



Lenten Series Week 3

## The Righteous Live by Faith

Romans 1:1-11 | March 24, 2019

**Introduction:** Therefore you have no excuse, whoever you are, when you judge others; for in passing judgment on another you condemn yourself, because you, the judge, are doing the very same things. <sup>2</sup> You say, "We know that God's judgment on those who do such things is in accordance with truth." <sup>3</sup> Do you imagine, whoever you are, that when you judge those who do such things and yet do them yourself, you will escape the judgment of God? <sup>4</sup> Or do you despise the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience? Do you not realize that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance? <sup>5</sup> But by your hard and impenitent heart you are storing up wrath for yourself on the day of wrath, when God's righteous judgment will be revealed. <sup>6</sup> For he will repay according to each one's deeds: <sup>7</sup> to those who by patiently doing good seek for glory and honor and immortality, he will give eternal life; <sup>8</sup> while for those who are self-seeking and who obey not the truth but wickedness, there will be wrath and fury. <sup>9</sup> There will be anguish and distress for everyone who does evil, the Jew first and also the Greek, <sup>10</sup> but glory and honor and peace for everyone who does good, the Jew first and also the Greek. <sup>11</sup> For God shows no partiality.

**"Therefore" – What is therefore? In summary:** Paul takes us back to the previous: the First chapter he reveals how the pagan world stands condemned by the wrath of Righteous God. They were condemned not because they did know God but because they were determined to reject God. They rejected God, instead chose idols, and suppressed the truth.

**Read:** Romans 1:18-32

God gave them (pagan world or the Gentiles) over in lusts of their hearts; God gave them over to a depraved mind and the Jews said Amen! After revealing the wickedness of the pagan world to the "super-spiritual" men and women, Paul in Romans 2 turns to them and says, "Therefore you are without excuse."

### Discussion:

- What is an excuse and why do we excuse ourselves?
- What do you think the Jews in the room felt after Paul said this "You've no excuse" after scathing condemnation of the pagan world?
- What is the reason or excuse for pointing fingers to others?
- Is this list applicable in our faith community or to a person who is in church every Sunday? – *filled with every kind of wickedness, evil, covetousness, malice, envy, murder, strife, deceit, craftiness, they are gossips, slanderers, God-haters, insolent, haughty, boastful, inventors of evil, rebellious toward parents, foolish, faithless, heartless, ruthless.*
- Who are the judges of whom Paul spoke – You have no excuse?
- What are the judges' moral standards and do they live up to their own standards?
- In the Paul's context – do you think God will search through the His Laws to condemn us or God will us the judgments that we have passed on others?
- Do we show partiality when judging others? What is the excuse for our partiality? God is not partial!

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**Application:**

1. What kind of moral standards do we use when judging others?
2. What is the basis of our excuses for not obeying God's word?
3. Why do we judge or condemn others with the same things we practice?