

SERMON REFLECTIONS

Because the Bad News is Really Bad!

Romans 2:1-16 | 15 January 2023 | Rev Dr Aaron Tay

Reflection Questions

1. The word “Gospel” is derived from old English “god-spell” which means “Good News” or “Glad Tidings”.

- i. **What kind of Good News do you like to hear in general?**
- ii. **What kind of Good News can you hear from the Bible?**
- iii. **What are the bad news found in the Bible?**

2. Romans 2:1-2 teaches us that we condemn ourselves when we judge others for doing something which we ourselves are guilty of.

- i. **What are some things which we do (whether openly or in secret) which we then pass judgment on others for doing?**
- ii. **Does it mean therefore we do not judge anyone for doing things which the Bible declares as sin? Yet sin must be challenged in the church – how then can we help correct the sins of our brother/sister without being judgemental?**

3. One of the fundamental beliefs of Christianity is the Second Coming of Christ, on which He will then judge the world.

- i. **Do you believe there will be such a Day?**
- ii. **How are you preparing for that Day?**

4. Romans 2:7-8 tells us that those who by persistence in doing good seek glory, honour and immortality will receive eternal life, while those

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Our Mission

We exist to make disciples who love God, love one another and love the lost



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who are self-seeking and who reject the truth and follow evil will face God's wrath.

- i. **There are some people in the world who are non-Christians, but they are holy and they seek to do good. Does it mean they will receive eternal life?**
- ii. **There are many people in the world who do not really follow evil. Will they face God's wrath?**

5. The Lord gave 613 laws (found in the Old Testament) to the people of Israel through Moses. In addition, there are some more commandments given to us through the New Testament.

- i. **If we are going to be judged by the Law, what are the commandments which Christians generally do not do, and what are the laws which Christians might break ?** *[The point of this question is to see for yourself, how "saved" you are if you are dependent on the Law.]*

6. Everyone is born with a conscience. Romans 2:14-16 teaches us that God put it there in our hearts so that it might bear witness, accuse (judge) or defend (guide).

- ii. **In what ways would the conscience act as witness, judge and guide?**
- iii. **Why is the conscience sometimes unable to stop people from sinning?**

7. According to one estimate, in a world of 7.8 billion people today, besides Christianity (2.38 billion), the other 3 world religions are **Islam** (1.97 billion), **Hinduism** (1.2 billion) and **Buddhism** (400 million).

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- i. **Choose any of the 3 major world religions and discuss – how can a person be holy in accordance to his/her religion, to the point of one without sin?** *(for example, if I choose “Buddhism”, then how can a Buddhist be holy in accordance to his beliefs, to the point of complete purity?)*
- ii. **Think about a person in your life who is not a Christian – is this person completely holy in accordance to his/her own religion? In what ways has he/she failed?** *(if it is a sensitive matter, there is no need to say who that person is.)*

If you believe that this person will fail the judgment based on his/her own conscience/religion, then take some time to pray for this person to come to know Jesus Christ as his/her Lord and Saviour.

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