

No respect of persons v5 11

- "For there is no respect of persons with God." Rom 2:11
- "For the Lord your God is God of gods, and Lord of lords, a great God, a mighty, and a terrible, which regardeth not persons, nor taketh reward" Deut. 10:17
- "Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons: But in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him." Acts 10:34
- "For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what should a man give in exchange for his soul? 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." Math 16:26,27
- I believe this respect is much like we use it today, but more. When we respect someone, we elevate them in our minds to something higher than others. And we mean it usually as a compliment. "I really respect so and so" We hold them in higher regard because of something they have: character, honor, loyalty, bravery... things like that. But when we start to regard someone more because they have money, or position, or prestige... then we can see where it starts to go sour. In fact, the bible speaks against placing someone with money in a good seat and someone without money in a not so desirable seat. (James 2)
- But in this you see the meaning of the word. Respect is to give something to someone because of something they have. God does not do that.
- When it's all said and done. God is looking for one thing. That's the blood, the blood of his dear Son that was shed for the remission of sins...
- There's only one thing that God will respect, the blood of Jesus Christ.
- And this is not something you and I have attained or earned or own. But it's something that was provided to us. Up on the mount, to Abraham and to all that will listen, God said, "I will provide the sacrifice!"
- There is no respect of persons with God.

WITHOUT THE LAW and IN THE LAW v5 12

- The main thing I want us to see \Rightarrow We (EX) are not in this crowd (EX)
- to speak of 2 people - without law, in the law (under the law)
- As many as have sinned without law shall perish without law
- pack forth \Rightarrow Judgment's turn
- Perish \Rightarrow Luke 18:3
- Perish is a term of judgment. Destruction of a people that is unrepentant.
- this points to verse 4
- As many in the law
- Hint \Rightarrow
- here shadowing \Rightarrow
- I'll get to the Jews

- Both Parties are under Judgment & Condemnation.

- ROMAN 8:1

There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. NO CONDEMNATION

- I believe rewards for the saved, condemnation for the lost
- What about the sins of the saints?

- #1 The blood.

#2 The judgment seat of Christ Rom 14:10
1 Cor 3:11-15

- We're not part of the crowd.

- God has sowed us from the WRATH to come.

- Blood is the way / I'm not on that road

PARENTHETICAL

- The famous parenthetical "**Not hearers, but doers**" Rom 2:13-15
 - o You hear this verse coupled with the words of James, when he says, "But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. For: if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed." James 1:22-25

- James is talking about the perfect law of liberty. The law of the Spirit. For where the Spirit is, there is liberty.
- That's NOT where Paul is in the 2nd chapter of Romans.
- Paul is speaking of the Law of God as it pertains to the judgement and wrath of God. More specifically, the Levitical Law, the Torah, the Pentateuch, the 1st five books of your Holy Bible: The Law of God; The one that condemns, not the one that frees.
- So, you have to keep that in mind when you hit this parenthetical.
- These are not verse of encouragement like we see in James.
- These are words of explanation.
- James is encouraging one to be a doer of good works and deeds.
- And Paul is explaining how all truly qualify as doers of the law, hence will be judged by the law.
- ***"The work of the law in their hearts"***
 - Later on in Romans, Paul says, "Is the law sin? God forbid. Nay, I had no know sin, but by the law: for I had not known lust, except the law had said, Thou shalt not covet. But sin, taking occasion by the commandment, wrought in me all manner of concupiscence.
 - Concupiscence -> lust. Lust does not just mean "sexual desire" There's much more to lust than that. Just a few scriptures:
 - James 1:15 "Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death."
 - 1 John 2:16 "For all that in in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof; but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.
 - Galatians 5:17 "For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh, and these are contrary one to the other..."
 - Remember back in the wilderness when God gave Moses the law, the 10 commandments. The bible says it was written with the finger of God. I believe that Paul is saying that God put his finger on his sin, by the law. The law pointed his sin out.
 - And whether you are without law or under the law, when your sin is pointed out inside of you, it IS the work of the law.
 - "For when the Gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these having not the law, are a law unto themselves. Paul is saying they don't have the Torah. They don't have the commandments, the statutes, the judgments. They don't have the Old Testament, but there's something inside of them that caused them to do the same things that the Levitical Law teaches to do, because it's the same law that is working in their heart. The difference is that God wrote it down somewhere in there hearts instead of on tables of stone.
 - This is what Paul was getting at earlier, He said, "For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all unrighteousness..." Read on Rom 1:18-20
- ***"The conscience also"***

