

## Eternal Judgment

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by Wayne Goff

The thought of eternal judgment by God our Creator sends chills down my spine. I cannot fathom the moment! Just standing in the august presence of Almighty God is a thing to be feared with great reverence! God who made me, who sees my every move, and knows my every thought, will not be surprised at my judgment. He will not be surprised at your judgment, nor at anyone else and their judgment.

One of our country's early leaders was Daniel Webster. It was said that his blazing eyes and fiery speech could keep the Senate spell-bound! Once he was asked the question: "*Mr. Webster, what do you consider the most serious thought that has ever entered your mind?*"

His reply: "*The most solemn thought that has ever entered my mind is my accountability to my maker.*"

Such accountability to God is what made this nation great. Our founding fathers had a great reverence and respect for God. They knew that the success of any nation was dependent upon the moral principles God expects of every nation (see Jeremiah 50-51, for example). This same reverence and respect for God is largely missing from America's consciousness today. We are a nation in grave danger.

### ROMANS 2

The apostle Paul addresses *two kinds* of people regarding the judgment. In the context, he is rebuking the **impenitent** Jewish people who have trusted their eternal salvation to pure Jewish heritage, physically-speaking. They have rejected the idea that they will be condemned in judgment before God because of their *actions*. Paul sought to correct their misconception.

Just the same, these verses in Romans 2 apply just as well to everyone who refuses to recognize God's existence and sovereignty in their own lives. Listen to the words of inspiration:

*"But in accordance with your hardness and your impenitent heart you are treasuring up for yourself wrath in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God, who 'will render to each one according to his deeds' (vv. 5-6).*

Ignoring God and His warnings in the Bible is not wise! God is no respecter of persons (v. 11). The reward to the disobedient and rebellious is this:

*"But to those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness—indignation and wrath, tribulation and anguish, on every soul of man who does evil, of the Jew first and also of the Greek" (vv. 8-9).*

Do not the words **indignation, wrath, tribulation, and anguish** not disturb you? If not, then there will be a day in which it will. And if that were not bad enough, imagine adding the adjective **eternal** to each one of those!

Now the second class of people are the **humbly obedient**. "*Eternal life to those who by patient continuance in doing good seek for glory, honor, and immortality*" (v. 7). "*But glory, honor, and peace to everyone who works what is good, to the Jew first and also to the Greek*" (v. 10). What a contrast! God promises eternal life to any person who patiently continues in doing good! The words **eternal life, glory, honor, immortality, and peace** are more to my liking! They describe a wonderful relationship with God that can be had by those who obey the "**Good News**" (Gospel)!

### YOUR RESPONSE?

So dear reader, what is your answer? Those who truly believe the Bible and fear God will quickly ask: "**What must I do to be saved?!**" (see Acts 2:37; 8:12; 8:36; 9:6, 18; etc.)

But some do **not** believe the Gospel (see Rom. 10:16-17). That is their choice. That is why God appeals to men by the preaching of the message. It is theirs to accept or reject. But dear reader, do not forget the **consequences**! You have the right to choose now, but *eternally* you will accept the consequences God places upon each group! Do not forget that.