

## Romans 2

Romans 2 can be divided into two sections. The first section condemns the moral man who does not know Christ (vv.1-16), while the second section condemns the Jew who does not know Christ (vv.17-29). Romans 2:1-16 is one of the most difficult sections of Romans 1-8. Therefore, digest what you can and leave the remainder for later.

### *The Unbelieving Moral Man will be Condemned*

Had we lived in Paul's day, we would have heard the moral man say, "Preach on, Paul! You are exactly right! The man who sins to the degree that you have discussed in Romans 1:18-32 is deserving of judgment! Tell it like it is, Paul!"

Paul had a response for the good, upstanding, self-righteous, moral man, who trusted in his good works as his ticket to heaven: "*You are without excuse.*"

*Therefore you are without excuse, every man of you who passes judgment, for in that you judge another, you condemn yourself; for you who judge practice the same things. (Romans 2:1)*

This man was without excuse because he was practicing "*the same things*" as those who receive God's condemnation! He may not have been practicing them outwardly, but he was practicing them within his heart. The man in Romans 2:1-16 didn't know the Lord any more intimately than the man in Romans 1:18-32, for neither had repented and exercised faith in Christ. After all, repentance means to call sin by name and turn from it.

Have you attempted to share Jesus with a good upstanding citizen, a dedicated church worker, a faithful father who provides for his family, or any such outwardly pure individual who has failed to accept Christ as Savior? Of all the people Paul mentions, this type may be the most deceived. In fact, the man described in Romans 1:18-32 is, normally, much easier to address than the one in Romans 2:1-16. However, no difference exists, for both types will receive God's "*judgment*" unless they choose to repent and exercise faith while depraved. Romans 2:2-3 states this fact very plainly: