

“Pay Day”
Romans 2:6-11

Introduction:

1. Please Turn Back In Your Bibles With Me:
 - To Romans 2 - Where - Since 1:18:
 - We’ve Been Exploring:
 - The Background & The Backdrop:
 - To The Gospel!
 - Which - According To 1:16 - Is “The Power Of God Unto Salvation To Every One That Believeth!”
2. The Gospel Is Glorious & Brilliant & Bright!
 - But - It’s Light Shines Even More Brightly:
 - When You See It Against:
 - The Rather Dark & Bleak Backdrop:
 - Of What All Mankind Deserves For Their Sin:
 - The Judgment & The Wrath Of God!
3. In This Second Chapter:
 - Paul Wants Us To Know:
 - That God’s Judgment Of Sinners:
 - Is Absolutely Just & Right!
 - And So - He Gives Us:
 - Several Principles Of God’s Judgment!
 - Last Sunday - We Looked At Four Of Those Principles:
 - And That - God’s Judgment Is:
 - Indelible!
 - That It Is Lasting & Permanent!
 - It Is Also:
 - Inescapable & Inevitable & Intense:
 - For Those Who Have Not Responded To God’s Goodness & Forbearance & Longsuffering:
 - By Repenting From Their Sin & Trusting In Jesus As Their Savior!
 - And So - The Only Way That You & I:
 - Can “Prepare To Meet Our God” Is:
 - Through The Gospel!
4. Well - This Morning:
 - We Will Look At Another Principle:
 - Of God’s Judgment:
 - And - How You Can Prepare For:
 - The Day Of God’s Judgment:
 - Which Is Called In 2:5 - “The Day Of Wrath & Revelation – Of The Righteous Judgment Of God!”
5. And So - Paul Further Describes:
 - This Future “Day Of Wrath & Revelation” For Us:
 - In 2:6-11 - “Who will render to every man according to his deeds: / To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and immortality, eternal life: / But unto them that are contentious, and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath, / Tribulation and anguish, upon every soul of man that doeth evil, of the Jew first, and also of the Gentile; / But glory, honour, and peace, to every man that worketh good, to the Jew first, and also to the Gentile: / For there is no respect of persons with God!”
 - In These Carefully-Crafted Verses:
 - The Apostle Paul Wants All Of Us To Remember:
 - That - There Will Come:
 - A Pay-Day – Some-Day:
 - For What We Have Done In This World!
6. **IE:** Do You Remember Your First Pay-Day? For Some Of You, You May Have Been Paid In Cash! My First Real Pay-Day From A Real Job Came In The Form Of A Check!
 - From The Long John Silvers Restaurant In Johnson City, New York! I Don’t Remember How Much It

- Was – It Couldn't Have Been Too Much – But I Was So Proud Of That Pay-Check!
- And I Couldn't Wait To Get Home & Show My Parents! I Had Worked So Hard For That Pay-Day, That I Just Couldn't Wait For It To Come!
- Well - That Is Something God Himself Has Instilled In Us! A Desire To Get Paid For The Work We Do!
- But - This Principle Is Also At Work In The Spiritual Realm!
- In Galatians 6:7 - Paul Also Wrote - "For whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap!" - Or - "You Reap What You Sow!"
- And So - When It Comes:
 - To Living Your Life:
 - Whether It Is For Yourself:
 - Or - Whether It Is For The Lord:
 - Your Pay-Day Will Come **For That** As Well!
 - Some Day! Perhaps Even A Day Very Soon!

* Because - That Future Day Of God's Judgment Will Be - First & Foremost:

1. ***A Day Of Reckoning!***

- Which Is What We Just Read:
 - In 2:6 - "Who will render to every man according to his deeds!"
 - The Bible Is Filled With References:
 - To A Future Day Of Reckoning & Judgment By God:
 - For Every Single One Of Us!
 - **IE:** Even Though It Is Something That The World Likes To Mock & Ridicule - By Lampooning Christians As Crazy People That Look Like & Smell Like Hippies Walking On The Sidewalk With Picket Signs In Their Hands - That Say "Judgment Is Coming!" To The World - This Is Just A Joke!
 - The Apostle Peter Even Saw This Coming - When He Wrote In 2 Peter 3:3-4 - "Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, / And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation!"
 - You See - Just Because You Don't See Or Sense God's Judgment Now - Doesn't Mean It Is Not Well On Its Way!
 - The Truth Is - "Judgment Is Coming!" - Because:
 - God Has A Plan For This Day!
 - As We Are Told In 2:6 - "Who - Referring To God - Will Render!"
 - To "Render" Simply Means "To Repay!"
 - To Give To Someone:
 - That Which He Is Due!
 - **IE:** Like My First Pay-Check From Long John Silvers!
 - You See - God Has Been Patient & Long-Suffering:
 - With This World!
 - As We Have Had **Our** Day, **Our** Say, And **Our** Way!
 - But In The **Coming** Day:
 - It Will Be **God's** Turn!
 - It Will Be **His** Day!
 - He Will Have **His** Final Say!
 - And - He Will Have **His** Perfect Way!
 - This Is What Jesus Himself Says To Us:
 - In Revelation 22:12 - "And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be!"
 - You See - There Is Coming:
 - A Day Of Reckoning!
 - And - Jesus Himself Will Be The Judge!
 - This Is God's Plan For That Day!
 - And - The Reckoning That Takes Place In That Future Day:
 - Will Be Full & Final & Fair!
 - But - We Also See That:
 - God Has A Principle For This Day!
 - As It Says In 2:6 - And - As Jesus Said In Revelation 22:
 - He Will "Render To Every Man According To His **Works!**"

