in doing good seek for glory and honor and immortality, eternal life;

<sup>8</sup>but to those who are selfishly ambitious and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, wrath and indignation.

<sup>9</sup>*There will be* tribulation and distress for every soul of man who does evil, of the Jew first and also of the Greek,

<sup>10</sup>but glory and honor and peace to everyone who does good, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

<sup>11</sup>For there is no partiality with God.

<sup>12</sup>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;

<sup>13</sup>for *it is* not the hearers of the Law *who* are just before God, but the doers of the Law will be justified.

<sup>14</sup>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,

<sup>15</sup>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,

<sup>16</sup>on the day when, according to my gospel, God will judge the secrets of men through Christ Jesus.”

**(Romans 2:1-16) Introduction:** this is one of the passages that covers several subjects and can be studied from the viewpoint of any one of them. It is an excellent study on **judging, criticizing others, the judgment of God, self-righteousness, the moralist, and the legalist.** It also deals with the judgment of the heathen, and answers the question so often asked: “What will happen to the heathen, to the person who never hears about Jesus Christ?” **(Romans 2:11-15).** The present study is entitled: “God’s Case Against the Moralist.”

1. **The moralist (v.1).**
2. **The judgment of God is according to truth: perfect justice (v.2-5).**
3. **The judgment of God is according to deeds: eternal reward or punishment (v.6-10).**
4. **The judgment of God is without respect of persons: absolute impartiality (v.11-15).**
5. **The judgment of God is to be executed by Jesus Christ and His gospel (v.16).**

### 1. **(Romans 2:1) Moralist— Judging Others— Criticism: the moralist.**

**Romans 2:1 (NASB)**

<sup>1</sup> “Therefore you have no excuse, every one of you who passes judgment, for in that which you judge another, you condemn yourself; for you who judge practice the same things.”

In the eyes of Scripture, a moralist is a person who lives a moral and clean life, but he judges others because they do not live as *he thinks* they should. He is moral, upright, just, good, decent, and honorable. The moralist has strong values, standards, and principles. He is well disciplined and able to control his life. He lives just as everyone thinks he should. He knows right from wrong and he lives it. He knows how to behave and he does it. In the eyes of society, he is just what a person should be. He is a good neighbor, an excellent worker and provider, and an ideal citizen. **But note three things.**

1. The moralist judge’s others. The word “**judge**” (**krino**) means “**to criticize, to find fault, to condemn.**” This is the terrible flaw of the moralist. **Note:** any person becomes a moralist when he sets himself up as a judge of others. Any time we judge another person, we are declaring that we...

1. are living by some rule that another person is not living by.
2. are more moral than someone else.
3. are better than someone else.
4. are superior to someone else.
5. are more righteous than someone else.
6. are more acceptable to God than someone else.

Judging others says, “**I am right, and he is not; I succeed, but he fails.**” Therefore...

1. “**Look at me, but ignore him.**”
2. “**Draw near to me, but shun him.**”
3. “**Esteem me, but put him down.**”
4. “**Approve me, but condemn him.**”
5. “**Be my friend, but withdraw from him.**”

10-16-16

Series: The Book of Romans

Very simply, judging others raises self and lowers others, exalts self and debases others; and in the eyes of God this is wrong. It is sin. It is being full of self-righteousness, pride, and arrogance. It sets self-up as a moralist, and it makes a person judgmental and critical.

**Matthew 7:1 (NASB)**

<sup>1</sup>“Do not judge so that you will not be judged.”

**Romans 14:4 (NASB)**

<sup>4</sup>“Who are you to judge the servant of another? To his own master he stands or falls; and he will stand, for the Lord is able to make him stand.”

**Romans 14:13 (NASB)**

<sup>13</sup>“Therefore let us not judge one another anymore, but rather determine this—not to put an obstacle or a stumbling block in a brother’s way.”

**James 4:12 (NASB)**

<sup>12</sup>“There is *only* one Lawgiver and Judge, the One who is able to save and to destroy; but who are you who judge your neighbor?”

