

October 26-27, 2024

Title: Romans: The Power of God, Pt 3: “Deposits for Eternal Gain or Loss” – Romans 2:1-11

Big Idea: Make deposits from a repentant heart for eternal gain, not a judgmental heart for eternal loss.

Read Romans 2:1-11.

What in the message stood out to you?

What questions do you have?

1. Judgmental hearts store up eternal wrath.

Read Romans 2:1-3 again. In these verses, Paul is addressing religious people (Jews) who pass judgment on others. What do you think it means to “pass judgment” on someone?

Why do those who “pass judgment” on others have no excuse?

Read the list of 21 sins that Paul lists in Romans 1:29-31. Which of these sins have you struggled with at one time or another in your life?

Read Romans 2:4-5 again. Why is being unrepentant presuming on the kindness, forbearance, and patience of God?

What does it mean to repent? Why should God’s kindness lead us to repentance?

Read Romans 2:8-9 again. What is the final outcome of the judgmental heart based on these verses?

Why do you think judgment will be to the Jew first?

2. Repentant hearts store up eternal life.

Read Romans 2:6-7 and 10 again. Based on these verses, what do people with repentant hearts seek? How do they seek these things?

Repentance is not merely a one-time thing. It is patient and persevering and characterizes all of life. Why do you think this is?

How does a repentant heart view sin?

What does a repentant heart look like when you are tempted to sin? What does a repentant heart look like when you do sin?

What is promised to those with repentant hearts?

3. We store up eternal GAIN or LOSS according to our works.

Read Romans 2:6 again. What do you think it means that God will render to each one according to their works?

Read Luke 12:47-48 and Matthew 11:23-24. What do these passages suggest about degrees of punishment in hell?

Read 2 Corinthians 5:10 and 1 Corinthians 3:11-15. What do these passages suggest about degrees of reward in heaven?

For believers, our justification and entrance into heaven is by faith alone, but our degree of reward in heaven will be according to our works. What do you think determines whether a “work” will result in “gain” or “loss” when it is judged? How should this affect how we live?

What do you think these degrees of reward are? How will they be experienced? See 2 Corinthians 3:18 for help in answering.

“Next Steps” Takeaways – Discuss and pray through the following:

- With God:
 - Focus on having a repentant heart before the Lord – a heart that acknowledges sin, confesses sin, turns from sin, and treasures Christ above all else.
- With Others:
 - Form an accountability group with other believers to encourage deposits from repentant hearts. Consider asking each other the following questions each week:
 - How have you honored God and others with your thoughts, words, actions, and resources this week?
 - How have you dishonored God and others with your thoughts, words, actions, and resources this week?
- On Mission:
 - Stop judging unbelievers and start praying for them and sharing Jesus with them.
 - Vote in the upcoming election to represent Jesus and His interests in our cities, state, and country.