

# To Judge or Not to Judge

## Romans 2:1-16

### Introduction

#### I The Unrighteous Judgment Of Man

- A. Two errors to avoid:
  - 1. **Hypocritical** judgment
    - a. It is inexcusable - Matt 7:3-5
    - b. It is self-condemning - 2 Sam 12:1-25; Matt 7:1-2
    - c. It incurs God's judgment - Prov 16:5
  - 2. **Passive** non-judgment
    - a. We are called to judge - Matt 7:15-20; 1 Cor 5:11-13

#### II The Marks Of Righteous Judgment

- A. It is based on **truth** - Ps 9:7-8; 96:13
- B. It is characterized by **kindness**, tolerance and patience  
Titus 3:4-5; Ps 78:38-39; 2 Pet 3:9,15
- C. It leads people toward **repentance** - Jon 33:27-30

#### III The Righteous Judgment And Wrath Of God

- A. It will be **stored** up
  - 1. For those with a **stubborn** heart - 2 Chron 30:8; Heb 3:13
  - 2. For those with an **unrepentant** heart - Jer 5:3
- B. It will be **fair**
  - 1. Based on what each person has **done** - Jer 17:10
    - a. To those who persist in doing good 1 Cor 15:58
      - 1. **Eternal** life
        - a. Those who seek glory - 2 Cor 4:16-17
        - b. Those who seek honor - 1 Pet 1:7
        - c. Those who seek immortality - 2 Tim 1:10
    - b. To those who persist in doing evil
      - 1. God's **wrath** and anger - Isa 3:10-11
        - a. Those who are self-seeking
        - b. Those who reject the truth
        - c. Those who follow evil
- C. It will be **impartial**
  - 1. **Trouble** and distress for those who do evil - 2 Pet 2:9

- a. To Jew and Gentile
- 2. **Glory**, honor, peace for those who do good - 1 Pet 1:7
  - a. To Jew and Gentile
- 3. For God does not show **favoritism** - Col 3:25
- D. It will be **reasonable** - Ps 130:3-4
  - 1. Those who sin apart from the law
    - a. Will perish apart from the law
  - 2. Those who sin under the law
    - a. Will be judged by the law

### PERSONAL APPLICATION

Take some time this week to consider the following:

1. Have you ever been judged critically by someone else? How did you feel about it? What impact did it have on your relationship with the person? With God?
2. Read Matthew 7:1-2. What is the danger of judging someone else critically? In what ways have you judged others critically?
3. Some people say that "it's not our place to judge anyone else". Is this Biblical? Why or why not? [Hint: Read Matthew 7:15-20; 1 Cor 5:12-13; 2 Tim 3:16-17]
4. Paul delineates three marks of righteous judgment [points II.ABC]. What are they? Based on God's example, what should be our approach when we discover a fault or sin in someone else? Is there someone in your life right now whom you could apply these principles to?
5. Romans 2:6-11 appears to be teaching that we can attain salvation by works? Is this true? [Hint: Read Ephesians 2:8-9 and Titus 3:5] What then is the relationship between faith and works? What is Paul's real point in this passage?
6. Is God's kindness, tolerance and patience leading you toward a growing love and appreciation for him and others? Or do you take His kindness and patience for granted and critically judge those around you? Repent and ask God for forgiveness and thank Him for the righteous standing you have in Christ alone.

**BOB HALLMAN - THE EPIC LIFE**

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