

“WHY GOOD PEOPLE DON’T GO TO HEAVEN”
ROMANS 2:1-16
February 5, 2006

INTRO

MESSAGE **Good, moral people are fast-approaching an eternity without Christ. You are their only hope!**

God wants you to be a life-preserver – an aggressive, impassioned witness, a committed harvest worker.

- ◆ The wrath and judgment of God inescapably falls on the moralist. (1-5)
 - Reason #1 He practices the same sins that he condemns. (1-3)
 - Reason #2 His stubborn, unrepentant heart mocks the gracious opportunities God gives him for repentance. (4-5)
- ◆ The wrath and judgment of God are based on a moralist’s works. (16)
 - Fact #1 Every person is judged according to his works. (16)
 - Fact #2 A person of faith produces works that glorify God while a person without faith produces works that glorify self. (7-10; notice the chiasm, ABB’A’, 7,8,9,10)
- ◆ The wrath and judgment of God falls on Jewish moralists and Gentile moralists without partiality. (11-16)
 - Problem #1 Only those who keep the Mosaic Law perfectly can be justified by the Law. Who is that? No one! (11-13)
 - Problem #2 Only those who keep their consciences perfectly can be justified by the law in their hearts. Who is that? No one! (14-16)

LIFE-RESPONSE

For Spiritual Growth

teaching – good character and good actions are important in any society, but they will not get anyone to heaven. If being good could solve our sin problems, there would be no need for Christ’s death on the cross.

reproof – if the Holy Spirit is speaking to your heart and you see the foolishness in trying to present your human goodness to God, now is the time to repent. You need to change your mind about what is going to get you to heaven – it is not being good or doing good!

correction – God’s solution to your sin problem is for you to trust the work that He has provided. He wants you to believe in the death and resurrection of Jesus as the only solution.

training – if you make this decision to trust Christ, the next step is to learn how to feed yourself on the Word of God. Ask one of our small group leaders to show you the ABC method of having daily quiet times.

For Ministry

Small group leaders – do you have an “open chair” policy? Are you encouraging your group to do evangelism? Do you believe God wants every member to “participate fully in God’s present harvest of all peoples?” What are you doing about it?