

THE GOSPEL OF GRACE
A Study in the Book of Romans

God's Judgment and The Law Romans 2

"For it is not those who hear the law who are righteous in God's sight, but it is those who obey the law who will be declared righteous." Romans 2:13

Read Romans 2:1-11.

1. Chapter 2 signals a change in pronouns—from "them" to "you." Review Romans 1:9–17. Who is the "you" in chapter 2?
2. Chapter 2 starts with the conjunction "therefore." With this word, what thought in chapter 1 is our attention drawn to? (1:18-20)
3. What is the "good" person's reaction to Romans 1:29–31? (v. 1)
4. Ask God to show you how you condemn yourself by judging others...and then repent and ask him to humble you.
5. What makes God's judgment righteous? (v. 2)
6. Explain how someone might show "contempt for the riches of [God's] kindness, tolerance and patience" (v. 4). Ask God to reveal how you are guilty of this.
7. What does verse 4 teach about the purpose of God's patience? (2 Pet. 3:9)
8. What will be the result of an unrepentant heart? (v. 5)
9. In what way will God reward/repay each person for what they have done? (vv. 7-8)
10. What point is Paul trying to make in verses 9-10, as he concludes in verse 11 that God shows no favoritism?

Read Romans 2:12–16.

11. What difference does having/knowing the law make in your standing with God? (v. 12)

Why can the Law not protect the Jews from God’s wrath? (v. 13)

12. What light does today’s passage shed on the ultimate fate of those who never hear the Gospel?
(v.15)

13. Verse 16 starts with the phrase “this will take place.” To what does the word “this” refer? (vv. 12-13)

Read Romans 2:17–24.

14. List some of the advantages and privileges of the Roman Jews (see if you can find all nine).
(vv. 17–20)

15. In spite of their advantages and privileges, what accusations does Paul level against them?
(vv. 21-24)

Read Romans 2:25–29.

16. In ancient Israel, what was the purpose of circumcision? (Gen. 17:10–11)

17. What point is Paul trying to make about the worth of being circumcised? (vv. 25-26)

18. In verses 28 and 29 we read that true circumcision is not “merely outward and physical,” but that true circumcision is “circumcision of the heart.” Put this concept into your own words. How can a heart be circumcised? (Deut. 10:16; Rom. 9:6)

What is the true sign of belonging to God? (Deut. 30:6)