

Title: *No Partiality with God*

Text: Romans 2:5-11

Would you take your Bibles, please, and turn to Romans chapter 2. We want to continue where we left off last week. Romans chapter 2 beginning with Verse 5.

(Read Romans 2:5-11)

Prayer

We are in the second area of the first great principle that is taught in the book of Romans. And this is the principle of CONDEMNATION. And under this principle of condemnation we learned, first of all, that all the ungodly, unrighteous, sinful people are definitely condemned by God. This was the subject of chapter 1: verses 18-32.

Then, beginning with chapter 2, we began a discussion of the self-righteous person. The self-righteous person is the person who looks at the ungodly, sinful, corrupt man and says: "THANK YOU LORD, THAT ^{I AM} ~~I AM~~ NOT AS BAD AS HE IS!"....

But unfortunately the self-righteous person does not even know himself; and God clears that matter up in these verses. These verses teach, ~~first of all~~ that this condemnation of the self-righteous person is seen, first of all, in their judgement of the heathen. In the attitude: "THANK YOU LORD, THAT I AM NOT AS BAD AS THE UNDGODLY"....

(1E) Now, as we examined this attitude last time together, we saw, first of all, that it made them feel excuseable before a Holy God.

(2E) Secondly, in vs 4, it made them feel insisnitive to their own needs. They just became indifferent; and they thought lightly of those wonderful attitubutes of God: kindness, forbearnace and patience.

(3E) And this leads us to the thrid major reason why these self-righteous people are condmened. And when we say ^{These people} us, we are talking about us. The third reason is that it makes them inatentive to the bases of God's judgment. They don't attention anymore to the way that God judges....

Are you giving attention to the way God will judge in your life?
There are three area in which I want you to see this.

(1F) First, in Vs 5, the area of repentence.

Vs 5 says, "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."

In this matter of repentence, I notice the condition of a person's heart. It is discribed as being stubborn and unrepentant. We are stubborn.

Now, I have noticed that we don't like people to tell us that we are wrong. Have you notice that? Somebody comes up to you and say, "Hay, you are wrong. Your attitude is wrong. You are absolutely wrong."

Now, that usually dosen't bring B^orth the remark: "PRAISE THE LORD!" You know....But, some of us have learn some christian principles along the way and we might say: "WELL, WHATEVER THE LORD WANTS TO TEACH ME!"....

But down inside we can hardly stand it...."What do you mean, I am wrong Now, we would put it that way. Some of us have a great way of hiding our feelings. Usually in spiritual language.

But, God says that the condition of a persons' heart is subbornness. He us unrepentant. That is what is wrong with us. And we deserve judgment b~~e~~cause of it.

And Paul also mentions the consequences we will face for this kind of subbornness. And this refusall to get right with God when we know we should. According to Vs 5 we are storing up ~~de~~/ wrath against the day of wrath. Just storing or piling up wrath.

Now, I don't know how big your pile is. But I want to tell you what I have down with my pike. However big gets in your mind. If you have roast preacher today it is probable huge. But whatever it is, I want to tell you what I have done with it. I took that whole pile and through it over on Jesus. That is what I did with it.

But if you haven't done that, I want to tell you that that pile of your sin and rebellion and stubbornness in refusing to turn to Christ is piling up so big that one day in the future there is going to be a day of
Accountability.

There will come a day of disclosure, a day of the public display of what the righteous judgement of God is really like. Which we have only seen at times in history, you see. We have only seen certain examples in our life. But wait until that day comes when the whole righteous judgment of God is publicly unveiled to the entire world. My friend, you had better be careful, about subornnes and not repondenting. Not doing what you know God wants you to do. Because we are storing up, piling up wrath for that day of wrath.

In the case of the unbeliever, Revelation 20 describes that day. It tells us that every person regardless of his station in life is going to stand before God in a place called the GREAT WHITE THRONE. And he is going to be judged according to the deeds that he has done. God is going to have books. So the storing up, the piling up process is being written down in books. And he is going to reveal for everybody to see what you have done in your life and prove to you that you deserve your sentence. Which is: to be in everlasting fire for the rest of eternity.

How say, do you believe that? I believe it because of necessity. And because of conviction....Because you see, the Word of God teaches that God is a Holy God. God is a just God, He must punish sin. There is no heaven without a Hell, friends. God doesn't excuse sin. He doesn't ignore it. He doesn't over look it.

And no person has to go to hell. How don't have to go. God wants all people to be saved. WHAT IS THE MATTER WITH US? God is trying to tell us what's the matter with us. WILL WE FACE THE ISSUE? We are subborn. We want to go our own way. And one day we decided. And it is revealed in Romans 1. We decided that the created thing is more important than the creator.

No matter how innocent it was: a person, a thing, a ~~ficar~~, a job, no matter what it was. We decided that it was better than the prority of God..

