

October 20, 2024

The Law on our Heart Romans 2:1-16 Pastor Kirk Gambrell

Vol. 14 Num. 41

Using This Study

❶ EXAMINE His Word

What does God SAY? Open your time with prayer. The words God uses to communicate matters, so go back and pay close attention to the details that are emphasized or repeated in the passage.

❷ EXPLORE His Word

What does God MEAN? Asking questions of the text helps surface how the details relate to the message God wants to communicate.

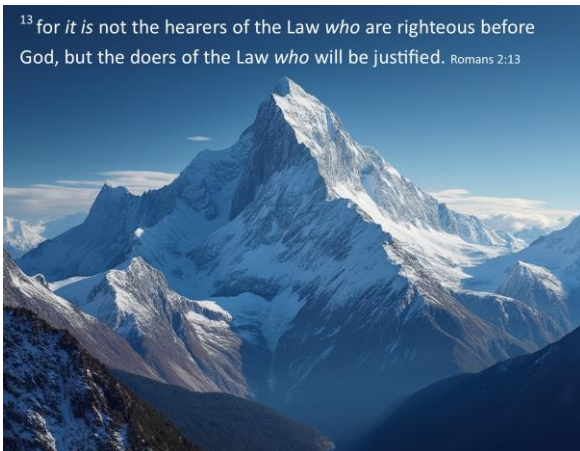
❸ EMBRACE His Word

Why does it MATTER to me? Embrace God by responding to what you discover in His word in faith and obedience.



This week we move to Chapter 2 in our study of Romans. Here Paul make a very clear warning about Judging others. When we judge others we will be judged in the same way. The waring is against hypocrisy. When followers of Christ claim to be righteous by their actions it has the potential to cause the church to be seen in a bad light because none of us are righteous on our own. Join us this week as we look at the dangers of judgment and discover how we can do good without leaving Christ open to ridicule.

¹³ for it is not the hearers of the Law who are righteous before God, but the doers of the Law who will be justified. Romans 2:13



The Impartiality of God

2 Therefore you have no excuse, you *foolish* person, everyone *of you* who passes judgment; for in that *matter in* which you judge someone else, you condemn yourself; for you who judge practice the same things. ² And we know that the judgment of God rightly falls upon those who practice such things. ³ But do you suppose this, you *foolish* person who passes judgment on those who practice such things, and yet does them *as well*, that you will escape the judgment of God? ⁴ Or do you think lightly of the riches of His kindness and restraint and patience, not knowing that the kindness of God leads you to repentance? ⁵ But because of your stubbornness and unrepentant heart you are storing up wrath for yourself on the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God, ⁶ who will repay each person according to his deeds: ⁷ to those who by perseverance in doing good seek glory, honor, and immortality, *He will give* eternal life; ⁸ but to those who are self-serving and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, *He will give* wrath and indignation. ⁹ *There will be* tribulation and distress for every soul of mankind who does evil, for the Jew first and also for the Greek, ¹⁰ but glory, honor, and peace to everyone who does what is good, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. ¹¹ For there is no partiality with God.

¹² For all who have sinned without the Law will also perish without the Law, and all who have sinned under the Law will be judged by the Law; ¹³ for *it is* not the hearers of the Law *who* are righteous before God, but the doers of the Law *who* will be justified. ¹⁴ For when Gentiles who do not have the Law instinctively perform the *requirements* of the Law, these, though not having the Law, are a law to themselves, ¹⁵ in that they show the work of the Law written in their hearts, their conscience testifying and their thoughts alternately accusing or else defending them, ¹⁶ on the day when, according to my gospel, God will judge the secrets of mankind through Christ Jesus.

o EXAMINE His Word (Observation) (For personal preparation)

What does God SAY? Prayerfully note significant details from this passage.

Make 10 of your own observations from this passage. Avoid jumping to make interpretive decisions or drawing applications. Save those for the sections that follow. At this point just observe this passage and what it says. Look for things that are emphasized, repeated, and what stands out to you. Look at the verbs, what actions are in the text? Who is involved in the text? There is no right or wrong answer, just list 10 things you see in the text.

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🕒 **Explore His Word (Interpretation)** (For Community group discussion)

What does God MEAN?

1. What impacts the way we are judged?
2. According to verses 2-5, what standard does God use to judge both the righteous and the unrighteous? How does this align with our understanding of justice?
3. Verses 6-10 describe the outcomes of good versus evil deeds. How does this passage reconcile with the concept of salvation by faith alone? Discuss the role of deeds in light of faith.
4. Why does Paul emphasize that God shows no partiality? Why would this be important in Rome? Why is it important in our culture?
5. What does it mean to have the law written on your heart? Who has this?
6. Paul talks in this passage about everyone being held accountable according to their deeds. How should we understand this in light of grace?
7. What does it mean to judge the secrets of mankind through Christ?

Summarize your thoughts on the passage

Write about what God wants you to **KNOW**, to **FEEL**, and to **DO**...

Sermon Notes