

Romans: The Gospel

The Secrets of Men

Romans 2:12-24

Previously:

- Immoral vs. Moral vs. Saved
- Inexcusable before God - Jesus or your effort
- No partiality with God - immoral/moral. Jew/Greek. Man/woman.

<p>[Pray]</p> <p>:12-13</p> <p>Having the law or not doesn't excuse you from the penalty Death and Judgment</p>	<p>When did sin enter? In the Garden A type of law, but really a choice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obey God, life in the garden, fellowship • Disobey, death & separation <p>Choosing between the two Not salvation by works - they didn't need saving...yet</p> <p>Relationship obeyed Sin broke the relationship</p>
<p>Various tribes & peoples in history...</p> <p>Creation is clear. Romans 1 God has made himself known Good, evil, Himself</p> <p>Everyone will be judged - justly</p>	<p>"Not knowing" is not an excuse</p> <p>Speeding - law is broken, the law has no care for mercy or forgiveness. Up to the judge.</p> <p>The law is still broken whether or not you meant to</p> <p>Sin vs transgression</p>
<p>The law doesn't have feelings. Or care about yours.</p> <p>It's right or it's wrong. It's obeyed or it's not.</p> <p>The law is cold, hard and clear.</p>	<p>The law separates right from wrong</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowing or not knowing the law doesn't put us on one side or the other • Our adherence to it does <p>James 1:22-27</p>

:14-15

<p>Gentiles (non-Jews, unbelievers) Heathen!</p> <p>By nature do [the law] Morals! (Don't steal, don't murder)</p> <p>Morals - Of or concerned with the judgment of right or wrong of human action and character</p> <p>Morals (even in concept) are proof because everyone has them</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Societal overlap of morals • Like law of gravity <p><i>"A republic if you can keep it" - Ben Franklin</i> Because he knew it depending on God's morals</p> <p>woke/progressive/post-modern/marxist - <u>Still morals, only redefined</u></p>	<p>A law to themselves - their own behaviors, actions, conscience, guilt (or even lack of) prove law exists and is righteous</p> <p>Conscience - with knowledge</p> <p>Ever just felt something was wrong without having to be told? <i>Watching certain things as a kid, not getting involved with certain crowds</i></p> <p>God gave us each a conscience. Body, soul/psyche, spirit</p> <p>spirit dead from sin until revived by God mind/heart the battleground</p> <p>Conscience built into the soul</p> <p>Going against your own conscience <i>Ding dong ditch</i></p>
<p>Thoughts excusing or accusing themselves</p> <p>Obey or disobey even our own conscience Like a law</p> <p>When it feels good, or you get away with it (without apparent consequence other than a hurting conscience) you do it again, more often, more involved</p> <p>Remember Romans 1 - Given Over</p> <p>God out of mind is the first round of judgment</p>	<p>You know already where you've failed! Unless you've gotten really hard (sharing gospel or law, mindful of if someone is hard or open)</p> <p>It's why people drink, drug, worship idols, ... DO GOOD MORAL WORKS To try and erase their conscience</p> <p>Religious into works They're very conscience of their guilt and are working hard to scrub it away</p> <p><u>But they can't. So they scrub harder.</u> <u>Or make it relative by judging another.</u></p>

<p>Made in the image of God, judge We judge ourselves</p> <p>Animals don't have a conscience, maybe something close to it knowing they've displeased their owner or their herd - have a pecking order</p> <p>For them, more about survival</p>	<p>Conscience flies in the face of survival of the fittest</p> <p>When we crush the weaker our conscience screams (at least it does at first)</p> <p><i>Stealing a wallet at school</i></p>
<p><u>Work of the law</u> written in their hearts</p>	<p>What's the work of the law?</p>

Gal 3:18-26 - For if the inheritance [is] of the law, [it is] no longer of promise; but God gave [it] to Abraham by promise. **What purpose then [does] the law [serve]?** It was added because of transgressions, till the Seed should come to whom the promise was made; [and it was] appointed through angels by the hand of a mediator. Now a mediator does not [mediate] for one [only], but God is one. [Is] the law then against the promises of God? Certainly not! For if there had been a law given which could have given life, truly righteousness would have been by the law. **But the Scripture has confined all under sin, that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe. But before faith came, we were kept under guard by the law, kept for the faith which would afterward be revealed. Therefore the law was our tutor [to bring us] to Christ, that we might be justified by faith.** But after faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor. For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus.

<p>The law could never save. We could never keep it.</p> <p>Its purpose was not to be served, but to serve us.</p> <p>Pointing to our need for the law giver and law fulfiller.</p>	<p>If you want something done right, do it yourself.</p> <p>So God did.</p>
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<p>:16</p> <p>God will judge us by what? The law and keeping it?</p>	<p>No! By Jesus!</p> <p>Law points to our need for Him Obedience is not sufficient, it's already broken. (Speed limit after speeding)</p>
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<p>Isa 64:6 - But we are all like an unclean [thing], And all our righteousnesses [are] like filthy rags; We all fade as a leaf, And our iniquities, like the wind, Have taken us away.</p> <p>The day of judgment - remember Heb 9:27 - And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment,</p> <p>God's the judge The standard - Jesus What's judged? Our secrets</p>	<p>What goes on in your heart Thoughts, intents, motives</p> <p>Remember - if you've... lusted...adultery coveted...stolen Hated...murdered Put yourself in the place of God...</p> <p>Jhn 2:24-25 - But Jesus did not commit Himself to them, because He knew all [men], and had no need that anyone should testify of man, for He knew what was in man.</p>
<p>McDonald's Drive Through - hopefully Chic Fil-A ... TWO LINES Judgment has two lines, too</p> <p>One of those who've rejected Jesus Judged according to the law And it's definitely broken Rewarded for own works - good outweighs the bad in their mind Doesn't matter according to the law</p> <p>Judged for fleshly effort</p>	<p>The other of those who've believed in Jesus</p> <p>Saved by grace through faith</p> <p>What we've done with Him, by Him, through Him, for Him - not of ourselves. Done in faith in God.</p> <p>Cast our crowns back...because He did it all!</p>
<p>According to Paul's good news -</p> <p><i>"He says, 'my gospel,' as a soldier speaks of 'my colors,' or of 'my king.'" - Spurgeon</i></p> <p><u>Paul's good news is that judgment is certain, but it can be avoided</u></p>	<p>Avoided only one way...</p> <p>Jhn 14:6 - Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."</p>

