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Series: The Book of Romans

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

(55)

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

(Continuation from 12/04/16)

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

[Romans 2:6-10 \(NASB\)](#)

<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.”

[\(Romans 2:1-16\)](#) **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 \(v.16\).](#)

3. [\(Romans 2:6-10\)](#) **Judgment:** the judgment of God—of the only living and true God—is according to deeds ([Proverbs 24:12](#); [2 Timothy 4:14](#); cp. [Matthew 16:27](#); [Revelation 22:12](#)), and it will be universal.

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**Romans 2:6-10 (NASB)**

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**Proverbs 24:12 (NASB)**

<sup>12</sup>“If you say, ‘See, we did not know this,’ Does He not consider *it* who weighs the hearts? And does He not know *it* who keeps your soul? And will He not render to man according to his work?”

**2 Timothy 4:14 (NASB)**

<sup>14</sup>“Alexander the coppersmith did me much harm; the Lord will repay him according to his deeds.”

**Matthew 16:27 (NASB)**

<sup>27</sup>“For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and WILL THEN REPAY EVERY MAN ACCORDING TO HIS DEEDS.”

**Revelation 22:12 (NASB)**

<sup>12</sup>“Behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward *is* with Me, to render to every man according to what he has done.”

Everyone will be either eternally rewarded or eternally punished. No one shall be exempt; no one will escape.

**Now note:** judgment is to be based upon a man’s “deeds” (*ergon*) or works. This does not mean that *faith* is not necessary. Contrariwise, there is no such thing as...

- a. faith without works.
- b. righteous and acceptable works without faith.

God’s works—the works that are truly of and for God, that truly please God—are the result of faith. Men believe in and serve and work for many different things in the world. Some believe and work...

- |                              |                     |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| a. for religion              | c. for social clubs |
| b. for service organizations | d. for humanity     |

What God demands is that men first believe and work for Him, reaching out to a world lost and gripped in desperate need. When a man truly believes God, he works for God. (**Cp. [James 2:17](#)**.)

**James 2:17 (NASB)**

<sup>17</sup>“Even so faith, if it has no works, is dead, *being* by itself.”

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God is going to either reward or punish every man according to his works, according to what he has done *with and for God*.

1. There shall be the well-doer's wonderful reward. **Note three things** about the well-doer.

- a. Note what he seeks for: glory, honor, and immortality (see [Deeper Study #1, Glory—Romans 2:7](#); [Deeper Study #2, Honor—Romans 2:7](#); [Deeper Study #3, Immortality—Romans 2:7](#)).
- b. Note how the well-doer seeks: “**by patient continuance**” (*hupomonēn*). The word means “**to be steadfast and constant; to endure, persevere, stick to, and continue.**” The well-doer is faithful in doing good works.
  - I. He does not just start, he finishes.
  - II. He does not live an inconsistent, up and down life. He continues and keeps on doing good deeds.
  - III. He does not give in to hardships, difficulties, or opposition. He endures and perseveres, always doing good.

[Galatians 6:9 \(NASB\)](#)

<sup>9</sup>“Let us not lose heart in doing good, for in due time we will reap if we do not grow weary.”

[2 Timothy 3:14 \(NASB\)](#)

<sup>14</sup>“You, however, continue in the things you have learned and become convinced of, knowing from whom you have learned *them*.”

[Hebrews 12:1 \(NASB\)](#)

<sup>1</sup>“Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us.”

[1 Peter 1:13 \(NASB\)](#)

<sup>13</sup>“Therefore, prepare your minds for action, keep sober *in spirit*, fix your hope completely on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.”

[Revelation 3:11 \(NASB\)](#)

<sup>11</sup>“I am coming quickly; hold fast what you have, so that no one will take your crown.”

- c. Note the wonderful reward of the well-doer: eternal life. Eternal life is said to be the inheritance of a world of glory, honor, and peace ([Romans 2:10](#); cp. [Romans 4:13](#)).

[Romans 2:10 \(NASB\)](#)

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

[Romans 4:13 \(NASB\)](#)

<sup>13</sup>“For the promise to Abraham or to his descendants that he would be heir of the world was not through the Law, but through the righteousness of faith.”

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2. There shall be the evil-doer's terrible and severe judgment. The evil-doer is to be judged **for three reasons**.

