

According to his deeds (Romans 2:5-10) "...God; 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,..."

- **GOD IS THE JUDGE**

- In this matter of rewards, it's important to remember WHO is the rewarder, WHO it is that will do the rendering.
- Strewn all over our life, our daily life, is the expectation in our head or our heart to please.
- To please our children, our husbands, our wives, our boss, the customer, our co-workers, our brothers, our sisters, our pastors.
- Or the main one that demands our attention is the person you greet in the mirror every morning. Most of all we do, is aimed at pleasing ourselves.
- You may receive some reward from these, but when it's all said and done, it's God that will render to every man according to his deeds.
- Paul said, "*And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not to men; Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ.*" Col 3:23
- Of the Lord ye shall receive the reward, **GOD IS THE JUDGE**
- Have you ever heard that expression, "You can't please everybody!"
- Well, you can't, and you shouldn't.
- But everybody who **SHOULD** be pleased will be pleased, and everybody who **SHOULD** be disappointed will be disappointed, if we worry first and foremost about pleasing the Lord
- If we seek the will of God, to do and fulfill, I believe the Lord will take care of pleasing and disappointed who he sees fit.
- Now we ought to seek out good counsel and heed it, but not all counsel is good. Not all advice is good advice.
- A lot of times, when we seek counsel, we're not seeking the will of God. No. We're usually just looking for someone to prop us up, to win the heart of someone other than God. The complete opposite of trying to please the Lord and serve the Lord.
- **GOD IS THE JUDGE**, when we have a decision to make or a deed to do, we ought to let the judge take a look at it before we let someone else look

at it. And we get real spiritual about it too, "I need you to help me pray about something.."

- It's like gossip. "We need to pray about Sister So and So..." "Why?" "Well, because blah blah blah blah..." If God wants you to pray for someone, then PRAY
- We got problems and trials, and we tell everybody but the one person that can help us. We try to get everybody's opinion, but the only one's opinion that really matters, and that's the JUDGE.
- If you stand before a judge in a court of law, it all comes down to what the judge says. It doesn't matter what you think. It doesn't matter what your friend thinks. It doesn't matter what your lawyer thinks. What will matter in the end, is what the JUDGE decrees.
- God is the judge; Not man.
- Paul was exhorting the Ephesians
 - Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands
 - Husbands, love your wives
 - Children, obey your parents in the Lord
 - When he got to servants he said this and I believe it applies to all. *"Servants be obedient to them that are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in singleness of heart, as unto Christ; Not with eyeservice, as men-pleasers; but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart; With good will doing service, as to the Lord, and not to man: Knowing that whatsoever good thing any man doeth, the same shall he receive of the Lord, whether he be bond or free."*
 - What a jewel! "Well I'm not a slave!" Whether he be bond or free.
- Whom do you serve? Seek not reward from man. It will all perish.
- John 2:25 "...he knew all men, And needed not that any should testify of man; for he knew what was in man."
- If we can just keep our eyes off of man and keep looking unto to Jesus the author and finisher of our faith.
- GOD IS THE JUDGE.
- So many things to do. So many responsibilities. And I've found that the better you are at handling responsibilities, the more you're gonna get. But so many things and people pulling us in different directions.
- If I could just remember whom I serve. I serve the Holy God who has shown his glory upon this wretched sinner; the merciful Savior who shown his light deep down in the darkest parts of my soul.

- How can I complain? How can I not do my best for such a wonderful Savior like Jesus?
- There's a lot of thankless things we got to do in this life, but we have to remember, in the end, it's God that will render to everyman according to his deeds. GOD IS THE JUDGE

- GOD WILL RENDER

- Render?
 - This is an interesting word to me. Back in college, at RIT, I was part of a software group that worked on 3D rendering. So in my mind, to render has always meant to take data, process it, and then display it somehow.
 - I've heard the word used a lot when talking about accidents: "The accident rendered his legs disabled." "The explosion rendered his ears useless."
 - I wanted to make sure I had the right understanding of this word so I looked it up in the Greek. And it means, "to give back, return, restore" In other place of the bible, it's translated as "award, fulfill, pay"
 - So God is going to pay, or award, or give back, to every man according to his deeds.
 - Now sometimes, verses like this are going to put the Baptist on shaky ground. We don't believe that you can earn eternal life, by deeds, right?
 - Okay, well in verse 7 it says that God is going to render, give, pay, or award certain ones eternal life. So sometimes what you are, theologically, or denominationally, will depend on how deep you dig.
 - So on the outset, yes this verse sounds like a works salvation.
 - And no doubt, Church of Christ, and Catholics, and every other works cult is going to use this verse to promote their cause.
 - The thing to remember is that Paul is not going to say one thing in one chapter and change his stance in the next chapter. He's not going to contradict himself.
 - Remember, Paul's formula for salvation will always be, "Repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ."
 - Go with what the word means. Some people will try to change the meaning of the word to match their doctrine.

