

How The Conscience Affects Man

I. God is the **Judge** - Let God do His job without our **help!**

[1] **Therefore** thou art inexcusable, O man, whosoever thou art that **judgest**(to **pick out**): for wherein thou **judgest** another, thou condemnest thyself; for thou that **judgest** doest the same things.

1. **Man's** judgment is different from **God's** judgment

[2] But we are sure that **the judgment of God is according to truth against them which commit such things.**

2. We're not even supposed to **judge** those who **judge** others

[3] And **thinkest** thou this, O man, that judgest them which do such things, and doest the same, that thou shalt escape the judgment of God?

3. God's **goodness** draws us to God; our copying God's **goodness** will draw **men** to God

[4] Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that **the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?**

II. God's Judgment – With or without the **law** we fail!

1. God's Judgment is always **right**

[5] But after **thy hardness and impenitent**(**unrepentant heart**) heart treasurest up unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath and revelation of the **righteous** judgment of God;

2. God's judgment is not a **popularity** contest

[6] Who will render(**to pay off**) to every man **according to his deeds**:

[7] To them who by patient continuance(**steadfast endurance**) in well doing **seek** for glory and honour and immortality, eternal life:

[8] But unto them that are **contentious**(*ex = out of; er-ith-i'-ah = pursuit of a* **political office by unfair means**), and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, indignation(**anger**) and wrath,

[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:

3. God's Judgment does not put **one person** above **another**

[11] **For there is no respect of persons with God.**

a. All those who **break** the law shall **perish**

[12] For **as many as have sinned** without law shall also perish without law: and as many as have sinned in the law shall be judged by the law;

b. Only the keepers of the law shall be spared

[13] (For not the hearers of the law are just before God, but **the doers of the law shall be justified**(to **render** righteous).

I. The Gentiles didn't have The Law of Moses

Romans 2:14-16

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;)

16 In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ **according to my gospel**.

II. Some obeyed the Law of Moses (Romans 2:14)

Conscience = (suneidesis *soon-i'-day-sis*) the soul as distinguishing between what is morally good and bad

Results of living strictly by nature

Romans 1:26 For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature:

Homosexuality

1 Corinthians 11:14 Doth not even nature itself teach you, that, if a man have long hair, it is a shame unto him?

The Unisex Movement

Ephesians 2:3 Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

Uncontrollable Anger

Romans 2:8-9

8 But unto them that are contentious, and do not obey the truth, **but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath,**

9 Tribulation and anguish, upon every soul of man that doeth evil, of the Jew first, and also of the Gentile;

III. Then when someone obeys the Law without the law, they use their conscience to determine their laws or behavior.

Romans 2:15 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;)

The **Danger** of creating your own law

Proverbs 12:15 The way of a **fool** is right in his own eyes: but he that hearkeneth unto counsel is wise.

Proverbs 16:2 All the ways of a man *are* clean in his own eyes; but the LORD weigheth the spirits.

Proverbs 21:2 Every way of a man is **right in his own eyes**: but the LORD pondereth the hearts.

Proverbs 30:12 *There is* a generation *that are* **pure in their own eyes**, and *yet* is not washed from their filthiness.

Proverbs 14:12 There is a way which seemeth **right unto a man**, but the end thereof *are* the ways of death.

Proverbs 16:25 There is a way that seemeth **right unto a man**, but the end thereof *are* the ways of death.

IV. God will use Jesus Christ (The **Word**) to judge **man**

Romans 2:16

16 In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel.

A. **John 1:1** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and **the Word was God**.

B. **John 1:14** And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

C. **1 John 1:1** ¶ That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of **the Word of life**;

D. **Hebrews 10:30** For we know him that hath said, Vengeance *belongeth* unto me, I will recompense, saith the Lord. And again, **The Lord shall judge his people**.

E. **2 Timothy 4:8** Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.

F. **2 Timothy 4:1** I charge *thee* therefore before God, and **the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead** at his appearing and his kingdom;