

All Saints

Petersham

All Sinners, All Forgiven, All Saints

Romans

Study 4

“The Ultimate Justice of God”

Romans 2: 1-16

12. When does this judgment of God take place? And how does this judgment take place? (v.16)

Summary

13. List all the ways in which God's judgment is described. (e.g based on truth, v.2, "righteous", v. 4, "no favouritism", v. 11, "judge men's secrets", v.16, "through Jesus Christ", v.16)

14. If the judgment of God on the last day is so thoroughly overwhelming, what should we do about it now, in the present? (v. 4 – driving home that now is the time for repentance).

15. Who can we pray for, and what should we pray, given the reality of God's ultimate justice? (finish in prayer – particularly for the repentance of family and friends)

Romans Study 4

Romans 2:1-16 "The ultimate justice of God"

Intro

Discuss a few court cases in the media today (e.g The Thai drug smuggling case, the woman who was locked in the boot of her car for four days, Renee Rivkin, the chase for skase baby #81, etc.)

What would require justice to be done in each case?

What makes this justice fair?

If you were the judge, what would you do?

Understanding the Passage

Context Question

1. From 1:18-32, how does God reveal his anger in the present time? (note the repetition of God "giving them" over)

The self-condemning judgment, 2:1-5

2. In 2:1, Paul shifts gears from "they" and "them" to "you". Why are "they" without excuse (1:21)? And why are "you" without excuse (2:1)? (v1,4-5)

3. How does this human judgment compare to God's judgment? (v.2, 4, 5)

4. In what ways are we in danger of judging the 'pagans' around us? And how are we in danger of having stubborn and unrepentant hearts that judge others?

The impartiality of God's judgment, 2:6-11

5. What is the basis for God's judgment? (v. 6)
(for extension – look up O.T quotes – Job 34:11, Ps 62:12, Prov 24:12, Jer 17:10, 32:19 – what do they reveal about this basis for judgment?)

6. Fill in the following table, describing the type of person, and their consequent judgment.(v.6-11)

<i>Type of Person</i>	<i>Nature of judgment</i>

7. Paul brings up the Jew/Gentile distinction (for the first time since 1:16!). How do they stand up under the scrutiny of God's judgment?

8. In Crocodile Dundee, Paul Hogan says, "Me and God, we're mates"? How does this passage address the Aussie view of God? And how do you, personally, respond to the judgment that we're all under?

God's judgment and the law, 2:12-16

9. What categories of people does "the law" reveal? How does God judge these categories? (v.12-14)

10. How does Paul counter those who "rely in the law"?

11. Extension Question: Who are the Gentiles who "do by nature the things required by the law"? (v.14 – see extra notes for leaders).