2. The moralist is inexcusable, and he condemns himself because he does the very same things. He fails just as the man whom he judges fails. **Scripture says...**

**Romans 2:1 (NASB)**

<sup>1</sup>“Therefore you have no excuse, every one of you who passes judgment, for in that which you judge another, you condemn yourself; for you who judge practice the same things.”

**1 Corinthians 10:13 (NASB)**

<sup>13</sup>“No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it.”

**Matthew 5:21-22 (NASB)**

<sup>21</sup>“You have heard that the ancients were told, ‘YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT MURDER’ and ‘Whoever commits murder shall be liable to the court.’

<sup>22</sup>“But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother shall be guilty before the court; and whoever says to his brother, ‘You good-for-nothing,’ shall be guilty before the supreme court; and whoever says, ‘You fool,’ shall be guilty *enough to go into the fiery hell.*”

**Matthew 5:27-28 (NASB)**

<sup>27</sup>“You have heard that it was said, ‘YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT ADULTERY’;

<sup>28</sup>but I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.”

In God’s eyes, sin is a matter of the heart and mind, not just an act. The thought and desire makes a person just as guilty as the act itself. God knows that many would carry out their thoughts *if they had the courage or opportunity*. God knows the heart, the mind, and the thoughts. Sin, whether thoughts in the mind or acts in public, comes short of God’s glory.

## 10-16-16

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Everybody stands guilty before God; therefore, the moralist, the person who judges, is as guilty as the one judged. It is for this reason that we are not to judge, criticize, and find fault with others.

#### **Matthew 7:3 (NASB)**

<sup>3</sup>“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?”

#### **Romans 2:21-22 (NASB)**

<sup>21</sup>“You, therefore, who teach another, do you not teach yourself? You who preach that one shall not steal, do you steal?

<sup>22</sup>You who say that one should not commit adultery, do you commit adultery? You who abhor idols, do you rob temples?”

#### **Galatians 2:14 (NASB)**

<sup>14</sup>“But when I saw that they were not straightforward about the truth of the gospel, I said to Cephas in the presence of all, “If you, being a Jew, live like the Gentiles and not like the Jews, how *is it that* you compel the Gentiles to live like Jews?”

#### **Titus 1:16 (NASB)**

<sup>16</sup>“They profess to know God, but by *their* deeds they deny *Him*, being detestable and disobedient and worthless for any good deed.”

**Thought 1.** This point does not mean that judicial systems of the state are wrong nor that discipline is not to be exercised within families, organizations, and the church. Scripture teaches that both justice and discipline are to be exercised by men. **What Scripture means is this:** we are not to go around criticizing and finding fault with each other and putting each other down when one of us fails. Instead we are to reach out and try to redeem and help each other. Imagine what a different world this would be if all tongues were stopped! If all criticism and fault-finding ceased! If everyone actually reached out and tried to redeem and save those who failed!

#### **Galatians 6:1-2 (NASB)**

<sup>1</sup>“Brethren, even if anyone is caught in any trespass, you who are spiritual, restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness; *each one* looking to yourself, so that you too will not be tempted.

<sup>2</sup>Bear one another's burdens, and thereby fulfill the law of Christ.”

#### **Romans 14:1 (NASB)**

<sup>1</sup>“Now accept the one who is weak in faith, *but not for the purpose of* passing judgment on his opinions.”

#### **Romans 15:1 (NASB)**

<sup>1</sup>“Now we who are strong ought to bear the weaknesses of those without strength and not *just* please ourselves.”

#### **1 Corinthians 9:22 (NASB)**

<sup>22</sup>“To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak; I have become all things to all men, so that I may by all means save some.”

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**1 Thessalonians 5:14 (NASB)**

<sup>14</sup>“We urge you, brethren, admonish the unruly, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with everyone.”

**James 2:15-16 (NASB)**

<sup>15</sup>“If a brother or sister is without clothing and in need of daily food,  
<sup>16</sup>and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and be filled,"  
and yet you do not give them what is necessary for *their* body, what use is that?”

**James 3:10 (NASB)**

<sup>10</sup>“From the same mouth come *both* blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not to be this way.”