



Romans



THE GOOD NEWS
CHAPTERS 1-3

Romans 2:1-4

¹Therefore you have no excuse, O man, every one of you who judges. For in passing judgment on another you condemn yourself, because you, the judge, practice the very same things. ²We know that the judgment of God rightly falls on those who practice such things. ³Do you suppose, O man – you who judge those who practice such things and yet do them yourself – that you will escape the judgment of God? ⁴Or do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance?

Romans 2:5-11

⁵But because of your hard and impenitent heart you are storing up wrath for yourself on the day of wrath when God's righteous judgment will be revealed.

Romans 2:5-11

⁶He will render to each one according to his works: ⁷to those who by patience in well-doing seek for glory and honor and immortality, he will give eternal life; ⁸but for those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, there will be wrath and fury. ⁹There will be tribulation and distress for every human being who does evil, the Jew first and also the Greek, ¹⁰but glory and honor and peace for everyone who does good, the Jew first and also the Greek. ¹¹For God shows no partiality.

BIG Questions from Romans 2:5-11

Who's the "you" in Romans 2?

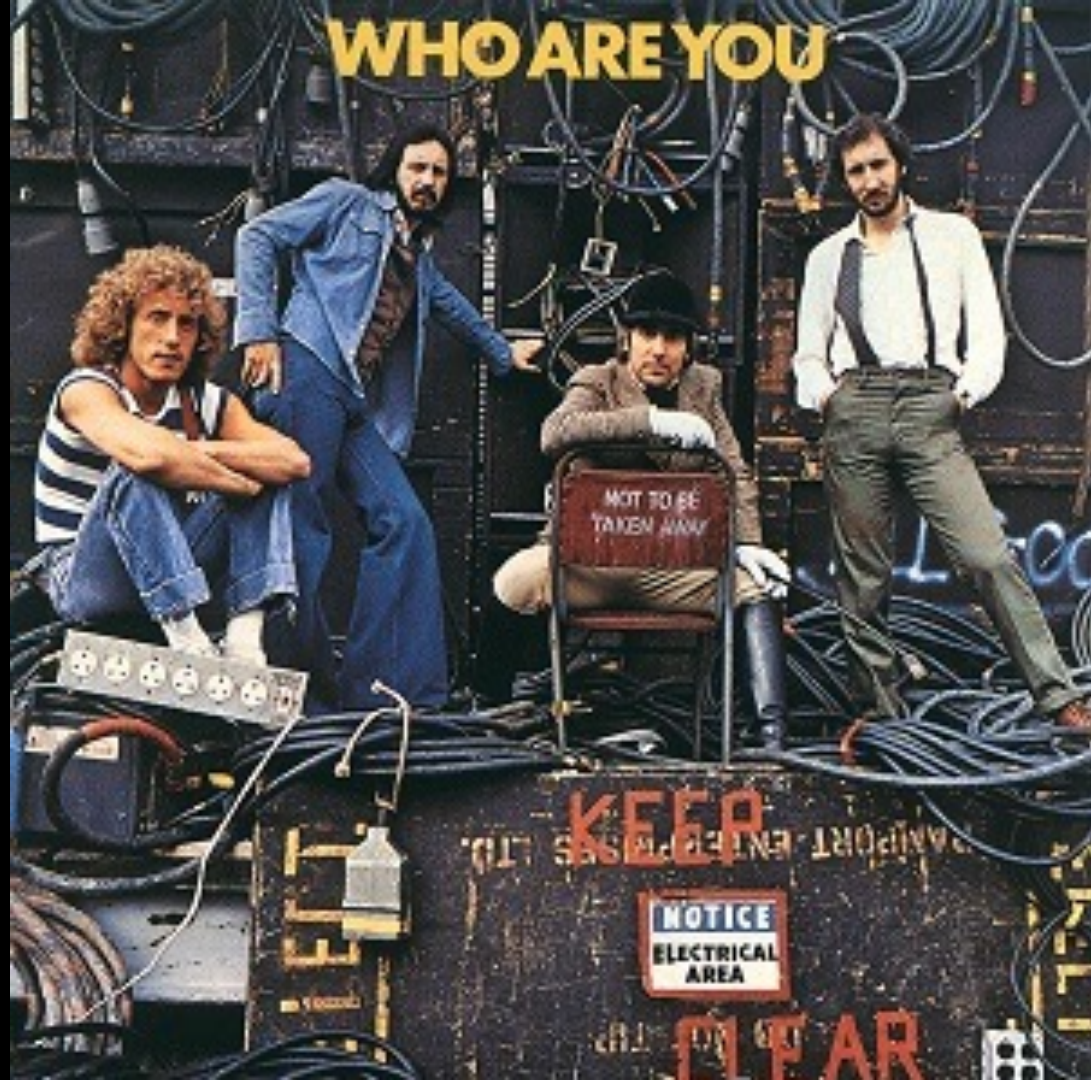
Does this apply to us?

