"THE JUST JUDGMENT OF GOD"
Romans 2:5-16

***God's Judgment will be a Just Judgment!** (v. 5, cp. v. 2)

3 clear Proofs show that God's judgment will be just:

I.God's Judgment will be Just Because:
ALL EVIDENCE WILL BE UNDENIABLE (V. 6-8)
(Your own deeds will testify for or against you)

A.Your deeds (works) determine your rewards (v. 6)

"Render" = to pay back or give back; to reward
(Your deeds will be rewarded)

NOTE: Your deeds (works) will not determine whether you got o heaven, but will determine the rewards (crowns) you receive in Heaven. Salvation/eternal life is not a reward; it's a gift (Eph. 2:8, 9; Tit. 3:5; I Jn. 5:11-13).

Your deeds (works) will not determine whether you go to hell, but will determine the rewards (degrees of punishment) you receive in Hell throughout eternity (SEE v. 5 - "treasurest up" = to store up or gradually accumulate).

"Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men." Heb. 10:30b-31, "The Lord shall judge His people. It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God." "Our God is a consuming fire!" (Heb. 12:29)

B.Your deeds (works) reveal your heart (v. 7-8)

1.Good works are proof of a changed (regenerate) heart (v. 7)

Verse 7 describes a heart that is seeking (zealous for) "treasure in heaven" or "things which are above" . . .

The reason our heart changes is because its tenant changes. The Holy Spirit moves in.

"The love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us" (Ro. 5:5).

"True saving faith results in obedience and godly living, even though there may be occasional falls" (Wiersbe, p. 520).

His heart is fixed on "glory" - that which is truly praiseworthy.
His heart is fixed on "honor" - that which is truly valuable.
His heart is fixed on "immortality" - that which is not corruptible.
Your actions prove your attitudes.

**Actions speak louder than words.

2.Evil works are proof of an unchanged (hard, unrepentant) heart (v. 8)

"Contentious" = self-seeking; selfishly ambitious.

What motivates a person's heart to do evil? Selfishness

Jesus said, "He that is not for me is against me!"

"Indignation" = deep-seated anger
"Wrath" = the fuming, hot judgment of God

To the unbeliever, his lifestyle of fornication, adultery, theft, alcoholism, drug use, greed, pride, etc., will shout out the words "Guilty!" by virtue of his rejection of Christ.

To the believer, his lifestyle of honesty, purity, kindness, generosity, humility, etc., will shout out the words "innocent" by virtue of his acceptance of Christ and his righteousness.

II.God's Judgment will be Just Because:
ALL EVALUATION WILL BE IMPARTIAL (V. 9-11)
(You will not be shown favoritism or discrimination)

God's judgment will be unbiased; God will not show favoritism; God is not prejudiced.

V. 9
"Tribulation" = affliction (pressure)
"Anguish" = distress, torturing confinement (the feeling of being crushed with no place to move).
"Doeth evil = present tense, indicating the constancy of the practice.
God is not describing someone who commits an act o sin (Even believers from time to time commit acts of sin - I Jn. 1:10); but is describing someone who has a lifestyle characterized by sin; a practice of evil.

V. 9 - Why Jew first? Because they know better; they had the written law of God.

God is describing someone who has a pattern of good works; a lifestyle of doing good (only a genuine believer can maintain a consistency in living for God - an unbeliever does not have the power to do so).

Remember: No one "works good" until after they are saved by grace. Only then can they fulfill what they were "created in Christ Jesus for" = "good works" (Eph. 2:10).

III.God's Judgment will be Just Because:
ALL EXCUSES WILL BE UNACCEPTABLE (V. 12-16)
(You will not be able to say: "I didn't know the Law")

A.No excuse for those who did not have the Law (v. 12, 14-15)

Those who knew the Law will face a stricter Judgment (to whom "much is given, much shall be required." - Lk. 12:48).

v. 14
"Do by nature" - do instinctively; do without being taught by men.

V. 15
The conscience is the mediator between the heart (with its written law code) and the thoughts (which instigate one's actions).

The conscience functions like a referee.

The conscience receives the rules from the rule book and sends a message to our thoughts saying either Fair or Foul, Safe or Out, Yes or No!

Our conscience will either "accuse" (say "no, definitely not, that is contrary to God's Law"), or it will "excuse" (say "yes, that is permissible or allowable, I will do that, it is in accordance with God's standards).

B.No excuse for those who heard the Law (v. 13)

C.No excuse for those who sinned but it was never known (v. 16)

In the court of Law, there must be witnesses who accuse or defend someone (one is not convicted and sentenced without provable evidence - without someone standing up and saying, "I saw what you did").

Jesus Christ will do the actual judging (Jn. 5:22, 27; Mt. 25:31-36; Acts 17:31)