

What about Good People?

All About Salvation – Part 2 (Romans 2:1-16)

Life Church St. Louis – September 23, 2012

Lead Pastor – Dr. Dan Walker

Ephesians 2:8-9 (NIV) For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith-- and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God-- not by works, so that no one can boast.

1. Good people _____ bad people

Romans 2:1 (NIV) You, therefore, have no excuse, you who pass judgment on someone else, for at whatever point you judge the other, you are condemning yourself, because you who pass judgment do the same things.

1A. Those who judge are also _____

Romans 2:2-3 (NIV) Now we know that God's judgment against those who do such things is based on truth. So when you, a mere man, pass judgment on them and yet do the same things, do you think you will escape God's judgment?

Matthew 5:28 (NIV) But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

1B. God's aim is _____ not comparison

Romans 2:4 (NIV) Or do you show contempt for the riches of his kindness, tolerance and patience, not realizing that God's kindness leads you toward repentance?

2. God will judge everyone by their _____

Romans 2:5-6 (NIV) But because of your stubbornness and your unrepentant heart, you are storing up wrath against yourself for the day of God's wrath, when his righteous judgment will be revealed. God "will give to each person according to what he has done."

2A. Those who do _____ will receive eternal life

Romans 2:7 (NIV) To those who by persistence in doing good seek glory, honor and immortality, he will give eternal life.

2B. Those who do _____ will receive wrath

Romans 2:8-9 (NIV) But for those who are self-seeking and who reject the truth and follow evil, there will be wrath and anger. There will be trouble and distress for every human being who does evil: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile;

Romans 1:5 (NIV) Through him [Jesus] and for his name's sake, we received grace and apostleship to call people from among all the Gentiles to the obedience that comes from faith.

3. All men will be judged by God's _____

Romans 2:12, 16 (NIV) All who sin apart from the law will also perish apart from the law, and all who sin under the law will be judged by the law. This will take place on the day when God will judge men's secrets through Jesus Christ, as my gospel declares.

3A. Those who _____ God's Word will be judged by it

Romans 2:13 (NIV) For it is not those who hear the law who are righteous in God's sight, but it is those who obey the law who will be declared righteous.

3B. Those who _____ God's Word will be judged by their conscience

Romans 2:14-15 (NIV) (Indeed, when Gentiles, who do not have the law, do by nature things required by the law, they are a law for themselves, even though they do not have the law, since they show that the requirements of the law are written on their hearts, their consciences also bearing witness, and their thoughts now accusing, now even defending them.)

What about Good People? – Study Guide

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Intro. In your experience, how common is the belief that if a person is generally good, they will earn a place in heaven?

What does the Bible have to say about how we are saved in Ephesians 2:8-9?

Why do you think people feel that good people go to heaven?

1. Why do you think that the Bible has such a strong condemnation against judging others (Romans 2:1, Luke 6:37)?

Why do these verses teach that those who judge are guilty of the same things (Romans 2:2-3, Matthew 5:28)?

In what ways does comparison or judging interfere with repentance (Romans 2:4)?

How can you help someone who compares themselves to others and thinks they are good enough to go to heaven?

2. Why do you think that the truth about judgment day is not talked about more in our time (Romans 2:5-6)?

According to Romans 2:7, what will God's criterion be for those who are to receive eternal life?

How would you explain to someone that God is a God of love and of wrath at the same time (Romans 2:8-9)?

How does the phrase "obedience that comes from faith" in Romans 1:5 help us understand Paul's discussion in Romans 2:5-9?

3. In what ways does the knowledge that God will judge men's secrets motivate you to live for Him daily (Romans 2:12, 16)?

Can any person be declared righteous by obeying the law (Romans 2:13)?

How will God use people's consciences to show that His judgments are just (Romans 2:14-15)?

Are there any people you know who are good people but do not yet have a relationship with Jesus through faith? If so, pray for them in the group.