Storing up wrath!?!? Really?

Are we judged by how good we are?

Does God have favorites?

WHO ARE YOU



KEEP CLEAR

NOTICE
ELECTRICAL
AREA

KEEP CLEAR


Who's the "you" in Romans 2?

Romans 2:1-4

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Like any good writer, Paul uses the literary devices of his own day to communicate effectively with his readers. One of the devices that Paul uses quite often in Romans is *diatribe*. More a style than a genre, a diatribe usually takes the form of a dialogue, using questions and answers to make its points. The writer enters into a discussion with a fictional opponent as a way of advancing his or her own argument... As the English word “yourself” toward the end of verse 1 reveals, Paul is using the second-person *singular* in these verses.



This does not indicate that he is singling out one person in the Roman congregation; rather, he is using the diatribe style, letting the Roman Christians overhear his fictional discussion with a typical Jew. To be sure, Paul does not come out and explicitly label his discussion partner as a Jew at this point. This is for rhetorical effect, as he allows the Jew gradually to self-identify in the accusation that now unfolds.

~ Douglas J. Moo, *Encountering the Book of Romans: A Theological Survey*, ed. Walter A. Elwell, Second Edition., *Encountering Biblical Studies* (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2014), 47.

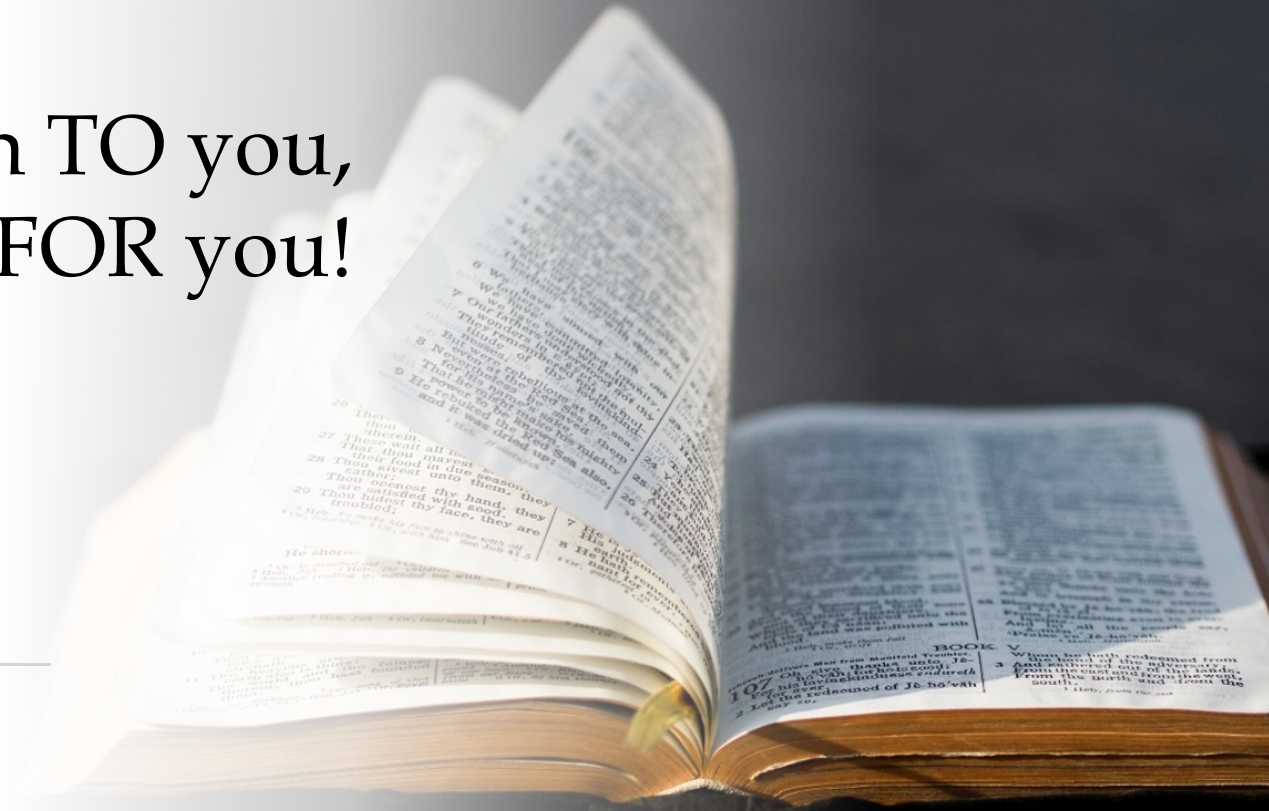
**YOU
TALKING
TO ME?**



"Gentlemen, this
is a football"
- Vince Lombardi



**Bible not written TO you,
but it is FOR you!**



Storing up wrath!?!? Really?

Romans 2:5

⁵But because of your hard and impenitent heart you are storing up wrath for yourself on the day of wrath when God's righteous judgment will be revealed.



BATTLE HYMN OF THE REPUBLIC.

BY MRS. JULIA WARD HOWE.

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord:
He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath
are stored;
