

THE FAILURE OF MAN  
Romans 2:1-6

INTRODUCTION:

- A. We have read what happened to the Gentiles and their worship of God
  - 1) Verse 21-23, 25, 27-32
  - 2) God gave them up - 24, 26, 28
  - 3) Acts 17:30 - "And at the times of this ignorance, God winked at; but now commandeth all men everywhere to repent."  
= "to overlook", "not to regard"
  - 4) Verse 29 tells "the time"
- B. The Jews also failed
  - 1) They had the law-system but they were still sinners and failures
  - 2) Verse 12, 2:12
- C. Because of the failure of both Jew and Gentile they were both condemned
  - 1) Paul uses the expression, "O man"
  - 2) A dialogue, a man in front of a mirror. What he says to the mirror, he says to himself.

I. Man is Without Legal Defense vs. 1

- A. "Therefore thou art inexcusable, O man, whosoever thou art that judgest:"
  - 1) "anapologetos" = "without excuse", "without legal defense"
  - 2) "krino" = "to separate", "separate", "to pronounce judgment"
  - 3) This applies to all as verse 1:18 applied to all, the Gentile and the Jew
- B. "for wherein thou judgest another, thou condemnest thyself; for thou that judgest doest the same things"
  - 1) "another" ton heteron = "the other man" The notion of two in the word, one criticizing the other
  - 2) "condemnest" = katakrino= "to give judgment against a crime", "to condemn"
  - 3) "judgeth" = krino = "to separate", "sift", Whatever sin the Jew can find in the Gentile by investigation, he has simply found another sin to condemn the Jew with, because the Jews are guilty of all the sins the Gentiles practice. This applies to verses 29-32.

II. God Will Judge Every Man vs. 2

- A. "But we are sure that the judgment of God is according to truth"
  - 1) oida = "to have knowledge", "to know"
  - 2) "judgment" =
  - 3) "according" = kathos = "according as "evcn so"
- B. "against them which commit such things"
  - 1) "commit" = prasso = "a work one does as a habit"
  - 2) "we know that God will certainly bring His wrath down on the doer of sin"

III. Man Cannot Escape God's Wrath vs. 3

- A. "And thinkest thou this, O man, that judgest them which do such things"
  - 1) "thinkest" = logizomai = "to consider, suppose"
  - 2) "practicing and doing them"
- B. "and doest the same, that thou shalt escape the judgment of God?"
  - 1) "you inspect the Gentiles and know that they do such things, yet the Jews do the same things"
  - 2) "escape" = ekpheugo = "to flee out of a place", "to get away"
  - 3) "judgment" = krima = "the sentence pronounced", "the decision arrived at"

IV. Man Misinterprets God's Goodness vs. 4

- A. "Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering;"
  - 1) "despisest" = kataphroneo = "to think slightly"
  - 2) "riches" = plousios = "having or abounding in wealth", "having more"
  - 3) "goodness" = agathosune = "goodness and kindness, a moral characteristic, one who desires moral worth and is not attracted because of anything other than goodness"
  - 4) "forbearance" = anoche = "a holding back", "delay", "leading to self restraint"
  - 5) "longsuffering" = makrothumia = "suffering a condition for a long time before becoming angry and administering justice or punishment"
- B. "not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance"
  - 1) "not knowing" = agnoeo = "not to be acquainted with, having no discernment or understanding, also to commit a wrong because one does not have knowledge or will not respond to it"

- 2) "goodness" = chrestos = "well disposed", "actively beneficent in spite of ingratitude"
- 3) "leadeth" = agein = pres. act. inf. conative  
pres. "to try to lead"
- 4) "repentance" = metanoia = "change of mind, change of mind from bad to good, not merely pain of mind. You can't repent 1,000 times"

Ecclesiastes 8:11 - "Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil."

II Peter 3:9 - "The Lord is not slack concerning his promises, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."

V. Man and the Day of Wrath vs. 5

- A. "But after thy hardness and impenitent heart treasurest up unto thyself wrath....."
  - 1) "hardness" = sklerotes = "dryness", "hardness resulting from dryness"
  - 2) "impenitent" = ametanontos = "without change of mind"
  - 3) "treasurest" = thesaurizo = "to lay up in store, to treasure"
  - 4) "wrath" = orge = "anger leading to killing"
- B. ".....against the day of wrath and revelation of righteous judgment of God"
  - 1) "day of wrath"
  - 2) "revelation" = apokalupsis = "unveiling", "of facts and truth", "disclosure"
  - 3) "righteous judgment of God"
- C. "who will render to every man according to his deeds"
  - 1) "render" = apodidomi = "to bestow"
  - 2) "according" = kata = "down" = "according to"
  - 3) "deeds" = ergon = "work", "labour", "business"

