

# DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

*Our Mission: Reaching Out to Leaders Who Can Change the World.*

## *Romans*

A New Life

### Lesson #3: The Judgment of God

#### INTRODUCTION

What are some of the reasons non-Christians propose for *not* needing the gospel? **Ps 62:12; 1 Sam 16:7**

#### OBSERVATION/INTERPRETATION

##### Read Romans 2:1-29

1. Some people say that a person's *actions* form an infallible index to his character. Why do "nice" or "good" people need the gospel? **Matt 7:16; 20**
2. If Biblical judgment is based on works, what is the basis of salvation? **1 Tim 1:15-16; Eph 2:8-9**
3. When people are judgmental of others, how do they reveal both an understanding and misunderstanding of God's judgment? vv. 1-4
4. Verses 5-16 describe a future day of judgment. What will God consider important and unimportant on that day?
5. Paul focuses his attention on a hypocritical Jew. How does such a person view himself and others? vv. 17-29. **Gal 5:3; Pr 24:12**
6. How has religious hypocrisy hurt the cause of Christ today?
7. Jews placed great value on circumcision because it was the visible sign that they were God's people. How had some of them confused the sign with what it signified?
8. How can religious people today have a similar misunderstanding about baptism or some other rituals or practices?

#### APPLICATION

Pray that the Lord will reveal any area of hypocrisy in your life. Ask him for the grace to let your life truly reflect the values and beliefs you profess.

*"The Mosaic Law had already stated that circumcision was of the heart. Listen to Moses in Deuteronomy 10:16: "Circumcise therefore the foreskin of your heart, and be no more stiff-necked.""*

*Thru the Bible with J. Vernon McGee Vol IV, p. 660*

*Stubbornness translates sklērotēs, which literally refers to hardness and is the word from which we get the medical term sclerosis. Arteriosclerosis refers to hardening of the arteries. Such physical hardening is an ideal picture of the spiritual condition of hearts that have become unresponsive and insensitive to God. But the spiritual condition is immeasurably worse than the physical. Hardening of the arteries may take a person to the grave, but hardening of his spiritual heart will take him to hell.<sup>1</sup>*

<sup>1</sup>MacArthur, John: *Romans*. Chicago : Moody Press, 1996, c1991, c1994, S. 120