The Righteousness of God proven through Messiah, King Jesus

- Unique set of churches Jews joining Gentiles
- ➤ God is on trial Is God Righteous?
 - How can we trust God when the world is in shambles?
 - How can we rely on God if He has set Israel aside?
- > Jesus PROVES God is righteous

The Gospel culminating in Jesus is the power of God to save everyone, & Jesus' faith proves God has come thru on His promises such that we can now exercise faith in Him (from Faith to faith)

Romans 1:18-32 – The REAL guilty parties

Humanity pushes aside the truth & reality of God's existence & that we are fashioned in the Image of the Trinity

Romans 2:1-3

More guilty for at least 2 reasons?

- 1. They are sinning too
- 2. And then they stick their nose up & judge "those" others that they deem worse somehow

If sinning & approving of your sin is criminal, isn't it even worse to condemn the sin of others while joining in?

Romans 2:4-6

Who is the "each person" here?

- 1.Chapter 1:18-32 = Pagans that ignore their tie to their Creator & demand independence & end up in a degraded/devalued self-willed life
- 2.And now...chapter 2 Even worse those that you sit in judgment of those pagans because you somehow think your lifestyle is better than those around you

We are ALL GUILTY!

Romans 2:5-11

Contrasts the godly & wicked 2x:

1.Vs. 7-8 = underlying attitude of each

2.Vs. 9-10 = emphasizes their final state – they will be judged fairly

Romans 2:12-13

Where is Paul headed?

- ➤ Building a case against all humanity who stand in judgment over...of all persons...GOD!
- 1.Living perfectly for both Jew & Gentile will set you right before God (Rom. 2:6, 11, 13)
- 2.But the poser of sin in partnership with our weak flesh prevents you from doing good (Rom. 3:9-19)
- 3. Therefore no one can be saved from doing good (Rom. 3:20)

Romans 2:14-16

Two ways to read this:

- 1. Some Gentiles, by following their own conscience, live according to Torah even though they don't have Torah 2. Hinting for vs. 26-29 A new category of Gentile is being created by the transforming power of the Gospel
 - a) In this transformation the Torah is written now on their hearts thru the indwelling Spirit of Jesus
 - b) By following the prompting of the Spirit they come into accordance with the Torah

Paul's real goal:

Jewish people trying to follow Torah will fall under the same judgment as pagans (having the Torah, not having the Torah)

In the end at the final judgment when Jesus sits enthroned as King & Cosmic Judge over HIS creation that HE originated & that HE fixed...JESUS...Lord of ALL will be seen as fair!

Final Thoughts:

- 1. Real danger for Christians walking with God
 - = Moralistic & Judgmental

2. Belief in a final judgment = part of the Good News of the Gospel!

Wasteland Lyrics – Need to Breathe

Yeah in this wasteland where I'm livin' There is a crack in the door filled with light And it's all that I need to get by Yeah in this wasteland where I'm livin' There is a crack in the door filled with light And it's all that I need to shine