

# The Impartial God



ROMANS

2:11-16

## **Rom 1:18-32**

**Whole (Gentile) world is without excuse before God.**

## **Rom 2:1-5**

**Those who appear morally superior also fall under God's judgment.**

## **Rom 2:6-10**

**Future judgment will not be according to ethnic or religious background or knowledge, but according to what one has done.**

## **Rom 2:17-3:20**

**Jews are no better. Both Jews and Gentiles are under sin and need the Gospel.**

## **Rom 2:11-16**

- 1. God will judge impartially**
- 2. God will judge according to the truth we received**
- 3. God will judge according to our works**
- 4. God will judge our secrets**

# God will judge **Impartially**

**11** – For God does not show favoritism. (NIV)

**11** – For there is no partiality with God. (NASB)

**Prosōpolēpsía** – respecter of persons, has respect to the outward circumstances of man and not to their intrinsic merits.

**Other mentions** - Acts 10:34, Gal 2:6, Eph 6:9, Col 3:25, 1 Tim 5:21, Jas 2:1, 9

**Written Law**

**Circumcision**

**Nationality**

**Culture**

**Knowledge**

**Education**

**Appearance**

**Morality**



For there is no partiality  
with GOD  
Romans 2:11

**Religiosity**

**Baptised**

**Achievement**

**Job Title**

**Ministry Pos.**

**Wealth**

**Status**

**Connections**

# God will judge according to the **Truth** we received

**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.

How can God be impartial when only the Jews received the Law?

The judgment of God will not favor those who had access to more truth, it will be according to the truth they do have.

# God will judge according to the **Truth** we received

**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.)

Jews have violated the law given to them by God.

Gentiles have violated the law written on their hearts.

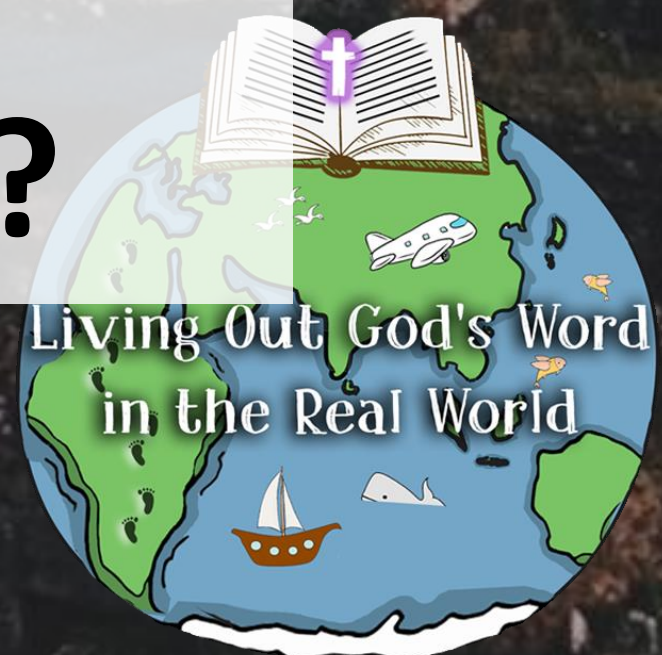
**We may not all have received the same  
measure of truth, but we all have the  
truth we need to be held accountable by  
God.**

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## Questions for Reflection:

1. How much truth have I received? How have I responded to the truth I received?
2. Does the fact that everyone will have to account to God spur me on to a greater urgency for personal evangelism?
3. How do I continually inform/instruct my conscience?





# God will judge according to our **Works**

**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. (NIV)

**13** – For it is not the hearers of the Law who are just before God, but the doers of the Law will be justified. (NASB)

Is Paul saying that Salvation (Justification) is by works?

**NO!**

## **Rom 1:17**

**For in the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: “The righteous will live by faith.”**

## **Rom 3:22**

**This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference.**

## **Rom 3:28**

**For we maintain that a man is justified by faith apart from observing the law.**

## **Rom 5:1a**

**Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.**

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# God will judge according to our **Works**

Is Paul making a hypothetical statement?

**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 **(but this doesn't exist because no human being can fully obey the law perfectly)**. (NIV)

**13** – For it is not the hearers of the Law who are just before God, but the doers of the Law will be justified **(but this doesn't exist because no human being can fully obey the law perfectly)** . (NASB)

# God will judge according to our **Works**

**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.

# God will judge according to our Works

**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 (if they could do it, which they can't, and therefore they need the salvation which comes by grace through faith in Christ Jesus).**

**10** – but glory, honor and peace for everyone who does good: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile **(if indeed they can do good, which they can't, and therefore they need the salvation which comes by grace through faith in Christ Jesus).**

**11** – For God does not show favoritism.

# God will judge according to our **Works**

**7** – To those who by persistence in doing good seek glory, honor and immortality, he will give **eternal life**.

Genuine saving faith always results in a life of good deeds, and a life of obedience to God's Word by the power of the Holy Spirit.

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Faith in him [Jesus] is key to assurance and life. But beware: faith that produces no hope, faith that produces no love, faith that produces no obedience is no saving faith.

~ **John Piper** ~

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# God will judge according to our **Works**

**13** – For it is not the hearers of the Law who are just before God, but the doers of the Law will be justified. (NASB)

Doers of the law are true believers who do not achieve sinless perfection but who love God and strive to live a life of obedience in reliance on the Holy Spirit, and turn to God for His help and mercy when they stumble.



# God will judge our **Secrets**

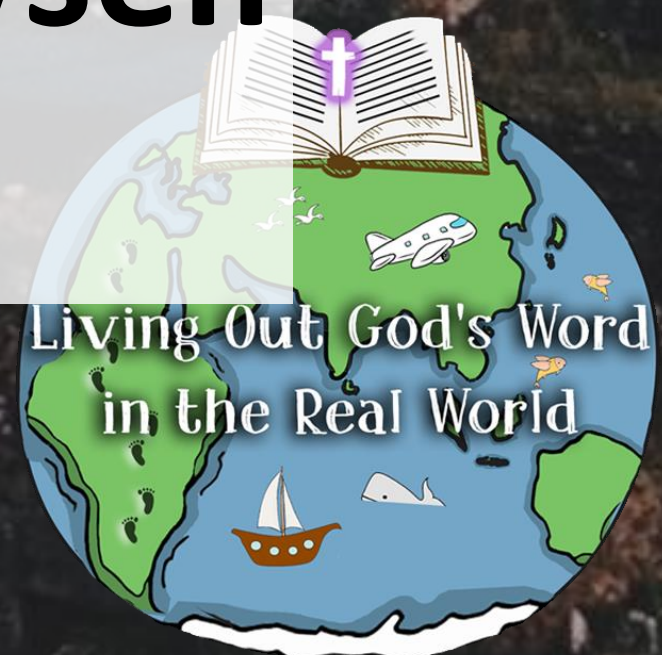
**16** – This will take place on the day when God will judge men's secrets through Jesus Christ, as my gospel declares.

**God is not fooled by the show we put on.**

**If there is no judgment for sin, there is no need for a Savior.**

## Questions for Reflection:

1. Do I live a life of obedience to God in accordance to the faith I profess in Him?
2. How am I demonstrating my faith through a life of good deeds?
3. Are there secrets in my life that I deceive myself thinking that God does not know?



# Rom 2:11-16

1. God will judge **Impartially**

2. God will judge according to the **Truth** we received

3. God will judge according to our **Works**

4. God will judge our **Secrets**