He hath loosed the fateful lightnings of His terrible swift sword:
His truth is marching on.

“Children of Wrath”

Ephesians 2:1-3

¹And you were dead in the trespasses and sins ²in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience — ³among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.

WE WERE ONCE BY NATURE

Children of

Wrath

EPHESIANS 2:3



2 Thessalonians 1:7b-10

^{7b}This will happen when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven in blazing fire with his powerful angels. ⁸He will punish those who do not know God and do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. ⁹They will be punished with everlasting destruction and shut out from the presence of the Lord and from the majesty of his power ¹⁰on the day he comes to be glorified in his holy people and to be marveled at among all those who have believed. This includes you, because you believed our testimony to you.

God's wrath promises that in the end, wrongs done to the vulnerable will be punished, injustices unresolved will be paid up, and the arrogant who abuse others will be silenced. Of course, each of us has done injustice, has expressed arrogance, and has misused power; thus, each of us can rightly be called a child of wrath.



~ Lynn H. Cohick, *The Letter to the Ephesians*, ed. Ned B. Stonehouse et al., *New International Commentary on the Old and New Testament* (Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 2020), 149-150.



Are we judged by how good we are?

Romans 2:6-8

⁶He will render to each one according to his works: ⁷to those who by patience in well-doing seek for glory and honor and immortality, he will give eternal life; ⁸but for those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, there will be wrath and fury. ⁹There will be tribulation and distress for every human being who does evil, the Jew first and also the Greek, ¹⁰but glory and honor and peace for everyone who does good, the Jew first and also the Greek. ¹¹For God shows no partiality.