- This Is The Principle We Also Find:
 - In Matthew 16:27 - When Jesus Also Said - "For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his **works!**"
- The "Works" That Are Being Described Here:
 - Are The Personal Actions:
 - You Have Done With Your Life:
 - In This World:
 - Before God!
 - Make No Doubt About It:
 - There Will Be A Pay-Day:
 - Some-Day:
 - For What You Do & For What You've Done!
 - Now - Why Would God Make:
 - Your "Works" The Basis Of His Judgment?
- Because - Your Works:
 - Are Observational!
 - They Can Be Seen - Not Just By God:
 - But By Everyone!
 - **IE:** Its Like The Time-Clock You Might Use To Punch-In & Punch-Out For Work! You Know Exactly What You Will Get Paid For When Pay-Day Comes!
 - So It Will Be With Your Works!
 - You Will "Reap" What You Have "Sown!"
- But - Also - Your Works:
 - Are Objective!
 - God Will Render His Judgment Using The Same Objective Standard For Everyone!
 - Works That **Do Not** Conform To His Character:
 - Are **Unrighteous** Works!
 - Works That **Do** Conform To His Character:
 - Are **Righteous** Works!
- And So - No Matter Who Is Judged:
 - There Can Be No Objections!
 - And This Is God's Principle For That Day!
- **"But Wait!"** - You Might Say!
 - As I Did - As I Prepared For This Message!
 - How Can This Principle Be True:
 - When There Are Other Places In The Bible That Tell Us:
 - That Its - "**Not** by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us!"
 - And Even In 3:20 - Paul Writes:
 - "Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight!"
 - Is Paul Speaking Out Of Both Sides Of His Mouth?
 - The Answer Is:
 - No - Because - Here Paul Is Limiting His Discussion To:
 - The Issue Of Rewards:
 - Not Redemption!
 - It Is Clear:
 - From Both The Bible & Our Own Experience:
 - That - Before God - There Are Two Different Kinds / Categories Of People!
 - In Matthew 25 - Jesus Describes Them:
 - As Sheep & Goats! And:
 - In Matthew 3 & Luke 3 - They Are Called:
 - The Wheat & The Chaff!
 - So - There Are:
 - Two Different Kinds Of People:
 - With Two Different Kinds Of Works:
 - That Come From Two Different Kinds Of Hearts!
 - In Matthew 12:35 - Jesus Also Taught That:

- "A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things!"
- And - This Is Why:
- There Will Be Different Judgments & Different Rewards:
- Even Though They Are Based On The Same Standard! Works!

- So - For Someone Who Is:
- A Believer In & A Follower Of Christ:
- The Day Of Reckoning:
- Will Be A Day Of Reward!
- Because - They Will Reap:
- All That They Have Sown:
- For Their Service To Christ!
- But - For Someone Who Is Not:
- A Believer In & A Follower Of Christ:
- In That Same Day Of Reckoning:
- They Will Get Paid All That They Are Due:
- For Their Sins Against God!

