

THE MOST IMPORTANT BOOK IN THE WORLD!

# ROMANS

# Romans 2: Paul's Gospel and Human Righteousness

1. God is the Judge, and He will judge The Secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to Paul's Gospel. (2:16)
2. Excuse #1: Relative Righteousness
  - God does not look at the external but at the Heart. (2:4-5)
  - Believing Paul's Gospel—the Love of God at the Cross of Christ is the only thing big enough to soften and enlighten a darkened, hardened, unrepentant heart. (Gal. 2:20)
  - Despising Paul's Gospel despises the Person and Work of Christ, and only treasures up wrath not righteousnesses.
3. The worst place to be in the whole universe is to think you can enhance your own supposed righteousness by treasuring up works while despising the work of God in Christ and the Gift Righteousness He wants to give based on that work.

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## 4. Excuse #2: Human Works.

--God does not look at the external works but at what generated them. (2:6-10)

--From The Pattern of Paul leading to righteousness and life because it leads to the Person and Work of the Immortal Source of eternal life, glory, honor, peace.

(Rom. 5:1-11; 1 Tim. 1:16-17)

—Christ's Righteousnesses/Work = Believer's Righteousness

--From The Pattern of Holding God's Truth in Unrighteousness leading to sin and death, indignation and wrath, tribulation and anguish. (Rom. 1:18-32; 2:8-9; Eph. 2:1-10)—SINS

## 5. Excuse #3: Gentile saying he didn't have the Law, and the Jew saying he did have the Law.

--God does not only looks at external sins but at the what power produced them-- SIN.  
(2:12)

--Despising Paul's Gospel results in perishing with or without the Law.

--Believing Paul's Gospel results in being removed from wrath and condemnation.

(Rom. 5:9-11; Rom. 8:1-2)

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6. Fallen humanity's fundamental problem is not that they commit SINS but that they are enslaved to Master SIN who powerfully works in them to produce SINS.  
--Rom. 3:9; 3:23; 7:14; Gal. 3:22
7. It is not that fallen humanity CAN do good works but doesn't and needs to try harder.  
It is that fallen humanity CANNOT do good works because God cannot call "good" that which was produced by SIN.

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8. Their only hope is for God to transform the heart and free them from Master Sin and its Power.

## **Despising Paul's Gospel:**

--Rom. 1 & 2—a darkened, foolish, hardened, unrepentant heart full of evil lusts.

## **Believing Paul's Gospel (2 Cor. 4:5-6):**

--Rom. 5:5—the Love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit given to us.

--Rom. 6:17—now we can obey from the heart.

--Rom. 8:27—now, God who searches the hearts, makes intercession for believers in accord with God's Will.

--Gal. 4:6—now, God the Holy Spirit resides in the heart.

--Eph. 3:17—now, God the Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, dwells in the heart by faith.

9. God's Deliverance from Sin and Death is the RICHES OF HIS GLORY: CHRIST IN YOU, THE HOPE OF GLORY! (Col. 1:27)

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10. The only hope is for God to take us back to Himself.  
--Rom. 6:14-18: The only way to be freed from Master Sin and its Power is to believe Paul's gospel and be handed over to another Master—the Lord Jesus Christ where believers are under GRACE (v. 15).
11. It has to be this Truth, especially Paul's Gospel, because that is the only message that can transform the heart and mind, bringing about faith and obedience. (Rom. 6:17)
12. God's great "Handing Overs":
  - a. Handed over Fallen Humanity to Master Sin. (Rom. 1:18-32)
  - b. Handed over His Son to the Cross. (Rom. 4:25; 8:32)
  - c. Handed over believers over to the Body of Truth that brings them back to God through Christ. (Rom. 6:17)
13. Before we were the servants of **Sin—Death—Law--Flesh**
14. Now we are the servants of God in **Righteousness—Life—Grace--Spirit**