

Romans 2:6-16 Reflection & Group Questions

“There are but two objects that I have ever desired ... to behold; the one, is my own vileness; and the other is, the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ: and I have always thought that they should be viewed together.” - Rev. Charles Simeon

Personal Reflection and Application*:

Reread the passage above and answer the following questions:

1. Consider the quote of Rev. Simeon above. What does he mean? Many Christians today would not have the same desires; they would prefer to have vague views of God, sweet notions of Christ, and confident views of themselves. What good reasons might a growing Christian have to deeply desire as Charles Simeon does? Are you growing in your desire to behold these “two objects?” Why or why not?
 2. *What difference does truly finding rest, hope, and honor in God alone make in someone’s life, do you think?
 3. *How is your conscience defending you today? How is it accusing you?
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Group Discussion Guide:

Reread the passage above and select which items below to discuss. All of there are optional:

1. Reread Romans 2:1-16. As a group come up with a **one-sentence summary** for each of the last 2 paragraphs (2:6-11 and 2:12-16).
2. Describe how do the words “lead you to **repentance**” (v.4), “**patience**-endurance” and “**seek** for” (v.7) indicate that Paul may not be speaking of perfection, but a general direction of our lives?
3. In the *third* paragraph (2:12-16), does Paul change his meaning from vv. 6-11; is Paul talking about judgement based on perfect righteousness? Why or Why not? Try to support your answers from the texts and wider contexts. Feel free to disagree with each other.
4. Paul says that there are some traces of the law of God (called, “the work of the law”) to still written on the hearts of people. What hope could this provide for us as we help our family and friends see their need for Christ?
5. Pastor and author, J.D. Greear wrote, “*Salvation is a posture of repentance and faith that you begin in a moment and maintain for the rest of your life.*” In what ways does Romans 2:1-16 support or contradict this statement? How does the wider context of Romans 1-3 inform your answer?