

Romans 2:1-5

FOLLOWING THE MESSAGE

- 1) 2:1 We all have an internal mechanism that tells us what is right and what is wrong: our consciences.
- 2) 2:1 A complacent person makes two severe errors:
 - Underestimating the magnitude of God's standard of righteousness.
 - Underestimating the enormous depth of their own sin.
- 3) 2:1 A common weakness of humans is to exaggerate the faults of others while minimizing our own (Matthew 7:1–3).
- 4) 2:2 An outwardly moral person who is satisfied with their own “goodness” is harder to reach with the gospel than the degenerate who has hit the bottom.
- 5) 2:2 Everyone (except God) has distorted discernment; none of us can make an accurate evaluation of someone else. But God's perspective is always perfect because He sees all (Hebrews 4:13; 1 Samuel 16:7).
- 6) 2:2 Man knows enough to recognize the ugliness of his own heart, but hopes God will judge in the same superficial way society judges.
- 7) 2:3 A self-righteous man who judges those who practice the same things he himself practices brings greater judgment on himself. God will judge him also for his hypocrisy (Matthew 23:27).
- 8) 2:4 Mankind is so accustomed to God's mercy that we have become guilty of taking it for granted, not realizing that we receive His good things purely because of God's patience.
- 9) 2:4 Kindness refers to the benefits God gives; tolerance refers to the judgment He withholds; patience to the duration.
- 10) 2:4 All of humanity benefits from God's common grace, even though fallen man ignores it.

- 11) 2:4 The purpose of God's kindness is convict mankind of sin, leading to repentance.
- 12) 2:5 The knowledge of Jesus makes us inexcusable. Greater knowledge of God's truth makes us more accountable to the truth (John 15:22, 24; Hebrews 10:26–29).
- 13) 2:5 No one can really understand salvation apart from grasping the truth that we all stand guilty before God.
- 14) 2:5 The Bible is clear...If you have enough knowledge to judge others, you are self-condemned, for you then know enough to judge the true condition of your own heart.

GREEK WORDS

Oida—to have seen or perceived :- that which is commonly known and obvious

Kataphroneō—to think down on; to underestimate the true value

Anochē (an-okh-ay')—self-restraint :- forbearance; to hold back

Makrothymia (mak-roth-oo-mee'-ah)—fortitude :- longsuffering

Metanoia—repentance; changing one's mind about something

Sklērotēs (sklay-rot'-ace)—callousness :- hardness

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