

Careful, Moralistic Judges
Romans 2: 1-16

June 2, 2024

Sin

Salvation

Sancti-
fication

Sovereignty

Service

So Long

Verse 1 - 3

**Judgers underestimate their own
sinfulness**

CAREFUL:

Judging with a log in my eye and focusing on the splinter in another's eye – Matthew 7: 3

Hypocritical judging raises self and lowers others



**While you were busy
judging others...**

**You left your closet
door open and a lot
of skeletons fell out.**

Ooops!

A believer is to judge righteously, to be constructive,
and not destructive

“Open your mouth and judge righteously.”

Proverbs 31: 9a

“The spiritual person judges all things.”

1 Corinthians 2: 15

*“Do not judge according to appearance, but with
righteous judgment.” – John 7: 24*

When confronted with a secular worldview, or a sin statement, *speak the truth in love!*

“One word of truth dispels a world of lies”

Oz Guinness

It is unloving to imply that someone is okay by your silence

Verse 4

Judgers – It is the goodness of God
that leads to repentance

God is good, longsuffering, forbears, restrains Himself – this is called common Grace

The moralist judger, and all of humanity, are in the same boat – the sin boat, destined for the waterfall of judgment – *oblivious!*



It is God's goodness that gives people time to repent

God is great at second chances, start overs, and redo's

Verse 5 - 11

A WARNING TO ALL: **Judgment is coming**
That is a fact!

The moralist cannot hide from God who sees into our hearts and knows every motive

SCARY: “ who will render to each one according to his deeds.” (vs. 6)

What is all this deeds, works stuff about?

James can help us:

“ if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can such faith save him? (vs. 2: 14)

**“Faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.”
(vs. 2: 17)**

James and Paul are saying the same thing: *Saving faith results in a changed life, and good works follow*

These works may be miniscule, unable to be seen by humans, but God sees and knows, HE is the judge, NOT ME!

GOOD NEWS: *“There is no partiality with God” – vs. 11*

All are savable, all come to Christ the same way, by grace through faith in Christ alone - Ephesians 2: 8-9

“For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.”

Verse 12 - 16

Judgment is based on God's righteous standards

“ doers of the law will be justified” ; declared righteous in the sight of God – WHUTT??

YES – if a person obeys the law perfectly, they can be justified

There is a huge problem, no one can keep the law perfectly, *only Jesus did this!*

The law is perfect and righteous, can only condemn, cannot save – Romans 3: 20

The law is written on our hearts, every human knows right and wrong – vs. 15

God has given every person a conscience; with knowledge one obeys or disobeys God

The Types of Consciences



- **Good** (Acts 23:1; 1 Peter 3:15-16)
- **Pure** (1 Timothy 3:8-9)
- **Weak/Defiled** (1 Corinthians 8:7-12 Read)
- **Evil** (Hebrews 10:22)
- **Seared** (1 Timothy 4:1-3)

Keeping a Good Conscience

1 Tim 1:18-20

- Implies we could lose a good conscience
- Implies that we must make some effort to retain it
- Implies that retaining a good conscience does not come automatically, or by chance or accident
- Consequence of not keeping good conscience = shipwreck



The question always remains:

Will a person obey the law written on their hearts?

Will they heed their conscience?

This is a moment-by-moment decision!

CLOSING THOUGHTS:

Legalism is a problem for many Christians today

What is legalism?

Adding to Scripture my thoughts and my ways to God's Word

Jesus said, get the log out of your own eye, then deal with the speck in your brother's eye

He does not say ignore the speck, but be sure you have your own house in order



Judging others makes us blind,
whereas love is illuminating. By
judging others we blind ourselves to
our own evil and to the grace which
others are just as entitled to as we
are.

— *Dietrich Bonhoeffer* —

AZ QUOTES

Genesis 3:2-3

The woman said to the serpent, “From the fruit of the trees of the garden we may eat; ³ but from the fruit of the tree which is in the middle of the garden, God has said, ‘You shall not eat from it or touch it, or you will die.’”

HOW TO BECOME A LEGALIST

1. Make rules outside the Bible.
2. Push yourself to try and keep your rules.
3. Castigate yourself when you don't keep your rules.
4. Become proud when you do keep your rules.
5. Appoint yourself as judge over other people.
6. Get angry with people who break your rules or have different rules.
7. "Beat" the losers.

God does not wink at sin, and neither should we

Scripture's focus is mainly addressing sin in our own lives

In dealing with the lost, we speak into their lives, as led by the Spirit, words of Truth

We are not the Spirit; allow the Holy Spirit to lead, and be gentle and appropriate

Be careful with moralistic judging; we are fellow strugglers, fighting the world, the flesh, and the devil

FINALLY:

Be thankful, believer, that your sins were placed on Jesus – *you are no longer GUILTY!*

You have been judicially pardoned, *innocent of all charges!*

THIS IS GOOD NEWS –

THE BEST NEWS!!

Because Jesus paid it all, all to Him I owe!

**May I live obeying Him and following Him, being
conformed to His likeness**

This is the normal Christian life;
this is what God expects of you!

***CAREFUL WITH
MORALISTIC
JUDGING!***



ALLOW GOD TO BE GOD, HE IS THE JUDGE!!