



<sup>2</sup> But we know that the judgment of God is according to truth against those who practice such things. <sup>3</sup> And do you think this, O man, you who judge those practicing such things, and doing the same, that you will escape the judgment of God? <sup>4</sup> Or do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance? (NKJV).

*Review*

Paul is bringing home the fact, especially to the Jews, that they, like everybody else, were under the wrath of God and the only hope of salvation to them, as to others, was in the righteousness provided by the Lord Jesus Christ, a righteousness received by faith. The Jews are guilty of the very things for which they condemn others and they are guilty of the fallacy of forgetting that God's judgement is according to truth. They think God's judgement is like their judgement which is fallible and unworthy. The Jews themselves are proof of this having been judged and punished by God repeatedly, though they were His own chosen people.

*Verse 2*

God did not spare David, nor His chosen people, nor His own Son because His judgment is always according to truth.

*Verse 3*

The world is as it is today, because man thinks he can *escape* the judgement of God. People think God does not see or that He will make an exception persuading themselves that they might *escape*. (Ps. 50:21).

The wrath is coming (Luke 3:7; 1 Thess. 1:9-10).

Do you tell people that they are under the wrath of God and they cannot escape it? (Hebrews 9:27). There is no escape other than the way God provided in His Son.

*Verse 4*

But God loves us! We can bypass all this nonsense about the doctrine of the wrath of God. (Luke 3:8)

Sin blinds the Jews to their own Scripture which reveal the character of God. He is a holy God who judges according to truth – (Assyria, Babylon, John 8:31-32; Luke 12:54-57; Mt. 16:1-3, AD 70)

Do we do this today? Do people pit God's goodness, kindness, and love against His holiness, righteousness and justice?

Why doesn't God always punish sin immediately? Is He soft?

How do you explain blessings God gives to people who are clearly not believers?

Is God asleep at the switch? (2 Peter 3:1-13)

Do you persist in a life of sin while talking about the goodness and mercy of God? What is cheap grace? Despise?

Riches? A treasury with endless wealth. Inexhaustible. Eternal.

Goodness (Mt. 5:45). Do people stop to consider this? They take credit for the plowing and neglect the sending of the rain and the sun. They claim the goodness of God when they sin. They despise the riches of His goodness. (Acts 14:17)

Forbearance – Why does God have patience with us? Do you have this patience? You cannot begin to understand.

Longsuffering – (2 Peter 3:9) The Garden? He postpones the punishment. That's why we are in the 21<sup>st</sup> century!