- Some Baptist might gloss over this passage in order not to deal with the implications of the verse.
 - But I've learned, that these are the verses to study. These are the ones to dig in deep and learn them. Everytime I have, salvation by grace has always turned up. And there will never be a substitute for the blood of Jesus Christ.
- So with that, we look at this part of the verse: "God WILL render to every man according to his deeds"
- We looked at the subject: God. And now we look at the verb: render.
- God WILL pay, he WILL award, he WILL give, he WILL render
- *"Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap"* Gal 6:7
- God WILL pay.
- If you think that there are no consequences to what you do, you are mistaken. If you think there is no reward for doing right, you are mistaken. If you think there is no punishment for doing wrong, you are mistaken. God WILL render!
- I try to teach this to my children, and I have the same message for you today: The decisions you make today will follow you the rest of your life.
- Good decision, good deeds, will bless you and others the rest of you life.
- Bad decisions, bad deeds, will curse you and others and follow you the rest of your life.
- I've preached on this before: Personal responsibility is the core of Christianity. I look around and can't help but ask myself, where is the responsibility????
- Pot hole testimony. Everybody is pointing to someone else.
- Take a look around. It's not my responsibility to care for my health, that's the government's job. It's not my responsibility to save for my future, that's the government's job.
- Look at our young people today. They get all tattooed up, rings and studs coming out of their ears, noses, eyebrows, everywhere.
- We're living in a culture that thinks there are no consequences.
- People want to have relations outside of marriage. Relations without responsibility. Just pop the pill, there won't be any consequences. Soon enough, the BC doesn't work, along comes little Johnny. But they still don't want responsibility, they just snuff him out. Let Kermit Gosnell take care of little Johnny. There won't be any consequences. If the baby makes

it past Dr. Kermit, they still don't want responsibility. Let grandma raise the kid, afterall, you got a life to live, and anyway, there's no consequences. Big Johnny finds himself another girlfriend, because this one with the baby is too much trouble, any way, there are no consequences.

- And even inside of marriage, we want our career, we want the big house, the big car, the big TV. People want everything but the responsibility of raising children. But why not? There are no consequences to vanity. There are no consequences to selfishness and covetousness. People want to play, but don't want to pay.
- No consequences. You hear the news. Time and time again, some wicked person assaults and kills an innocent child or woman, and it turns out the guy had been in jail several times for batter, assault, and all kinds of other things, but somehow, someway is this judicial systems of no consequences, the guy walked. And now he killed someone. No personal responsibility. No consequences. No consequences to the jury or the judge that let this guy walk. No consequences to the slick lawyer that weezled him out of there and profited off of it. No consequences to a society that would allow this to go on and on.
- I could keep going. But my point is: We may have it all wrong down here. We've got a society or culture where people get away with things they ought not. And we may go from day to day, thinking that it's all okay, it's all taken care of. The foundations slowly erode away, and we think the building will never fall. But it will. And great will be it's fall.
- God WILL pay to every man according to his deeds.
- That's the old message that Noah preached in those days while he built the ark. "God is going to render to every man according to his deeds!" God is going to pay! God is going to pay. And they said, "Ahh, we'll be okay." But then the day came.
- God WILL render.

- TO EVERY MAN

- God is he subject, render is the verb, what's next? The object
- EVERY MAN
- I think this brings us back into the real context of Paul's message.
- Vs 9 says of the Jew first, and also of the Gentile
- Vs 10 says to the Jew first, and also to the Gentile
- Vs 11 says For there is no respect of persons with God.

- They say that the ground is level at the cross. There are no big Is or little yous (or no little Is and big Us)
- It makes no difference who you are or where you came from, all will be put on the balances.
- Young or old, Rich or poor, black or white, Jew or Gentile, God will render to EVERY man.
- You will receive from God something. EVERY man gets something.
- No one will be left out, no one will be forgotten.
- No name will be missed. God will render to EVERY man

- **ACCORDING TO HIS DEEDS**

- 'God' is the subject, 'render' is the verb, 'every man' is the object, but now what is this "according to his deeds"
- This is a prepositional phrase I believe, where "according" to is the preposition.
- This tells us more information about the sentence. This gives us details. This tells us HOW God is going to get it done.
- And this is really where I wanted the message to end up because Verse 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11 are about this preposition
- *"...God; 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,..."*
- This explains how he will do the rendering. He will do it accordingly.
- According to what? According to his deeds.
- We see in this passage that God has got two things to give out.
- One is eternal life, and with it come glory, honour, and peace.
- The other is the opposite: indignation, wrath, tribulation, and anguish.
- These are the two consequences that we will be held responsible for or accountable for.
- The fallacy that there are no consequences to our deeds lies not just in the godless, but in the god-fearing, the Christian.
- There are consequences to well doing. There are consequences for doing the will of God. There are consequences to doing right.
- *"For we are his workmanship created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them."*

- There are consequences for walking in the good works that God has ordained for you.
- Let me put it another way. Consequence is not an evil word. It does have a negative connotation to it. But when the consequences are good, we call that a reward, a blessing.
- The fact that God is going to render to every man according to his deeds should put fear in the heart of the sinner, but it SHOULD put hope, joy, and great anticipation in the heart of the saved.
- There are rewards in heaven. There are good things for those who believe and most of all for those who do the will of God.
- *"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,..."*
- It is worth living for God. It's worth trying to live right for God. Well doing? We patiently continue in well doing. What is well doing? It's walking in works that God hath before ordained that we should walk in. It's living for God. It's walking with God. It's living a life that pleases God. It's living good and right before God and before man.
- Well doing is when you get your eyes off this world and the things of the world and set your sights on the glory of God, the honour of God, and immortality.
- Paul is saying that those who do that, will get it.
- If you are saved, you can do it. When you are in Christ and Christ in you, you can walk in the works that God hath before ordained that you should walk in.
- Someone who is not in Christ cannot step unto that path. They follow another path, the broadway that leads to destruction. Or Paul says, "indignation and wrath, tribulation and anguish"
- But the patient path of well doing is for the saved. And eternal life awaits the pilgrim at the end of this path. God WILL render to every man according to his deeds.
- Paul is assuring us that we WILL be rewarded for the life we live today.
- I don't know about you, but that really encourages me.
- It encourages me to want to LIVE for God.
- I want my life to count for Christ.
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