

God's Good News About Righteousness

An Inductive Study of the Book of Romans

by James T. Bartsch, WordExplain.com

Study 3, The Condemnation of Moralists

Romans 2:1-16

- A. INTRODUCTION: The Writer, the Readers, and the Good News (Romans 1:1-17).
- B. CONDEMNATION: The Unveiling of God's Wrath against Man's Unrighteousness 1:18 - 3:20
 - 1. The Condemnation of Gentiles 1:18-32. (The term Gentiles refers to non Jewish people in the world.)
 - 2. **The Condemnation of Moralists 2:1-16** (Moralists are those who stand in judgment on others.)
 - a. **The inexcusability of hypocritical moralists 2:1**
 - 1) Moralists are stated to have no excuse.
 - 2) What is the reason that they are inexcusable for their behavior?
 - b. **The inevitability of God' judgment on hypocritical moralists 2:2-5**
 - 1) How is God going to treat the moralizer (2:2)?
 - 2) What does the moralist need to ask himself (2:3)?
 - 3) Why is God tolerant of the moralist (2:4)?
 - 4) How can the heart of the moralist be characterized (2:5)?
 - 5) What is the moralist storing up for himself (2:5)?
 - c. **The basis of God's judgment on all peoples--their works 2:6-10**
 - 1) On what basis will God judge people (2:6)?
 - 2) What will be the destiny for those who, by persevering “in doing good, seek for glory,... honor, and immortality” (2:7)?
 - 3) What will be the destiny for “those who are are selfishly ambitious and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness” (2:8)?

- 4) What can the person who persists in evil expect, regardless of his national origin (Jew or Gentile) (2:9)?
- 5) What can everyone who persists in good expect, regardless of his national origin (2:10)?

d. The impartiality of God's judgment on all peoples 2:11-16

- 1) What is a fundamental truth about God (2:11)?
- 2) What will happen to those who sin (violate God's standards) without knowing God's Law (The Torah, the Five Books of Moses – Genesis through Deuteronomy) (2:12a)?
- 3) How will those who know God's Law be judged (2:12b)?
- 4) Who are those who are declared righteous (2:13)? (Not those who merely _____, but those who actually _____.)
- 5) There are some Gentiles (non Jewish people) who have never been exposed the Law God gave the Jewish people. But when they instinctively follow the Law, what standard will they be held to (2:14)?
- 6) The fact that they instinctively try to keep God's Law shows what about their hearts (2:15a)?
- 7) What role does their conscience and their inner thoughts play (2:15b)?
- 8) One day God will hold all men, including these moralists, accountable for how they have lived their lives. Who will God use as His Judge (2:16)?
- 9) Thought question: There are many people who try to do good in life. Do they, by their own standards, do good ALL the time?
- 10) Thought question: Is there anyone who has ever lived who has NEVER violated his or her conscience?
- 11) Thought question: If we cannot even live up to our own standards, how can we live up to God's?

Condemnation of Moralists (Romans 2:1-16)

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