- a. He is contentious against God (see [Deeper Study #4—Romans 2:8](#). **The evil-doer does not like what God says; therefore**). The evil-doer does not like what God says; therefore, he strives against it. He wrangles and wrestles, struggles and fights against God. He refuses to buckle under and surrender to God's will. When dealing with God, the evil-doer is contentious.
- b. He does not obey the truth. He sees and hears and knows the truth. He even knows the truth is to be done, but he refuses to do it. He refuses to be persuaded and refuses to believe. He rejects both Christ, the Living Truth, and the Word of God, the written truth. He simply goes about his own life, running and controlling it as he wills. He rejects and refuses to believe and to do the truth.
- c. He does unrighteousness (see [Deeper Study #5—Romans 2:8](#) for discussion).

3. Every evil-doer is to be judged, both Jew and Gentile. No evil-doer shall escape. **“Every soul of man that doeth evil”** shall suffer, and the judgment will be severe and terrible. His judgment will involve indignation and wrath, tribulation and anguish (see [Deeper Study #6—Romans 2:8](#); [Deeper Study #7—Romans 2:8](#); [Deeper Study #8—Romans 2:9](#); and [Deeper Study #9—Romans 2:9](#) for discussion).

[Matthew 25:46 \(NASB\)](#)

<sup>46</sup>“These will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

[Luke 3:17 \(NASB\)](#)

<sup>17</sup>“His winnowing fork is in His hand to thoroughly clear His threshing floor, and to gather the wheat into His barn; but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.”

[Luke 12:47 \(NASB\)](#)

<sup>47</sup>“And that slave who knew his master's will and did not get ready or act in accord with his will, will receive many lashes.”

[Romans 2:8 \(NASB\)](#)

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

[2 Thessalonians 1:7-9 \(NASB\)](#)

<sup>7</sup>“And to give relief to you who are afflicted and to us as well when the Lord Jesus will be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels in flaming fire,

<sup>8</sup> dealing out retribution to those who do not know God and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus.

<sup>9</sup> These will pay the penalty of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power.”

[Hebrews 10:29 \(NASB\)](#)

<sup>29</sup>“How much severer punishment do you think he will deserve who has trampled underfoot the Son of God, and has regarded as unclean the

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blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has insulted the Spirit of grace?"

[2 Peter 2:9 \(NASB\)](#)

<sup>9</sup>“*Then* the Lord knows how to rescue the godly from temptation, and to keep the unrighteous under punishment for the day of judgment.”

[Revelation 20:15 \(NASB\)](#)

<sup>15</sup>“And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.”

[Psalm 11:6 \(NASB\)](#)

<sup>6</sup>“Upon the wicked He will rain snares; Fire and brimstone and burning wind will be the portion of their cup.”

[Isaiah 13:11 \(NASB\)](#)

<sup>11</sup>“Thus I will punish the world for its evil And the wicked for their iniquity; I will also put an end to the arrogance of the proud And abase the haughtiness of the ruthless.”

[Isaiah 26:21 \(NASB\)](#)

<sup>21</sup>“For behold, the LORD is about to come out from His place To punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity; And the earth will reveal her bloodshed And will no longer cover her slain.”

[Isaiah 59:18 \(NASB\)](#)

<sup>18</sup>“According to *their* deeds, so He will repay, Wrath to His adversaries, recompense to His enemies; To the coastlands He will make recompense.”

[Jeremiah 21:14 \(NASB\)](#)

<sup>14</sup>“But I will punish you according to the results of your deeds,” declares the LORD, ‘And I will kindle a fire in its forest That it may devour all its environs.’”

[Malachi 4:1 \(NASB\)](#)

<sup>1</sup>“For behold, the day is coming, burning like a furnace; and all the arrogant and every evildoer will be chaff; and the day that is coming will set them ablaze,” says the LORD of hosts, ‘so that it will leave them neither root nor branch.’”

4. Every well-doer is to be rewarded, both Jew and Gentile. No well-doer shall be exempt or overlooked. “Every man that worketh good” shall receive...

- a. immortality ([Romans 2:7](#)).
- b. eternal life ([Romans 2:7](#)).
- c. glory ([Romans 2:7, 10](#)).
- d. honor ([Romans 2:7, 10](#)).
- e. peace ([Romans 2:10](#)).

[Romans 2:7 \(NASB\)](#)

<sup>7</sup>“To those who by perseverance in doing good seek for glory and honor and immortality, eternal life.”

[Romans 2:10 \(NASB\)](#)

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