

# CALVARY BIBLE CHURCH

“Studies in the Book of Romans - 04

Date: September 20, 2008

Text: Rom.2:1-16

Speaker: Dennis L. Finnan, Sr. Pastor

## ***THE MORALISTS ARE GUILTY!***

**INTRODUCTION** As Paul marches on in His godly assessment of mankind, he now comes to measure by God's standards, another group of humanity. This time he speaks to both the Gentiles who assert that by their own righteousness they are acceptable to God. The Moralists judge his goodness by his own standards, but they are no match to the righteousness of God. Let's look at this and see...

### **I. The Moralists' Self-righteousness – (2:1-4)**

- A) They say – “*We are Better*”
- B) God says – “*You are No Better*”

### **II. The Moralists' Self-discipline – (2:5-11)**

- A) They say – “*We do Good*”
- B) God says – “*Goodness is not Godliness*”

### **III. The Moralists' Self-condemnation – (2:12-16)**

- A) They say – “*We are Innocent, we know not the Jewish Law*”
- B) God says – “*You are Guilty, you have My Law in your Heart*”

**CONCLUSION:** In this first part of Romans chapter two, Paul nails down the failure of the Gentile world's so-called morality to be an acceptable substitute for God's righteousness. “Goodness is not godliness” is the theme here and since the moralists' good deeds and works are in God's sight unacceptable – he is condemned as the heathen are. Are you earning your salvation and acceptability to God the same way? It may be by righteous deeds, or religious asceticism but nonetheless they are all worthless in the sight of our holy and just God. The only righteousness that can save us is Jesus Christ's! Have you received Him and his?

## **TEXT FOR MESSAGE**

***The New International Version***

Rom 2:1-16 (NIV) You, therefore, have no excuse, you who pass judgment on someone else, for at whatever point you judge the other, you are condemning yourself, because you who pass judgment do the same things. 2 Now we know that God's judgment against those who do such things is based on truth. 3 So when you, a mere man, pass judgment on them and yet do the same things, do you think you will escape God's judgment? 4 Or do you show contempt for the riches of his kindness, tolerance and patience, not realizing that God's kindness leads you toward repentance?

5 But because of your stubbornness and your unrepentant heart, you are storing up wrath against yourself for the day of God's wrath, when his righteous judgment will be revealed. 6 God "will give to each person according to what he has done." 7 To those who by persistence in doing good seek glory, honor and immortality, he will give eternal life. 8 But for those who are self-seeking and who reject the truth and follow evil, there will be wrath and anger. 9 There will be trouble and distress for every human being who does evil: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile; 10 but glory, honor and peace for everyone who does good: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile. 11 For God does not show favoritism.

12 All who sin apart from the law will also perish apart from the law, and all who sin under the law will be judged by the law. 13 For it is not those who hear the law who are righteous in God's sight, but it is those who obey the law who will be declared righteous. 14 (Indeed, when Gentiles, who do not have the law, do by nature things required by the law, they are a law for themselves, even though they do not have the law, 15 since they show that the requirements of the law are written on their hearts, their consciences also bearing witness, and their thoughts now accusing, now even defending them.) 16 This will take place on the day when God will judge men's secrets through Jesus Christ, as my gospel declares.