

📖 **Next 31. God's Judgment Extends to All**

**Romans 2:6–13**

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## 31. God's Judgment Extends to All

All who sin apart from the law will also perish apart from the law, and all who sin under the law will be judged by the law.

[Rom. 2:12]

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We remember that Paul has in view the great line of demarcation between the Jew and the Gentile. The Jew possessed the law of God, and the Gentile did not have that religious heritage. But there is no partiality with God. The Gentile who sins outside the law will be judged apart from the law; the sinful Jew will be judged by the law. Whether you sin as a Jew or as a Gentile, you perish.

Paul elaborates in verse 13, “For it is not those who hear the law who are righteous in God’s sight, but it is those who obey the law who will be declared righteous.” Jews heard the law recited in the synagogue on all kinds of religious occasions. Because they had been given these documents by God, some came to the conclusion that this was proof that they would inherit the kingdom of God, regardless of how they lived.

Paul wouldn’t stand for this. He continued to drive home the point that only those who obey the law in practice, only the perfectly righteous man or woman, will be justified.

Paul earlier made clear that the only way any person can be saved is to stand sinless before God. In verses 6 and 7 he says that “God will give to each person according to what he has done. To those who by persistence in doing good seek glory, honor and immortality, he will give eternal life.” Anybody who persistently, constantly, and

perfectly does good and obeys God will get into heaven.

Of course, there are no such people, so in a sense Paul's point is theoretical. On the other hand, though, it is only in the sinless perfection of Jesus Christ that we can be accepted. Thus, it is on the basis of *his* works that we are saved.

### *Coram Deo*

Our inability to keep the law fully does not excuse us from diligently pursuing it. While it cannot save us, it can certainly help sanctify us. Review the Ten Commandments ([Deut. 5:6–21](#)) and thank God for the beauty and rightness of his standards. Choose any one, using it for self-examination and as a standard for your heart's longing for righteousness.

For further study: [Malachi 3:1–6](#); [Romans 3:19–31](#); [James 1:22–25](#)