

King James Bible Study Correspondence Course

An Outreach of Highway Evangelistic Ministries
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The Book of Romans Lesson 7 – no respect of persons

Chapter 2:9-17

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Verse 9. *...Tribulation and anguish upon every soul of man that doeth evil, of the Jew first, and also of the Gentile; 10 But glory, honour, and peace, to every man that worketh good, to the Jew first, and also to the Gentile: 11 For there is no respect of persons with God.* Good works will not save your soul. But good works will bring you peace. What else does it say, if you do not respond properly to the light God gives you; you will not get anymore. Where will you end up? In a place of outer darkness. Why? You did not want light. God is merciful, He is love, but do not take that to mean everybody gets to heaven. He gives you what you want, He is not going to drag you into heaven kicking and screaming, if you do not want to be there.

He is kind if you want to die in your sin, He will let you live in your sin and die in your sin. If you want to be forgiven, washed in the blood; if you want to have eternal life He will give you that. In the jail I often ask "who wants to go to heaven when they die?" Almost every hand in the audience goes up. Then I tell them that there will be no beer, no drugs, no parties with adulterous fornicating women, no rock n roll, no rap and no r & b. As I look around the room, the hands go down and their faces change.

If your heart is in the things of the world then you will not want to be in Heaven. Remember Lot's wife? But if you want to dwell forever in glory – God is kind, gracious and merciful – He will give you what you want.

Verse 9-10. There are two classes of people in the world. They are described in these verses. One class is looking upward. They continue in well doing while they seek after glory. They will receive eternal life. Of course everyone in this group is a believer in the Lord Jesus Christ.

When the question was asked "What shall we do, that we might work the works of God," the answer was: given," ²⁹ *Jesus answered and said unto them, This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent..*"

John 6:29 (KJV)

The other class takes sides with self and sin against God vs. 8, 9. They do not obey the truth but obey unrighteousness, yielding themselves to what is wrong. The harvest from such sowing will be wrath and fierce anger, trouble and anguish: At the great white throne they will be judged according to their works. Revelation 20:12 and be cast into the lake of fire.

Verse 11. *For there is no respect of persons with God.* This verse can best be described with Revelation 20:12 (KJV) ¹² *And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was*

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opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. In this life a man is judged by the amount of money or education he has acquired in a lifetime, but not so with God, that is not important to Him. What is important to God that you have trusted in His Son in your lifetime. If you have not, no matter how great you were, you will die in your sins and be separated from God forever.

Verse 12. The context of the remarks in this chapter run back to the first chapter. Romans 1:18. *For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness; 19 Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them. 20 For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made...* And the argument that God makes is that every human being born in this world is born with a knowledge and an understanding that there is a Creator... there is an Almighty God to whom we are accountable.

Second truth that we found in that first chapter of Romans is that every man, when he strays from his faith in God's revelation and strays into sin that God will always smite that man's conscience, He always makes that man aware that he is wondering into sin and so a man to lose his soul must walk over the testimony of God, that God is – and that he must walk over the convicting power of the Holy Spirit – convicting him or stating to him that he is committing sin and iniquity against God. That is the theme of chapter 2.

Therefore thou art inexcusable, O man, whosoever thou art that judgest: for wherein thou judgest another, thou condemnest thyself; for thou that judgest doest the same things. The theme of verses 1 thru 11 is that every man knows that there are things that are wrong and he proves that when he points them out to others when they do them. But the sad truth of the matter is – that we all see more clearly the sins in other people's lives than we see those same sins in our own lives. It is always easy to see that person is a hypocrite or a gossip – whatever it might be, but we fail to turn that mirror back on ourselves.

Verses 12 to 29. Let us get the dispensational understanding. The book is written to the Romans and yet more than half of chapter 2 is speaking directly to Jews – not Romans. So you rightly divide the word of truth; but you do not build walls around this part of the Bible. the Bible says this in verse 12 *For as many as have sinned without law...* Who would that be? That would be everybody that has not been born a physical descendant of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. No Gentile was ever given the law. The Law was given to Israel, *For as many as have sinned without law shall also perish without law:* You will not be judged for what you did not have; you will be judged for what you **did**

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have. If you never had the law, if you never read the law, if you were never required to keep the law – you will not stand before God and answer for breaking the law.

Verse 12 goes on to say this. *...and as many as have sinned in the law shall be judged by the law*; That Israelite nation, they are responsible for obeying the statutes that God gave to Moses; and if they violate those statutes they will be judged accordingly. They will be found guilty accordingly – not because of what they did not have but because of what they **did** have. Do you see the principle? God is going to judge you on the basis of what you received from God. If at one time in your life, God presented His Gospel through a preacher, tract, or a church message, your response is what you will be judged on.

