
He will render to each one according to his works. (Romans 2:6)

I. The Judgement of God is Inescapable

- a. We, humans, have the tendency to be critical of everybody except ourselves. We can be self-righteous over the disgraceful behavior of other people.
- b. When we find condemning faults in others we will excuse those same faults in ourselves.
- c. How do we even come to the understanding that we can pass judgement on someone else?
- d. The Jews thought they were free from judgement because they were God's chosen people, but that made their responsibility and accountability even greater. Jews looked down on the Gentiles.

II. God Shows No Partiality

- a. God's truth sets the righteous standard for all. *For He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.* (Matt. 5:45)
- b. God judges according to deeds, just as He judges according to truth. (Luke 18:9-14) God looks at the total impact of our character and conduct.
- c. For example, David committed some terrible sins, but the total emphasis of his life was obedience to God. Judas confessed his sin, yet the total emphasis of his life was disobedience and unbelief.
- d. True saving faith produces obedience and godly living, even though there may be occasional falls.
- e. When God measured the deeds and character of the Jewish nation, He found them to be as wicked as the Gentiles.
- f. The fact that Jews celebrated feasts or regularly honored the Sabbath did not change the fact that their daily life was lived in disobedience to God. (Read Matt. 5:17-22)

III. Thoughts and Considerations for Action

- a. Have you ever lied? What do you call someone who lies?
- b. Have you ever taken the Lord's name in vain? What do we call someone who does that?
- c. Have you ever had thoughts about a man or woman (who you weren't married to)? Read Matthew 5:28, what does that make you?
- d. When we apply the Scriptures to our own lives we realize that we once were liars, blasphemers, or adulterers.
- e. The fact is we have all sinned, and even though we have been forgiven, that does not mean we stop sinning. We continually need God's forgiveness
- f. The Bible tells us to humble ourselves, rather than exalt ourselves. We are told not to focus on failures, but to focus on building each other up. (Romans 12:9-21)
- g. The next time you see a *sinner*, ask yourself, "What have they done that God cannot forgive?"
- h. Those of us who carry the name of Jesus Christ, have a *spiritual responsibility* to follow God's righteous standards. Do not elevate yourself and do not look down on other people.
- i. Christians are called not to major in criticism, but to major in love.