

Final Judgment—Focus and Standard

Romans 2.4 Or do you despise the riches of [God's] goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance? 5 But in accordance with your hardness and your impenitent heart you are treasuring up for yourself wrath in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God, 6 who "will render to each one according to his deeds": 7 eternal life to those who by patient continuance in doing good seek for glory, honor, and immortality; 8 but to those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness—indignation and wrath, 9 tribulation and anguish, on every soul of man who does evil, of the Jew first and also of the Greek; 10 but glory, honor, and peace to everyone who works what is good, to the Jew first and also to the Greek 11 For there is no partiality with God. 12 For as many as have sinned without law will also perish without law, and as many as have sinned in the law will be judged by the law 13 (for not the hearers of the law are just in the sight of God, but the doers of the law will be justified; 14 for when Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do the things in the law, these, although not having the law, are a law to themselves, 15 who show the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and between themselves their thoughts accusing or else excusing them) 16 in the day when God will judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ, according to my gospel.

* Jesus as judge will focus on two big categories:

- 1)
- 2)

* What do we learn about three subcategories of "secrets"?

1) Thoughts and conscience (vs 15)

- Christ will evaluate ... side by side with ...
- The main point here is that there will be no ...
- "[A]ll things are ... to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account" (Heb. 4.13).

2) Knowledge (vs 11-13)

- This dealing with the argument that some people have ... because God has given them ...

– God does not judge people for ... but for ...

– Jesus said, "This is the condemnation, that ... , and men loved ... , because ..." (John 3.19).

– Everyone knows from the light of creation that ...

– "[E]veryone practicing evil ... and does not ... lest his deeds should be exposed. But he who does the truth ... that his deeds may be clearly seen." In other words, ...

– He who runs from a candle cannot argue that ...

– If anyone responds to the light they have, God ...

– Jesus suggests the supreme condemnation is ...

– Simply having greater knowledge without responding to it results in ...

– Can a covenant member ever end up with greater condemnation than an immoral pagan? If so, how?

3) What we Treasure, Desire, and Seek (vs 5-8)

– Entrance to heaven or hell is not a departure from ... but an arrival at ...

– The path one travels is determined by ...

– Paul speaks of two groups of people defined by what they prize and seek, which are ...

– Self is the ... of hell. Self is the ... between Satan and sinners.

– What does Jesus teach us in the kingdom parables of Mat 13 about judgment, treasure, and what we seek?