

The Book of Romans

How to be Right with God

(Romans 2:1-11)



Context:

- The 5 cycles of Paul's persuasive argument concerning justification.



Cycle 5: The Explanation Concerning Israel 9:1-11:32

Cycle 4: The Permanency of Justification 8:1-39

Cycle 3: The Benefits of Justification 5:1-7:25

Cycle 2: The Only Means Of Justification 3:21-4:25

Cycle 1: The Universal Need For Justification 1:18-3:20

Context:

- The 5 cycles of Paul's persuasive argument concerning justification.
- The cycle argument follows this format:
 - The cycle (theme) presented
 - The hypophora argumentation (Q and A)

The Universal Need of Justification:

The moralist's self-righteousness

***Read Romans 2:1-11

5 truths concerning God's judgment

1. God's judgment is righteous

1- God's judgment is righteous v. 1

- “Therefore” (Cf. Romans 1:18-32... esp. 32)
- Who is “without excuse”?
- What does it mean to be “without excuse”?
- Why is this person “without excuse”?

[My translation]

2:1 Therefore, you are without excuse, O man, whoever is judging, for in which you judge another, you condemn yourself, for the one judging, is doing the same.

5 truths concerning God's judgment

1. God's judgment is righteous
2. God's judgment is known

2- God's judgment is known v. 2

- Who is “we” (1st person plural)?
- What is the “judgment of God”?
 - It is according to truth
 - It is against those doing these things
 - It is elaborated in the following verses.
 - It is related to the concept of a hardened heart
 - It has a connection to end times judgment (cf. 2 Thessalonians 2:1-12)

2:2 But now we have known the judgment of God is according to truth against those doing these things.

5 truths concerning God's judgment

1. God's judgment is righteous
2. God's judgment is known
3. God's judgment is restrained

3- God's judgment is restrained vv. 3-4

- 2 questions:

1- do you think you won't be judged?

2- do you not understand the purpose of God's kindness

3 Do you imagine this, O man who is judging the one doing these and *also* doing the same, that you will escape the judgment of God?

4 Or are you looking down on the wealth of His kindness, forbearance, and patience, being ignorant that the kindness of God leads you to repentance?

3- God's judgment is restrained vv. 3-4

- Is this person a believer or unbeliever?
 - Does it matter?
- Either way you go you must keep Paul's point in mind. Every person has a universal need to be justified. He is focusing on the sinfulness of man and the expected judgment. He hasn't gotten to justification yet.

5 truths concerning God's judgment

1. God's judgment is righteous
2. God's judgment is known
3. God's judgment is restrained
4. God's judgment is expected

4- God's judgment is expected vv. 5-8

- When is this day of wrath?

5 But because of your unrepentant and hardened heart you store up for yourself wrath in the day of wrath and revelation of God's righteous judgment 6 Who will give each according to his works; 7 to those who by patient endurance of good work, are seeking glory and honor and immortality, eternal life; 8 but to those who from selfish ambition, are disobedient to the truth but obedient to unrighteousness, anger and wrath.

4- God's judgment is expected vv. 5-8

When is this day of wrath?

- Several views are argued but to name a few:

(Popular) – many say this is the GWTJ

(Arguable) – Rene Lopez argues for temporal judgment with the first mention of wrath and 70th week of Daniel with the second mention of wrath.

(Preferred) – This is speaking of the wrath of the DotL

4- God's judgment is expected vv. 5-8

(Preferred) – This is speaking of the wrath of the DotL

- ἀποκαλύψεως (“revelation” = The return of Christ)
- This would make for an emphasis on the imminency of Christ's return.
 - Because it is considering that those alive when Paul is speaking these things will be the recipients.

4- God's judgment is expected vv. 5-8

- When is this day of wrath?
- Why are there quotes in verse 6?
 - OT concept (cf. Job 34:11; Ps. 62:12; Jer. 17:10)
 - Also see Revelation 2:18-23

5 But because of your unrepentant and hardened heart you store up for yourself wrath in the day of wrath and revelation of God's righteous judgment 6 Who will give each according to his works; 7 to those who by patient endurance of good work, are seeking glory and honor and immortality, eternal life; 8 but to those who from selfish ambition, are disobedient to the truth but obedient to unrighteousness, anger and wrath.

4- God's judgment is expected vv. 5-8

- When is this day of wrath?
- Why are there quotes in verse 6?
- What “truth”? (cf. 1:18-25)

5 But because of your unrepentant and hardened heart you store up for yourself wrath in the day of wrath and revelation of God's righteous judgment 6 Who will give each according to his works; 7 to those who by patient endurance of good work, are seeking glory and honor and immortality, eternal life; 8 but to those who from selfish ambition, are disobedient to the truth but obedient to unrighteousness, anger and wrath.

4- God's judgment is expected vv. 5-8

- Judgment and not justification is in view. Paul hasn't gotten there yet. He is cementing the case that there is a universal need for justification. SO here Paul is arguing that the one who judges someone for doing the list of things in verses 29-31 condemns himself because he does them too.

5 truths concerning God's judgment

1. God's judgment is righteous
2. God's judgment is known
3. God's judgment is restrained
4. God's judgment is expected
5. God's judgment is impartial

5- God's judgment is impartial vv. 9-11

- God does not judge based on “race”
- God does not judge based on gender
- God does not judge based on influence
- God judges based on righteousness

9 Distress and trouble, upon every soul of man committing evil, both of the Jew first, and of the Greek, 10 but glory, honor, and peace to every man doing good, both of the Jew first, and of the Greek.

11 For there is no partiality with God.

Application:

- Are you unrighteous or self-righteous?
- Have you trusted Christ?

