



September 17, 2023

***Romans: Rooted in Jesus  
Judgment***

Romans 2:1-29

**For Discussion and Reflection**

1. Chapter two needs to be taken in context. Paul does not tell us not to judge what is right and wrong, holy and unholy. After all, Paul says, "We know that the judgment of God rightly falls on those who practice such things," v2. To declare something evil because God says it's evil is not a sinful judgment. Romans 14 helps us understand the context of the Roman church and properly interpret the word "judge." Read Romans 14:1-13. How does this text set the context for Romans 2:1? What is happening in the First Presbyterian Church of Rome?
2. How does judging another conversely condemn ourselves? Consider how judging confirms the standard of judgment, the law. Consider how judging others affirms God's justness in judgment.
3. Paul's statement, "Do you suppose, O man—you who judge those who practice such things and yet do them yourself—that you will escape the judgment of God?" (Rom. 2:3) While the Jews rejected those who practiced same-sex relationships, were they exempt from items in Paul's list, Romans 1:29-31? What's the danger of focusing on major sins while diminishing lesser sins?
4. Re-read the parable of the Prodigal Son, Luke 15:11-32 and/or click on the link to watch the [Bible Project video](#) (QR code below). What is the "older brother syndrome"? How does it apply to the believing Jews in the Roman church?
5. How are we supposed to understand, as Paul says, "God's...kindness, forbearance, and patience"? Is our own lack of judgment from God a signal that we're righteous?
6. Based on our study today, where does our church need to grow in our internal relationships and welcome of others? How can you grow in an understanding of the gospel that will translate in humility before God?



The Bible Project Video  
Luke 15:11-32