

Key References:

Romans 1:17 (NLT) – This Good News tells us how God makes us right in his sight. This is accomplished from start to finish by faith.

Romans 2:12 (NLT) – When the Gentiles sin, they will be destroyed, even though they never had God's written law. And the Jews, who do have God's law, will be judged by that law when they fail to obey it.

Romans 2:13 (NLT) – For merely listening to the law doesn't make us right with God. It is obeying the law that makes us right in his sight.

Romans 2:4 (NLT) – Don't you see how wonderfully kind, tolerant, and patient God is with you? Does this mean nothing to you? Can't you see that his kindness is intended to turn you from your sin?

2 Peter 3:9 (ESV) – The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.

John 8:7 (ESV) – And as they continued to ask him, he stood up and said to them, "Let him who is without sin among you be the first to throw a stone at her."

Romans 2:29 (NLT) – No, a true Jew is one whose heart is right with God. And true circumcision is not merely obeying the letter of the law; rather, it is a change of heart produced by the Spirit. And a person with a changed heart seeks praise from God, not from people.

Psalm 51:10–12 (ESV) – Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. ¹¹ Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. ¹² Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit.

Psalm 51:13 (ESV) – Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you.

1 – ALL CONDEMNED WITHOUT THE CROSS

Romans 1 & 2 highlight three groups of people: gentiles, the self-righteous, and The Jews. How do Romans 1 and 2 point out reasons why each needs Jesus? Why is this a surprise to each group?

In Romans 2:6-11 why does it sound like we can earn salvation in a karmic fashion? Why is this not the case? Read on to Romans 2:12.

Andy said that Romans 1:18 to 3:20 is all written from a "pre-cross" perspective. Why does Paul begin his letter to Rome so heavily?

2 – MORALISTIC, SELF-RIGHTEOUS PEOPLE

Based on Romans 2:1-5 why is God so opposed to hypocrisy within the self-righteous? How do self-righteous people judge & condemn others?

Read Romans 2:13 and James 1:22. How does only listening to God's truth deceiving to ourselves? What areas within your life do you find hints of hypocorisms? (We all have them!)

3 - BLASPHEMING GOD BECAUSE OF US

Read Romans 2:23-24. Andy said even if we live perfect lives the world will still blaspheme God. **But, how can we add to this blaspheming when we are "doing the same things?"**

How can we display The Gospel & mitigate this view of hypocrisy?

4 - HOW WONDERFULLY KIND GOD IS WITH YOU

Read Romans 2:4. How has God been *"wonderfully kind, tolerant, and patient God is with you?"* How did his kindness help turn you from your sin? How does 2 Peter 3:9 build on this?

How can we display the same attitude towards the world even when we can't condone the world's behaviour?

5 – A CHANGED HEART, THEN WE CAN TEACH

Read Romans 2:29. Why does Paul end Chapter 2 in this way, and how does it point to The Gospel?

Read Psalm 51:10-12. How can we pray through this Psalm to help with our heart issues that Romans 2 uncovered?

Read Psalm 51:13. How does this "clean heart and renewed spirit" enable us to actually "teach transgressors" God's righteous ways?