

Sermon Questions

God's Perfect Justice

Romans 2:5–11

Pastor Jeff Hinds

CONNECT:

- Do you feel it is easier to give grace or receive it? Why? Do you have difficulty with either?

GROW:

- Read Romans 2:5. What does Paul mean when he uses the phrase "hard and impenitent heart?" How can you avoid falling into this trap?
- Read Romans 2:6-7. How does this statement fit with the idea of salvation by grace through faith?
- Read Romans 2:6-8 this time. What two groups of people is Paul describing? How are their behaviors different? What might this look like in a life today?
- Read Romans 2:9-11. Again, list the two separate groups. What are their actions? What is the eternal result for them? Why do heart motives matter?
- What encouragement can you find in our passage this week?

GO:

- How can you show God's grace to others this week?

Sermon Notes

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1. Every person is a sinner (Romans 3:23). Every person needs God's grace and mercy, permanently applied to one's confessed, and repented of, sins in order to be saved (Romans 2:5–11). Salvation is only through faith in, and acceptance of, Jesus as one's personal Savior and Lord (Romans 3:28, 4:5, 5:1, 6:23, 10:9–10; Ephesians 2:8–9).
2. Every person who fails to believe in Jesus as Savior and Lord, stores up eternal wrath from God in a literal place called Hell (Romans 2:5–8; Revelation 20:10, 12–13). We are sinners who are incapable of saving ourselves. We deserve wrath—but God offers grace to anyone who, by faith, receives Jesus as Savior and Lord (John 3:16).
3. Every person's works matter—but never as a means for gaining eternal life. Good works are a worshipful response to receiving salvation by faith in Jesus (Ephesians 2:8–9 and then verse 10).

*Works for an unbeliever can impact a greater, or lesser, degree of punishment. While Hell is eternal for all who fail to receive Jesus as Savior and Lord there are greater (or lesser) degrees of punishment in Hell (Romans 2:5; Revelation 20:12–13; Luke 12:47–48).

*Godly works for a believer in Jesus when done as an act of worship with Godly motives and attitudes, can result in greater eternal rewards in Heaven (2 Corinthians 5:10; 1 Corinthians 3:10–15). Godly works, as acts of worship, with right motives and attitudes, might include: evangelism; discipleship; raising a Godly family; living out a Godly marriage; integrity; faithful usage of time, talents and treasures; personal purity; etc.