

NO EXCUSES AT THE JUDGMENT (Romans 2:12-16)

I. Gentiles will not escape God's judgment.

- A. Notice that Paul says those "without law" in verse 12.
 - 1. This has reference to Gentiles.
 - 2. They were outside or without the Law of Moses.
- B. God never made a covenant law with the Gentiles once they left off knowing Him.
 - 1. Notice that Paul says they have sinned.
 - 2. They had to be under some law because only where there is law is there sin.
 - 3. We know this must be the case because Jonah went and preached to a Gentile city and told them to repent and they did.
 - 4. What would they repent of unless they had sinned and how could they sin unless there was a law?
- C. Because they sinned, they would be judged and condemned for their sins
- D. Some might say that is not fair.
 - 1. Paul answers that in vs. 14-15.
 - 2. They had a natural understanding of right and wrong.
 - 3. When they did that which was wrong, it violated their consciences.
 - 4. Because of that they were condemned.
 - 5. Just because they had left off knowledge of God did not mean they did not have some form of what we might call "oughtness."
 - 6. They knew morally what they ought and ought not to do.
- E. If they could have been perfect, never violating what was morally right or wrong, they would not have been condemned.
 - 1. However, no man is sinless.
 - 2. Thus they would be condemned.
- F. The fact that they were not under the Mosaic Law will not excuse them from their sins.
- G. This truth is why so many have been compelled to go to the mission fields.
 - 1. Those people who have never heard of our Lord are still going to be condemned for their sins.
 - 2. They need to know there is a Savior who loves them and wants them to be saved.

II. Jews will not escape God's judgment.

- A. The Jewish nation, in general, believed they would not be judged because of their possessing the Law of Moses.
- B. Paul wanted his readers to understand this would not be the case.
- C. Those who were in possession of the Law would be judged if they had sin in their lives as well as those who did not have the Law.
- D. The truth is, the Law of Moses will condemn the Jew who sinned.
- E. The fact is, simply having the Law is not enough.
 - 1. It was not enough to hear the word only.
 - 2. The word "hearer" was a word used for a student who sat and

- 3. listened to lectures.
- 3. It took action, a doing of the law, to be justified under it.
- F. It took a following of the Law for a Jewish person living in the Mosaic Dispensation to be justified.
- G. Paul is not telling us that keeping the Law only brings about justification.
 - 1. The fact is, God requires perfect obedience to be justified by law keeping.
 - 2. If we could perfectly keep the Law, God would owe us salvation.
 - 3. We would be sinless.
 - 4. This is impossible, thus we all need the grace of God and the blood of Christ to allow for us to be justified.

III. There will be a judgment, a judge and a standard.

- A. Paul concludes this section by letting his readers know there is going to be a judgment.
 - 1. This ties in with verse 12.
 - 2. Those who have sinned will be condemned, both Jew and Gentile, at the judgment.
- B. There is no getting away from the judgment.
- C. The One who will judge us is the Christ.
 - 1. Paul preached this in Athens (Acts 17:30-31).
 - 2. On that great day, the Lord will judge between the righteous and the wicked and reward each with a sentence of heaven or hell for all eternity.
 - 3. He will judge our actions, words and thoughts.
- D. The standard He will use will be the gospel Paul preached.
 - 1. It is a perfect standard for judgment because it is divine in origin.
 - 2. This message did not originate with Paul or any other apostle or inspired man.
 - 3. It originated in heaven and then transmitted by revelation to those who preached in the first century and those who were inspired to write the Bible.