

MESSAGE NOTES

“Practical Teaching for Everyday Living”

TAKING STEPS TO AUTHENTICITY

Romans: The Power of the Gospel

Romans 2

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I. RECOGNIZE YOUR _____ AND STOP _____ OTHERS

YOU, therefore, *have no excuse*, *YOU* who pass judgment on someone else, for at whatever point *YOU* judge the other, *YOU* are condemning yourself, because *YOU who pass judgment do the same things*. (Ro 2:1).

“Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother’s eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? 4 How can you say to your brother, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? 5 You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother’s eye. (Matthew 7:3-4)

So when you, a mere man, *pass judgment on them and yet do the same things*, do you think you will escape God’s judgment? (Ro 2:3).

WHY DO WE JUDGE?

- We are _____ to many of our *FAULTS*
- We *TEND* to _____ our *WRONGS*
- We often _____ our *SINS*

II. GOD’S WRATH WILL COME UPON THE _____

Or do you show contempt for the riches of his kindness, tolerance and patience, not realizing that God’s kindness leads you toward repentance? (Ro 2:4).

But because of your stubbornness and your unrepentant heart, you are storing up wrath against yourself for the day of God’s wrath, when his righteous judgment will be revealed. (Rom. 2:5)

God “will give to each person according to what he has done.*” (Rom. 2:6). *Psalm 62:12

DOES THIS CONTRADICT JUSTIFICATION BY FAITH?

The faith that justifies is a *“faith expressing itself through love”* (Gal 5:6). Paul’s teaching here parallels James: *“Faith without works is dead”* (see Jas 2:14–26). Unless faith is living and produces a harvest of *“true righteousness and holiness”* (Eph 4:24), *it is not true faith* (see Phil 1:9–21).

HONOR AND SHAME _____

- To those who by persistence in doing good seek glory, honor and immortality, he will give eternal life. (Ro. 2:7)
- But for those who are self-seeking and who reject the truth and follow evil, there will be wrath and anger. (Ro. 2:8)

There will **be trouble and distress for every human being who does evil**: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile; 10 but **glory, honor and peace for everyone who does good**: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile. (Ro. 2:9-10)

For **God does not show favoritism.** (Ro. 2:11)

III. PRACTICE WHAT YOU _____ - DON'T BE A _____

Now you, if you call yourself a Jew; **if you rely on the law and brag about your relationship to God**; 18 **if you know his will and approve of what is superior** because you are instructed by the law; 19 if you are convinced that **you are a guide for the blind, a light for those who are in the dark**, 20 an **instructor of the foolish, a teacher of infants**, because you have in the law the embodiment of knowledge and truth— (Ro 2:17–20).

- you, then, who **teach others**, do you not teach yourself? (Ro 2:21).
- You who preach **against stealing**, do you steal? (Ro 2:21)
- You who say that people should **not commit adultery**, do you **commit adultery**? (Ro 2:22).

IV. _____ CHANGE IS THE KEY

A man is not a Jew if he is only one outwardly, nor is circumcision merely outward and physical. 29 No, a man is a Jew **if he is one inwardly**; and **circumcision is circumcision of the heart, by the Spirit**, not by the written code. Such a man's praise is not from men, but from God. (Ro 2:28–29).

God sees not as man sees, for man looks at the outward appearance, **but the Lord looks at the heart.** (1 Samuel 16:7)