- The conscience also bearing witness. Once again no excuse. You might have not heard any preaching. You may have not heard someone reading the law of God. But you did hear that little voice in the back of your head that has been bearing witness since the day it began to speak.
- The bible speaks a lot about the conscience. A Good conscience, a pure conscience, a convicting conscience, a conscience void of offence toward God, the testimony of our conscience, a weak conscience, a seared conscience
- And in this passage, Paul says that the conscience is bearing witness. The conscience is one Jehovah's witness that we better not turn away at the door, amen? Witness? Witness of what? The law of God. No excuse
- **"Their thoughts"**
 - Their thoughts the mean.
 - Here mean is used as a noun. We don't use mean as a noun unless were talking about math. The mean is the average. Mean, median.
 - As a verb, some synonyms might be to intend, to aim, to plan, to design.
 - So as a noun, some synonyms might be an intention, the aim, the plan, the design.
 - So with that, we can say that Paul is saying that their thoughts bear witness of the the plan or the design. What plan? What design? This the design of the law.
 - Their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another.
 - People without THE law, will make A law. They will accuse or excuse based on this law.
 - But this law is the same law that God gave the Jews, but they're not getting it from a scroll,they're getting from their hearts, their conscience, and their thoughts.
 - Their thoughts think this law out and carry it out. Accuse and excuse.
- So when Paul says "For as many as have sinned without law shall also perish without law" he's not saying they're just going to die without judgment in a lawless society.
- That's not what he's saying.
 - #1 he's saying that they're going to perish. That means to be destroyed in judgment.
 - He's saying they WILL be judged and destroyed in judgment because even though they had not the Jewish law, they did have the law of God in their hearts, and in their conscience, and in their thoughts. There is no excuse.

The secrets of men

- I found it interesting that Paul, would say this right after what he said in verse 6.
- What did he say? He said that God would render to every man according to his **deeds**.
- Deeds are the acts that you've done. Things that you've carried out.
- "I'm not a murderer!" "I've never killed anybody!" "I've never gone to jail!" "I've never raped someone!" "I've never molested a child!" "I've never taken advantage of anybody like that!" "I don't drink!" "I don't smoke!" "I don't cuss!" "I don't cheat and lie and steal!" "I don't do this!" "I don't do that!"

- In fact, "I do good!" "I take care of my kids!" "I pay my tithes!" "I pay my taxes!" "I go to church!" "I feed the poor!" "I've prophesied!" "I've cast out devils!" "In thy name, I've done many wonderful works!"
- I remember one of those nights at the revival meeting we were having before I got saved. The preacher preached on heaven.
- And I remember he gave five ways to know if you're saved. And one of them was Romans 8:9 **"Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his."**
- Do you love the brethren "We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren" 1 John 3:14
- Do you love the Word of God
- Do you love the house of God
- Do you live a changed life "Therefore, If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature, old things have passed away, behold all things have become new..." 1 Cor 5:17
- Do you have the spirit of God living inside of you.
- "Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his."
- This is the one that stumped me. I thought, how do I know that I have the Spirit of Christ in me?
- So I started looking at my life, and all the good things that God has done in my life.
- I remembered there was a time that I didn't even believe there was a God, now I did. Now, I'm preaching the gospel, I was going to the prison, passing out tracks.
- I remembered I used to cuss openly and freely, and now I didn't.
- I craved not television and movies and rock and roll like I had once done before.
- God had given me a beautiful family, we living the separated sanctified family life.
- I thought I'm living a pretty good life now, where once I didn't.
- I thought, "He must!" "The Spirit of God MUST be living in me!"
- What I did was look at my deeds. And there's nothing necessarily wrong with that.
- But God does not just judge according to deeds, but God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ
- You know, the funny thing, was that after I got saved, all those "good" things that I accounted in my life didn't seem so good any more. God had taught me that "All our righteousness is as filthy rags"
- The secrets of men.
- David said, "Who can understand his errors? Cleanse thou me from secret fault" Psalm 19:12,13
- Ecclesiastes 12:13 "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgement, **with every secret thing**, whether it be good, or whether it be bad."
- With every secret thing. It will be every work. It will be every deed. But it will also be every secret thing.
- Jesus said "For nothing is secret, that shall not be made manifest; neither any thing hid, that shall not be known..." Luke 8:17
- The secrets of men: This is not something that God is hiding. It's something that we are hiding. And there's no place to hide such things, but in the heart.

- Jeremiah said "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: WHO can know it? I the Lord search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to the fruit of his doings" 17:9
- It's only God that can see and understand the heart of man. I the Lord search the heart.
- That's why the Psalmist said, "Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: And see if there be any wicked way IN me, and lead me in the way everlasting." 139:23,24
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Conclusion

- This is why to Paul was saying, it doesn't matter if you're without law, or under the law, it's the secrets of men that will ultimately condemn a man or a woman.
- It's what in the heart that really matter.
- That is why he has said, "For with the heart, man believeth unto righteousness, and with the mouth, confession is made unto salvation."
- Every man, woman, and child has a heart. You need not religion, pedigree, or creed to believe in Christ. You need only your heart.
- For with the HEART man believeth unto righteousness
- "In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel"
- By Jesus Christ.
- There is no righteousness outside of Jesus Christ. The only righteousness that we can ever hope to attain is righteousness that Christ has wrought for us on the cross of Calvary.
- When God made it crystal clear to Peter that salvation was not just for Jews, but for Gentiles as well, he sent him to a man named Cornelius.
- It was there that he preached this message: Acts 10:34-43
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