* And So - For Them - That Future Day Of God's Judgment Will Only Be:

2. ***A Day Of Retribution!***

- Which Is What We Find In:
- 2:8-9 - "But unto them that are contentious, and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath, / Tribulation and anguish, upon every soul of man that doeth evil, of the Jew first, and also of the Gentile!"
- And - True To Their Form, That We've Already Seen In Romans - We See:
- The Pride Of Unbelievers!
- The Works That Unbelievers Will Be Judged By:
- Are Found In 2:8:
- They "Do Not Obey The Truth, But Obey Unrighteousness!"
- And - You Know - It ***Takes Work*** To Not Believe Or Obey The Truth About God - Doesn't It?
- **IE:** Its Like When Someone - Namely A Man - Tries To "Work Smarter Not Harder!" What Usually Happens? A Lot Of Times It Turns Out Longer & Harder In The End!
- Proverbs 13:15 Is So True - "The Way Of Transgressors Is Hard!"
- And So - In Their Pride:
- Unbelievers:
- Willingly Ignore The Truth - And:
- Willingly Indulge In Unrighteousness!
- Have They Forgotten:
- The Principle Of Pay-Day?
- Pay-Day Will Come For Them:
- Some-Day! And - On That Day:
- They Will Receive:
- The Punishment Of Unbelievers!
- Which We Find At The End Of 2:8 & The Beginning Of 2:9:
- Four Levels & Degrees Of Punishment:
- "Indignation And Wrath - Tribulation And Anguish!"
- "Wrath" Is The Great Displeasure:
- Of God Upon Them!
- "Indignation" Is The Great Devastation:
- That Will Be Wrought Upon Them!
- "Tribulation" Is The Great Distress:
- That They Will Feel In Their Bodies! And:
- "Anguish" Is The Great Despair:
- That They Will Feel In Their Souls!
- Though There Are Some Subtle Differences:
- Between These Words:
- Altogether:
- They Try To Describe A Suffering That Is, In Reality, Indescribable!

- It Takes Paul Four Words:
 - That Are Alike In Many Ways:
 - To Give Us Just A Sense:
 - Of What The “Wages Of Sin” Will Be Like!
- But - Why Does Paul:
 - Reveal To Them Their Reward?
 - To Get Them To Change!
 - To Get Them To:
 - Believe & Obey The Truth! And:
 - To Get Them To:
 - Repent & Return From Their Unrighteousness!
- And Yet - So Many Of Them:
 - Will Continue Down:
- The Path Of Unbelievers!
 - They Will Continue To Be:
 - 2:8 - “Contentious!”
 - They Will Keep Living For Themselves:
 - Even Though They Know “The Judgment Of God!” (1:32)
 - **IE:** They Keep “Digging Their Heels” In Against The Gracious Tugging Of God At The Rope Of Their Conscience!
 - Does This Describe You?
 - If So - Remember - “You Will Reap What You Sow!” But Also:
 - They Will Continue To:
 - 2:9 - “Do Evil!”
- And So - This Is What That Day Of Reckoning:
 - Will Be For The Unbeliever!
 - And This Will Be Their Reward!
 - “Indignation And Wrath, Tribulation And Anguish – Upon Every Soul That Doeth Evil!”

* But - There Is A Second Group We Find In These Verses!

- And They Are Christians! Believers In & Followers Of Christ!
 - They Are The Ones Who:
 - “Out Of The Good Treasure Of The Heart Bringeth Forth Good Things!” (Mt. 12:35)
- And Now - Since They Have Been **Redeemed** By The Free Grace & Mercy Of God:
 - They Can Look Forward To Being **Rewarded** For Their Service To Christ!

* Because - For Them - That Future Day Of God’s Judgment Will Be:

3. ***A Day Of Reward!***

- Which Is What We Find In:
 - 2:7 & 10 - “To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and immortality, eternal life: / But glory, honour, and peace, to every man that worketh good, to the Jew first, and also to the Gentile!”
 - So - We See Here:
- The Pursuit Of Believers!
 - They Are The Ones Who:
 - 2:7 - “Seek For Glory And Honor And Immortality!”
 - Now - These Are Not Proud Or Vain Pursuits!
 - What This Means Is That:
 - The Goal & Aim Of A Christian’s Life:
 - Is God And His Approval!
 - To Seek For “Glory” Means:
 - That You Are Living Your Life:
 - For The **Praise** Of God!
 - So That One Day:
 - You Can Hear Him Say To You:
 - “Well Done, Thou Good And Faithful Servant!”
 - Can There Be Any Greater Reward?