“Judged by our works?”

Job 34:11

He repays everyone for what they have done; he brings
on them what their conduct deserves.

“Judged by our works?”

Job 34:11

He repays everyone for what they have done; he brings on them what their conduct deserves.

Psalms 62:12

“And with you, Lord, is unfailing love”; and, “You reward everyone according to what they have done.”

“Judged by our works?”

Proverbs 24:12

If you say, “But we knew nothing about this,” does not he who weighs the heart perceive it? Does not he who guards your life know it? Will he not repay everyone according to what they have done?

“Judged by our works?”

Jeremiah 17:10

“I the LORD search the heart and examine the mind, to reward each person according to their conduct, according to what their deeds deserve.”

“Judged by our works?”

Jeremiah 17:10

“I the LORD search the heart and examine the mind, to reward each person according to their conduct, according to what their deeds deserve.”

Jeremiah 32:19

...great are your purposes and mighty are your deeds. Your eyes are open to the ways of all mankind; you reward each person according to their conduct and as their deeds deserve.

“Judged by our works?”

Matthew 16:27

27” For the Son of Man is going to come in his Father’s glory with his angels, and then he will reward each person according to what they have done.”

the rest of the story.



The Rest of the Story

2 Corinthians 5:21

God made him who had no sin
to be sin for us,
so that in him
we might become the righteousness of God.

The Rest of the Story

Ephesians 2:4-10

⁴But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, ⁵even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ — by grace you have been saved — ⁶and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.



Does God have favorites?

Romans 2:6-8

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Peter's Bacon Epiphany

Acts 10

⁹About noon the following day as they were on their journey and approaching the city, Peter went up on the roof to pray...



Peter's Bacon Epiphany

Acts 10

^{23b}The next day Peter started out with them, and some of the believers from Joppa went along. ²⁴The following day he arrived in Caesarea. Cornelius was expecting them and had called together his relatives and close friends. ²⁵As Peter entered the house, Cornelius met him and fell at his feet in reverence. ²⁶But Peter made him get up. "Stand up," he said, "I am only a man myself."

Peter's Bacon Epiphany

Acts 10

²⁷While talking with him, Peter went inside and found a large gathering of people. ²⁸He said to them: "You are well aware that it is against our law for a Jew to associate with or visit a Gentile. But God has shown me that I should not call anyone impure or unclean. ²⁹So when I was sent for, I came without raising any objection. May I ask why you sent for me?"

Peter's Bacon Epiphany

Acts 10

³⁰Cornelius answered: "Three days ago I was in my house praying at this hour, at three in the afternoon. Suddenly a man in shining clothes stood before me ³¹and said, 'Cornelius, God has heard your prayer and remembered your gifts to the poor. ³²Send to Joppa for Simon who is called Peter. He is a guest in the home of Simon the tanner, who lives by the sea.' ³³So I sent for you immediately, and it was good of you to come. Now we are all here in the presence of God to listen to everything the Lord has commanded you to tell us."

Peter's Bacon Epiphany

Acts 10

³⁴Then Peter began to speak: "I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism ³⁵but accepts from every nation the one who fears him and does what is right. ³⁶You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, announcing the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all. ³⁷You know what has happened throughout the province of Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached — ³⁸how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him.

Peter's Bacon Epiphany

Acts 10

³⁹“We are witnesses of everything he did in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They killed him by hanging him on a cross,
⁴⁰but God raised him from the dead on the third day and caused him to be seen. ⁴¹He was not seen by all the people, but by witnesses whom God had already chosen — by us who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴²He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

Peter's Bacon Epiphany

Acts 10

⁴⁴While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message. ⁴⁵The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on Gentiles. ⁴⁶For they heard them speaking in tongues and praising God.



Gospel-Centered Application:

Do you feel like you have the “moral” or religious high ground” compared to others?

How much do you think about the bad news in order to make the good news that much sweeter?