That started us down. And God is proving what we really deserve. Rependence.....Will you repond of your sin, today?

(2F) The second area in which we are giving inattention to the bases of God's judgment is in regards to awards...rewards.....Vs 6 to 10

You know, the Bible clearly teaches here in two areas: one in the area of conviction. What a person is really persuaded to believe. And also in the area of conduct. He shows that God will reward us.

Now, let me make a statement and you think about it. God will reward you for exactly what you deserve.....

Now, think about that for a moment....

You know, some believers are really excited about the judgment seat of Christ. I think we ought to know about it. The Bible tells us that there will come a time when the believers are going to be judged, evaluated, ~~rewarded~~ and rewards are going to be given for our faithfulness to the Lord.

But remember God will judge you, he will reward you.....according to what you deserve.....

That doesn't really excite me a great deal! Because I am learning more, as I study the Word, about myself. And it kind-of concerns me. Do you know what I mean?

Because I know what God is going to do/ I know what his judgment is like. He is going to reward me for what I deserve....

Now, if you really like that thought, I would recommend a little more careful evaluation of the Word. We are going to get just what we deserve.

Will what do we deserve?.....Well, I know what I deserve. And I don't care to tell you about it.....

That is why I flee to Jesus and ~~can~~ thank Him for His forgiveness. Thank him that I am totally delivered from condemnation and consequences. Because I have asked his forgiveness. I have claimed the blood of Christ as sufficient payment for all my sin and sins. And I believe it with all my heart. There isn't a sin that I could commit that Jesus hasn't already paid for.....HALLIHUJAY....Praise the Lord..

And I am so grateful for that. But boy, what an awful way to live if you don't know that! If you didn't have the confidence that all your sins were paid for. WHAT A HORRIBLE WAY TO LIVE.

Try to rule God out-off ~~of~~ your life if you will, but I am telling you the Bible says that every person has that consequence....

Every person has that awareness that one day we will have to give account to God for what we have done, and thought and said. An account of all of our motives.

God will reward you. He will give you exactly what you deserve. And is according to your conviction. And this is found in Verses 7 and 8. Your conduct is explained in verses 9 and 10.

Whatever a person does he is rewarded accordingly. And it is quite clear in those verses.

(3rd) But the third area in which we are not giving careful attention to God's bases of judgement is the area of respect of persons.

Not only in repentance because of our stubborn hearts and so forth. And the reward issue. That God will give us just what we deserve so we have better be careful about what we say and how righteous we think we are, or we are not. But also in the area of respect of persons.

In Vs 11 he says "for there is no partiality with God."

Now, the word "face" is in there in the Greek language. In other words God looks you in the face and do you know how He sees you?

He sees the real you. He doesn't look at one person and say: "Man, he is really sharp and beautiful. Look at how he dresses today...look at how much money he has...Wouldn't he make a good prospect for heaven."....

Baloney.....Of course the other side is true, also....Friends, aren't you glad that God doesn't look at a person's face? He shows no partiality. I don't care where you live or how much money you have or how good you think you are. God bless you! Whatever things God has given you to enjoy.... PRAISE God....You had better use it for the Lord.....

Listen, God doesn't look at people that way. But somehow we get that idea. Where we live, what part of town, what kind of job we have, and all of that....There is no partiality with God....There is no respect of persons....God will judge us as though we were all the same....

And guess how he looks at us?.....GOOD!.....No way.....Bad, filthy...unclean....wicked.....do you want all the words?.....About 15 of them!...

You say, "How awful! What an awful thing to say! I am going to go out-off church so discouraged and depressed"...

Are you kidding! Oh, listen, the great news of the Gospel is..that Jesus when he died took it all away. I mean that He is the lamb of God which takes away the sin of the world. And you can, if you choose, walk out of this service in the joy of forgiveness, and cleansing.

Not cleansing by trying to be better than somebody else or thinking your are. Or, trying to clean up your own life or reform or whatever.

But no, going out knowing that Jesus loves you and he has forgiven you of everything you have ever done..

That is fantastic.....Especially when you finally accept what God has said about you....And then to realize that he loves you so much. In spite of your wickedness and sin He wants to forgive you. He is a gracious and loving God.

Let me close with this illustration: Would you picture in your mind the sense of the three crosses...

In the middle Jesus Christ died. There was no sin in Jesus Christ. But, all the sin of all people was laid on him when he died. But, there was no sin in him.

Then would you look for a moment at that thief who spit, mocked and sore and wanted nothing to do with Jesus. There was sin in him. And that made him different from the saviour. But in that one moment he had something in common with Jesus. Sin was also on him in terms of the consequence. Sin was in him and on him.

But then that third person. The thief who repented. Oh, there was sin in him. And that made him just like the other thief who did not repent. But there wasn't any sin on him. Because he accepted the fact that all sin was put on Jesus.

Which thief illustrates your life?

Let us close in prayer