Verse 13. Look at the parenthesis – runs all the way down through the 15th verse. So this is an additional thought that is part of what we just read in the 12th verse. *(For not the hearers of the law are just before God, but the doers of the law shall be justified.* It is not enough to know what is right. You have to act upon it. It is not enough to know what God said. You have to act upon it. *14 For when the Gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these, having not the law, are a law unto themselves: 15 Which shew the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another;)*

Somewhere in the world there is a tribe – they have never read the Ten Commandments. They have never seen a written copy of the Law of Moses. They never had a Hebrew prophet come to them and tell them what God said on Mount Sinai; yet within their code of ethics, there are penalties for stealing, for murder and lying. Where did they get that? The Bible says they got it from the internal revelation that God put within their conscience and they testify to the fact that even though they are not Jews and not Israelites with a specific knowledge of the law, they have a specific understanding of the heart, mind and will of their Creator. And for that, they will be accountable, just as the Jews are accountable for the material that you find in Exodus and Leviticus and Numbers and Deuteronomy. God is fair! God is just! There is a very interesting statement made in 1 Peter 3:19 (KJV) ¹⁹ *By which also he went and preached unto the spirits in prison*; spirits in prison? When men and women died in the Old Testament, and they believed in God, their Spirit went to Paradise, when Christ died and was buried, he went into Hell, which at that time was divided into two compartments. See Luke 16:19-3; Acts 2:27. What do you think Jesus preached to them? Answer: John 14:6. There is a huge heresy that has worked its' way into Christian circles, that everyone before the cross went to heaven by keeping the Law, and after the cross by placing their trust in Jesus Christ. There are many who believe that those in the Great

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Tribulation time will go back to keeping the law, because the Holy Spirit will be taken out at the rapture. These are all lies and cannot be substantiated by the word of God, if you have fallen prey to any of these lies, repent. There is only one way to God John 14:6 anytime.

Verse 16. *In the day when God shall judge...* preachers once preached about judgment day. Everybody that had ever been to church knew about judgment day. You do not hear much about judgment day anymore. According to the whole Bible, Old Testament and New, you are going to stand before God one day; and He is going to pass judgment upon what you have done. *In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men...* He is not going to judge what everybody knew you were doing. He is going to judge only what you knew you were doing. He is going to judge what you thought. He is going to judge your motives. He is going to judge the intent behind it. Psalms 7:9 God is going to pronounce judgment upon every violation of what you knew to be right. Jeremiah 11:19-20; Jeremiah 17:10; Jeremiah 20:12. The reins on the horses bridle are used to steer the horse towards its' desired direction, they are the same for our heart. Genesis 6:5; Mark 7:21-23. Be very careful where you are directing your heart.

God is going to judge me, not by you. He is going to judge you, not by me. He is going to judge you by Jesus Christ. If you are not as holy as Jesus Christ... as righteous as Jesus Christ... as pure as Jesus Christ... as obedient as Jesus Christ – you had better repent... cast yourself on the mercy of God or you are doomed. That is the basis of judgment.

Verse 17. *Behold, thou art called a Jew, and restest in the law, and makest thy boast of God,* What did that Jew say? “We are better than everybody else – we have the law. He talks directly to us... He delivered us out of bondage... our people are God’s chosen.” That was their boast. Many people to this day believe that the Jews are in better favor with God, than others. This is just not true. Look at these verses and see what the Bible says about favoritism: Verse 11. *For there is no respect of persons with God.* Why then did God choose them? Romans 3:1-2; Deuteronomy 7:6-7 By them being the smallest, God could show forth His mighty power.

Notes

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Name _____

1. In Romans Chapter 2 name the verse that shows this truth:
 - a. God's judgment according to the truth Vs. _____
 - b. According to guilt Vs. _____
 - c. According to works Vs. _____
 - d. Without respect of persons Vs. _____
 - e. According to performance, not to knowledge Vs. _____
 - f. God's judgment reaches the secrets of the heart Vs. _____
 - g. According to reality and not religious profession Vs. _____
2. Why is man without excuse?
3. What is the goal of the believer?
4. What four things are noticed with regard to the judgment of God?
5. Who will be the judge in that great day of wrath?
6. Provide verses to prove the title of this Lesson:
7. What was the significance of Lot's wife?
8. Why do the Jews think they are special people?
9. Why did God choose the Jews?
10. What is the Bible definition of reins? (explain with verses)

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11. Why is it that a man that has never had the Gospel presented to him and has never had a copy of the Bible, why do they know right from wrong?

12. Will the Gentile be judged by the Law given to Moses? (Explain with verses)

True/false

- The Jew has a better advantage with God.
- There are many religions that do not preach Jesus Christ, if a man keeps true to his religion, God will still let him into heaven.
- God is fair, God is kind.
- It is our responsibility to tell someone they are sinning, even though we are doing it ourselves.



Scripture memorization, write out these verses on the back on this page: (must be in KJV) John 6:29; Romans 2:16; Romans 2:1.

Any Questions?