

# ROMANS

GOD'S GOOD NEWS FOR ALL PEOPLE

## #5 Let God Be God!

### BAD NEWS FOR RELIGIOUS HYPOCRITES

**Romans 2:1** *Therefore 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. <sup>2</sup>We know that the judgment of God rightly falls on those who practice such things. <sup>3</sup>Do 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? <sup>4</sup>Or 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?*

<sup>5</sup> *But 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. <sup>6</sup>He will render to each one according to his works: <sup>7</sup>to those who by patience in well-doing seek for glory and honor and immortality, he will give eternal life; <sup>8</sup>but for those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, there will be wrath and fury. <sup>9</sup>There will be tribulation and distress for every human being who does evil, the Jew first and also the Greek, <sup>10</sup>but glory and honor and peace for everyone who does good, the Jew first and also the Greek. <sup>11</sup>For God shows no partiality.*

True Jesus Followers	Self-Righteous Pharisees
Do good things	Do good things
Love <b>JESUS</b>	Love Themselves
The real deal	Imposters, <b>HYPOCRITES</b>
<b>RESTING</b> in Christ's accomplishment	Rely on their own accomplishments
Others-conscious	<b>IMAGE</b> -conscious
Need-oriented	Appearance-oriented
"Secret service"	Looking to be <b>SEEN</b>
Appreciate recognition	Need to be recognized
Satisfaction in serving	Satisfaction in being noticed
Feel <b>GRATEFUL</b>	Feel <b>SUPERIOR</b>
Resist comparing	Always comparing
Focus on Need-Meeting	Focus on Fault-finding
<b>OWN</b> their sins	<b>HIDE</b> their sins
Seek Jesus' smile	Crave approval from the 'right people'
<b>HAVE</b> Jesus	<b>NEED</b> Jesus
Genuinely born-again	Might not yet be born again

1. Self-righteous hypocrites are actually incriminating **THEMSELVES** when they pass judgment on others 2:1
2. Don't be fooled into thinking you will somehow be **EXEMPT** from God's future judgment against sin 2:2-3
3. Hard-hearted hypocrites who refuse to repent are in deep trouble with God for **ABUSING** His kindness 2:4-5
4. God's future judgment of everyone will be completely fair and **IMPARTIAL**, based on each person's **WORKS** 2:6-11

MEMORY VERSE:  
**Romans 5:8 But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.**

### Self-Assessment:

- I identify more with the younger brother in the story, the rebellious, rule-breaking Prodigal*
- I identify more with the older brother in the story, the self-righteous, rule-keeping Pharisee*
- I'd have to say that I am a recovering Pharisee*

Are your Pharisee-like, older-brother tendencies just residual from the old life that is still hanging on? Or is God saying that you need to be genuinely saved? \_\_\_\_\_

- I need to receive God's love for me which He demonstrated by sending Christ to die for my sins.*
- I need to live my life more in a continual state of astonishment at God's goodness to me.*
- I think I would benefit from participating in a small group where people are seeking to be genuine with each other and live out what it means to really follow Jesus.*