- To Seek For “Honor” Means:
 - That You Are Living Your Life:
 - For The **Pleasure** Of God!
 - So That One Day:
 - You Can See The Smile Of Your Savior:
 - As He Welcomes You Home With These Words - “Enter Thou Into The Joy Of The Lord!”
 - Can There Be Any Greater Reward?
- To Seek For “Immortality” Means:
 - That You Are Living Your Life:
 - For The **Purity** Of God!
 - So That One Day:
 - As John Puts It In 1 John 3:2 - “We know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is!”
 - Can There Be Any Greater Reward?
- If You Are A Christian:
 - It Is Not Wrong:
 - To Pursue After These Goals!
 - Because In Seeking These Things **From** The Lord - You Are Seeking **The Lord** Himself!
- Is This What You Are Pursuing Today?
 - In Your Life & Through Your Works?
 - As You Do - You Must Never Forget That Faithfulness To The Lord Can Only Come From Saving Faith In The Lord!
 - Hebrews 11:6 - “But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him!” - But We Also See:
- The Promise To Believers!
 - What Will Be Your Reward - When You Belong To Christ?
 - 2:7 - “Eternal Life!”
 - When You Turn To & Trust In Jesus Christ To Save You From Your Sin:
 - Not Only Is Eternal Life:
 - Your Possession!
 - Eternal Life Is Also:
 - Your Prize!
 - On One Occasion - Peter Asked Jesus:
 - A Very Honest & Heart-Felt Question - A Question That So Many Other Christians Have Asked
 - At One Time Or Another:
 - Matthew 19:27 - “Behold, we have forsaken all, and followed thee; what shall we have therefore?”
 - Did Jesus Reprimand Peter? No! Instead What Did He Say?
 - Matthew 19:29 - “And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name’s sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life!”
 - But - Not Only Will Eternal Life Be Your Reward! Also:
- 2:10 - “But glory, honour, and peace, to every man that worketh good!”
 - So - The **Praise** From God:
 - That You Sought After:
 - You Will Receive!
 - And - The **Pleasure** Of God:
 - That You Sought After:
 - You Will Receive!
 - But Even More - You Will Also Receive:
 - The **Peace** of God:
 - As An Added Blessing:
 - That Will Last Forever!
 - Can There Be Any Greater Reward?
 - And - These Rewards Are Reserved For:
- The Pattern Of Believers:

- Which Paul Describes:
 - In 2:7 - "To Those Why By Patient Continuance In Well Doing" & In 2:10 - "To Every Man That Worketh Good!"
- You Need To Remember That:
 - Though Good Works Are Never:
 - The Pathway **To** The Cross!
 - They Are Still The Pathway:
 - **From** It!
- And So - This Is What That Day Of Reckoning - Can Be For You!
 - If You Come To Christ By Faith:
 - For Redemption:
 - You Can Now Live For Christ:
 - With Your Works:
 - And Even Be Rewarded Some-Day By His Own Nail-Pierced Hands!
 - When You Receive Your:
 - "Inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you!" (1 Peter 1:4)

Conclusion:

1. And All Of This Leads Up To:
 - The Fifth Principle Of God's Judgment:
 - In 2:11 - And That Is:
 - God's Judgment Is Impartial!
 - "For there is no respect of persons with God!"
2. This Is Why:
 - In 2:9 & 2:10 - Paul Tells Us That:
 - Both - God's Reward For Believers - And:
 - God's Retribution On Unbelievers:
 - Will Be Directed To:
 - "The Jew First, And Also To The Greek!"
 - Because - God's Judgment:
 - Is Impartial!
 - Noone Is Exempt From His Judgment!
 - Not Jews! Not Gentiles!
 - Not You! Not Me!
 - Noone Can Escape From His Judgment!
 - Not Jews! Not Gentiles!
 - Not You! Not Me! And:
 - Noone Can Have An Excuse At His Judgment!
 - Not Jews! Not Gentiles!
 - Not You! Not Me!
 - None Of Us Can Say To God:
 - That He Is Unfair - Or That:
 - He Is Unjust!
 - Because - God Will Judge:
 - The Works Of Everyone!
 - 3. So - What Will God's Day Of Judgment:
 - That "Day Of Wrath & Revelation" - Bring:
 - To You?
 - What Kinds Of Works:
 - Are There In Your Life Today?
 - 4. Do Your Works & Does Your Life:
 - Reveal A Heart Of Unbelief?
 - Are You Ignoring The Truth & Indulging In Sin:
 - By "Obeying Unrighteousness"?
 - If So - Then:
 - All You Have To Look Forward To:
 - On That Final Pay-Day:

- Is The Judgment Of God!
 - And - You Will Get:
 - All That You Are Due!
 - Is That The Reward:
 - You Really Want?
 - This Reward Does Not Have To Be Your Reward!
 - Turn To The Only One Who Loved You & Lived For You & Died For You - To Redeem You!
 - And Then:
 - You Can Have Something:
 - To Look Forward To:
 - In That Day Of Reckoning!
5. Because - When The Works You Do:
- Reveal A Heart Of Belief In Christ:
 - Then In That Day Of Judgment:
 - You Will Finally & Forever:
 - Reap What You've Sown:
 - For Christ!
 - As Paul Wrote:
 - In Galatians 6:8-9 - "For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting. / And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not!"
6. What Will **Your** Reward Be:
- On That Great Day Of Reckoning:
 - Before God?

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