

Sermon Series: Romans

Sermon Text: Romans 2.1-29 The Gospel for a Self-Righteous Society

Pastor: Thus far the reading of God's Holy Word, and may God add His blessing to the reading of His Word.

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

The gospel comes as God's saving power to the self-righteous society.

1) The condemnation of the self-righteous expert of God's Law.

- a) Passing Judgment Shows Knowledge of God's Law (2:1-2)
- b) Knowledge Demands Obedience (2:13)
- c) Even the Most Knowledgeable Disobey (2:3, 17-24)
- d) Disobedience Deserves Condemnation (2:5-11, 25-29)
- e) **Application:**
 - i) Members of the community of the Covenant of Grace are accountable for the knowledge and advantages God has given them.
 - ii) Beware of knowledge without faith and love.

2) The condemnation of the self-righteous conscience under God's law.

- a) Conscience Shows Inner Knowledge of God's Law (2:14-15)
- b) Knowledge Demands Obedience (2:12)
- c) Every Disobedience Is Known to and Judged by God (2:16)
- d) **Application:**
 - i) Every human being is accountable to God's moral law.
 - ii) Evangelization of every nation and people is mercy and necessity.

3) The justification of the ungodly by God's grace.

- a) God's Gracious Dealings Are Guides to Return to God (2:4)
 - i) Kindness
 - ii) Forbearance
 - iii) Patience (slow to wrath)
- b) Conversion, an Inward Work of God's Spirit (2:29a)
- c) Justification, God's Final Verdict (2:29b; 9:30-33)
- d) **Application:**
 - i) Jesus is our fulfillment of the Law. Let us look to Him alone as our Righteousness.
 - (1) His death for our forgiveness
 - (2) His obedience imputed to us for righteousness
 - (3) His resurrection for our vindication
 - ii) Jesus is our true peace of conscience. Let us rest in Him alone as our security.

Doxology: We praise Him "who saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of His own purpose and grace, which He gave us in Christ Jesus before times eternal, and which now has been manifested through the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel." (2 Timothy 1:9-10)