

## ROMANS 2

## NLET

PAUL DISCUSSES THE HYPOCRISY AND DANGER  
OF CONDEMNING ANOTHER WHILE DOING  
THE SAME THINGSTHAT THE OTHER ONE IS DOING

1 Therefore, you are inexcusable, O man – everyone who is condemning! For, in connection with what you are condemning the other *person* you are passing sentence against yourself. For, you, the one who is condemning, are practicing the same things!

2 Now, we know that the Condemnation by the God, in accord with truth, is upon the ones who are practicing such things.

3 Now, are you supposing, O person, the one who is condemning those who are practicing such things while also doing the same things, that you shall escape the Condemnation by the God?!

4 Or, do you look down upon  
➤ the wealth of the kindness *that is* His, and  
➤ the restraint, and  
➤ the long-suffering,  
while being ignorant that the kindness of the God carries you toward a change of mind<sup>1</sup>?

5 Now, in accord with the hardness *that is* yours and a heart that is characterized by a failure to change its thinking<sup>2</sup> you are storing up wrath for yourself in a day

- of wrath, and
- of an unveiling, and<sup>3</sup>
- of a righteous judgment

from the God, 6 Who shall render what is due to each one in accord with the deeds *that are* his.

7 On the one hand, to the *ones* who keep on seeking  
➤ glory, and  
➤ honor, and  
➤ incorruption,

in accord with an endurance *in doing* deeds – *that is* good *deeds*, they keep on seeking life – *that is*, eternal life.

8 On the other hand, to the ones beyond selfish

<sup>1</sup> 'change of mind' – a literal translation of the Greek word here, often translated as 'repentance'

<sup>2</sup> 'that is characterized by a failure to change its thinking' – a translation of the Greek adjective here which can also be translated 'unrepentant'

<sup>3</sup> 93.5% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include the word 'and' here.

ambitions; and they, on the one hand, are disobedient to the Truth, on the other hand, being persuaded by the Unrighteousness, *there are*

- wrath and
- anger,
- 9 tribulation and
- difficulty

upon every psyche<sup>4</sup> of a person – *namely*, the one who is working at the bad *thing*, both of a Jew first and of a Greek.

PAUL PRAISES AND EXPLAINS THE FAIRNESS OF THE GOD

10 Now,

- glory, and
- honor, and
- peace

*are due* to all the ones who are working on the Good Thing – to a Jew first and also to a Greek. 11 For, *there* is not respect of persons in the presence of the God.

12 For, as many as have morally failed without law, without law shall perish. And, as many as *are* morally in possession of law, by means of law shall be judged.

13 For, *it is* NOT the hearers of the<sup>5</sup> Law *who are* righteous in the presence of the God. Rather, the doers of the<sup>6</sup> Law shall be pronounced and treated as righteous.

14 For, whenever an ethnicity, the *ones* not having law, by nature might do<sup>7</sup> the *things* of the Law, these who do not have law are a law for themselves. 15 Such are exhibiting the work of the Law – *the Law* written in the hearts *that are* theirs which are bearing witness together with the conscience *that is* theirs – and meanwhile is accusing one another from the reckoning or also speaking in defense of themselves 16 in a day when the God shall judge the secrets of the

<sup>4</sup> 'psyche' – a transliteration of the Greek word here which refers to the life or the inner animating aspect of a person

<sup>5</sup> 97% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include the definite article 'the' here.

<sup>6</sup> 97% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include the definite article 'the' here.

<sup>7</sup> 68.5% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have 'might do' (a present, singular, subjunctive verb) here. The subject 'ethnicity' is singular. On the basis of 1.5% the NU has *ποιῶσιν* (a present, plural, subjunctive verb).

people in accord with the Excellent Announcement *that* I make because of Jesus *the* Anointed<sup>8</sup>.

PAUL CHIDES JEWS WHO,

IN SPITE OF THEIR SELF-ACCLAIMED STATUS AND ROLE,

NONETHELESS ACT IMMORALLY

17 Look!<sup>9</sup> You, *for your part*,

- are named a Jew, and
- are relying upon the<sup>10</sup> Law, and
- are boasting in respect to God, 18 and
- are coming to know the Will, and
- have approved the things being carried on,
  - being ones who are being catechized out of the Law,
  - 19 lastingly persuading yourself *that you* are –
    - \* a guide of blind *ones*,
    - \* a light for the *ones* in darkness,
    - \* 20 a corrector of unwise *ones*,
    - \* a teacher of immature *ones*,
  - having the form of the Knowledge and the Truth in the Law.

21 So then –

- as the one who is teaching others – do you not teach yourself?!
- As the one who is heralding not to steal, do you steal?!
- 22 As the one who is saying not to commit adultery, do you commit adultery?!
- As one who is loathes the idols, do you rob a temple?!
- 23 As one who boasts in connection with law, by means of the stepping aside *from the path* of the Law, do you bring dishonor to the God?

24 For, “**Because of you the Name of the God is being blasphemed amongst the Ethnicities,**”<sup>11</sup> just as it has been lastingly written.

25 For, on the one hand, a circumcision is helpful, if ever you might practice law. On the other hand, if ever you are one who steps aside *from the path* of law, the Circumcision *that is* yours has lastingly become an uncircumcision.

PAUL EXPLAINS IN WHAT STATE A PERSON IS TRULY

CIRCUMCISED

26 So then, if ever the Uncircumcision might be guarding the righteous deeds of the Law, is not the Uncircumcision *that is* his reckoned toward circumcision? 27 And, the Uncircumcised from birth who is fulfilling the Law shall judge you, the one who, in the state of *having* writings and circumcision, steps aside from *the path* of law. 28 For, the one in the state of the Appearance is NOT a Jew; nor, is the one who is the state of the Appearance in connection with flesh circumcised. 29 Rather, the one in the secret *state is* a Jew, with circumcision of heart in connection with spirit, not *in connection* with a written letter – whose the praise *is* not from people but, rather, from the God.

<sup>8</sup> 99% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have the word order ‘Jesus the Anointed’ here instead of ‘an anointed One – that is, Jesus’.

<sup>9</sup> 85% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have ‘Look!’ here. On the basis of 12% the NU has ‘Now, if’.

<sup>10</sup> 97% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include the definite article ‘the’ here.

<sup>11</sup> A reference to Isaiah 52:5