:17-20

The hypocrisy of religion and people who rely on religious merit

Mat 23:23-28 - "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you pay tithes of mint and anise and cummin, and **have neglected the weightier [matters] of the law: justice and mercy and faith**. These you ought to have done, without leaving the others undone. "**Blind guides**, who strain out a gnat and swallow a camel! "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you cleanse the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of extortion and self-indulgence. "Blind Pharisee, first cleanse the inside of the cup and dish, that the outside of them may be clean also. "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs which indeed appear beautiful outwardly, but inside are full of dead [men's] bones and all uncleanness. "**Even so you also outwardly appear righteous to men, but inside you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness.**"

<p>Called Jew - they have the birthright</p> <p>Rest on the Law - Given the law, but trust in their ability to keep</p> <p>Boast in God - speak high things about God without knowing Him</p> <p>But they have no idea what it's for.</p> <p>They're using it wrong! <u>To excuse themselves and judge others!</u></p> <p>Yes, they know the law. What it says. What it means...on the surface at best, twisted at worst.</p>	<p>2Ti 3:1-7 - But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away! For of this sort are those who creep into households and make captives of gullible women loaded down with sins, led away by various lusts, always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.</p>
<p>They don't feed the sheep, they make them their prey</p> <p>They have a <u>form</u> of Godliness "Outward show no inward go"</p> <p>Flesh vs. faith Carnality vs. sanctification Obey in word vs. obey in deed</p> <p><u>Missing the Spirit & Power of God</u> <i>Amazed at Jesus' teachings</i></p>	<p>Know - ginosko - intimate knowledge</p> <p>"You don't truly know what the word of God means until you've obeyed it"</p> <p>Talk about it? But ever lived it?</p> <p>"You can only take others as far as you've gone."</p> <p>Blind leading the blind...</p> <p>Those seeking even in a bad church Find a good church</p>

<p>:21-24 You therefore - pointing the finger now All this setup for the punchline</p> <p>Speck in your own eye</p> <p>The pastor needs the message just as much as the sheep</p> <p>He needs to eat from it first <i>Like a baby bird</i> <i>A chef eating his own meal</i></p>	<p>The hypocrisy of the priesthood Stealing from the people, fingers in the pot</p> <p><i>Congress should really read this</i> <i>Political slander really is this to a T</i></p> <p>Boast in God's law yet dishonor Him!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The law became an idol ● To worship rules instead of relationship ● A weapon to judge ● A cloak for vice
<p>Woman caught in adultery</p> <p>Jhn 8:2-12 - Now early in the morning He came again into the temple, and all the people came to Him; and He sat down and taught them. Then the scribes and Pharisees brought to Him a woman caught in adultery. And when they had set her in the midst, they said to Him, "Teacher, this woman was caught in adultery, in the very act. "Now Moses, in the law, commanded us that such should be stoned. But what do You say?" This they said, testing Him, that they might have [something] of which to accuse Him.</p> <p><u>Accuse Jesus, not her</u> - she was a tool to them for personal pleasure and self-righteous judgment</p> <p>Where's the guy? It takes two to tango Probably a pharisee with his side chick</p>	<p>But Jesus stooped down and wrote on the ground with [His] finger, as though He did not hear. So when they continued asking Him, He raised Himself up and said to them, "He who is without sin among you, let him throw a stone at her first." And again He stooped down and wrote on the ground. Then those who heard [it], being convicted by [their] conscience, went out one by one, beginning with the oldest [even] to the last.</p> <p>Young guys had zeal, not according to knowledge, still thought they were doing good</p> <p>Old guys lived enough life to realize they've messed up and couldn't keep it no matter how hard they tried</p>
<p>And Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst. When Jesus had raised Himself up and saw no one but the woman, He said to her, "Woman, where are those accusers of yours? Has no one condemned you?"</p>	<p>She said, "No one, Lord." And Jesus said to her, "Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more." Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."</p>

<p>Jesus doesn't wish to condemn any of us</p> <p>Our sin, our conscience already do that for us - especially over our secrets</p> <p>Past sins, regrets, things we can't ever forget - we try to bury</p> <p>Things no one might ever know about - but we do, and He does</p> <p>He wants to forgive us - but we must let Him be our defense before God</p>	<p>1Ti 2:5 - For [there is] one God and one Mediator between God and men, [the] Man Christ Jesus,</p> <p>Heb 4:14-16 - Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast [our] confession. For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all [points] tempted as [we are, yet] without sin. Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.</p>
<p>When we have received His forgiveness - the law is not something we have to keep to be saved, we want to keep it because we are saved</p> <p>We go and sin no more because of the love of kindness of Jesus - and His Spirit in us</p> <p>Because without it, we have no power to sin anymore - the law, our conscience and our behavior proves it.</p>	<p>If you're resting on the law, on your goodness, on morality. You know it's no rest at all.</p> <p>Rest on Jesus today, take His yoke upon you - it's light. His burden is easy</p> <p>.</p> <p>And his forgiveness is far better than judgment.</p>