

**First Southern Baptist Church - 1-25-23**  
**Judging- God is Fair - Romans 2:1-11**

**Introduction**

1. Works and faith
2. What makes a Jew a Jew?
3. They may have been looking at the evil man presented in chapter 1 and saying, I'm not like that, I'm a Jew

**I. You Think You'll Escape Judgment (1-5)**

1. Judging (verse 1)
  - You judge, you are guilty
  - No excuse
  - \*You judge another, and in so doing you create a standard,... then when you don't live by your own standard you show yourself to be a sinner
2. His judgement is true (verse 2) - a theme...
  - He will render judgement truly (verse 6)
  - Righteous judgement (verse 5)
3. So, do you think you'll escape His judgment? (verses 3-4)
  - Matthew 7:1-7 - remove the mote from your own eye
4. They really thought they would escape judgment
  - A. God's character is outlined (4)
    - kindness to all
    - restraint - forbearance, a holding back of judgement
    - patience
  - B. Our response
    - despise
    - do not take opportunity to repent
    - hardness (5)
    - unrepentant
  - C. The result
    - we store up wrath
    - God will repay
5. In your hard heart you treasure up judgment (verse 5)
  - heap up judgment, gather it up
6. The highest rung on the ladder is still short of the glory of God

**II. He Judges Fairly (6-10)**

1. He judges fairly (verse 6)
  - \*no favoritism with God (here)
  - no superiority of Jews (17-24 - later)
2. Those who are right, those who are wrong (verses 7-10)
  - A. To those who do **right** - eternal life (verse 7)
  - B. To those who are **contentious** - indignation and wrath (verse 8)
  - C. Tribulation to those who do **evil** (verse 9)
  - D. Glory, honor and peace to those who do **good** (verse 10)

3. Why? - there is no respect of persons with God (verse 11)
  - literally the idea is that there “is no receiving of face” with God
  - He has no favorites
  - in 1:32, *the Gentiles know right but do wrong*... how much more so for Jews

### III. He Doesn't Respect Persons (11-15)

1. He doesn't respect persons (verse 11)
2. Sinned without the law - judged without the law (verse 12)
  - Sinned in the law - judged in the law
3. Why? - for hearing the law is not enough - but doing it (verse 13)
4. Let me explain: (verse 14)
  - A. When the Gentiles (without the law) do what's in the law
    - Then, they are a law in themselves
  - B. That shows the law written on their hearts (verse 15)
    - !!). Remember, this is the Gentiles
      - their “conscience” bearing witness
  - C. So, in truth, there is no such thing as a person totally without the knowledge of God's will - there is the law written on stone, and law written on men's hearts (14-16)
5. Works/ deeds are not the *mode* of salvation, but they are the *principle of judgment*
  - doing* tests the heart - *saying* can just be words

### IV. You Are Called a Jew (16-24)

1. You are called a Jew
  - A. Boast of God (verse 17)
    - rest in the law - to lean on the law
  - B. Know His will (verse 18)
  - C. Approve the excellent - to put to the test for the purpose of approving... for saying “yes” or “no” - you “approve”
  - D. Instructed in the law
  - E. Confident you are a guide (verse 19)
    - of the blind
    - of those who live in darkness
  - F. Instructor of the foolish (verse 20)
    - teacher of “babes” - the word for an infant which cannot yet talk... was used of proselytes or novices
    - have a form of knowledge
  - G. You teach others not to steal? (verse 21)
    - do you steal?
  - H. Say don't commit adultery? (verse 22)
    - do you commit adultery?
  - I. Abhor idols
    - “abhor” is to turn away from because of “stench”
    - do you commit sacrilege?
  - J. Boast of the law (verse 23)
    - do you break the law?

- !!). 2. His name is blasphemed because of you (verse 24)
- the outright hypocrisy to judge another while you are guilty yourself
  - the irony is those who are “instructing” the foolish are found to be unfaithful to the law they “instruct”
  - when a Christian leader is caught, not living up to his own code, the world has a hey-day. We all lose “honor” and our name is sullied by such,... but greater than that God’s honor is trashed.

## **V. Conclusion/ Explanation (verses 25-29)**

- !!). Circumcision is the mark/ stamp of the Old Testament Covenant - it is easy to see how one could get to the point that the outward is the important thing.
1. Circumcision avails - if you do the works
    - depending on circumcision, not deeds/ works
    - Works/ faith:
      - \*works stand as a test of faith
      - as James says faith without works is dead.
      - as Jesus said, you know a tree by its fruit
      - Jesus told us that we will be judged by what we do - sheep and goats
  2. Example (verse 26)
    - if the uncircumcision keeps the law
    - his uncircumcision is “counted” as circumcision
  3. If that’s true...
    - the uncircumcised keeping the law shall judge you
  4. This proves
    - A true Jew is not one outwardly (by the flesh) (verse 28)
    - He is a Jew which is one inwardly (verse 29)
  5. Circumcision is about the heart
    - “in spirit”
  6. What is a true Jew?
    - Jewishness is not outward at all, it has nothing to do with circumcision

*What, then, is the advantage of being a Jew? (3:1)*