

All men should fear to be found unrighteous by God, and God judges all men. What kind of judge is God?

God's justice

Correct, without error or uncertainty (v. 2)

Universal (v. 3)

Restrained for a time by patience and mercy (v. 4)

Inevitable in the end (v. 5)

Fitting (vs. 6-10)

Impartial (v. 11)

Man's justice

Flawed

Sporadic

Hasty

Often forgotten or overlooked

Arbitrary

Biased

Questions:

1. What type of person or habitual action is Paul addressing in verses 1-5?
2. According to verse 2, what is the basis of God's judgment?
3. If you have a thorough understanding of what is right and what is wrong, are you pretty certain to stay on the side of right? Why or why not?
4. Verse 4 speaks of the unsaved presuming on God's kindness and patience. What does it mean to presume? Can Christians also presume?
5. How can kindness lead to repentance? Wouldn't some "tough love" work better?

6. What hardens the heart of a sinner? A saint?
7. Do verses 6-8 say that salvation is dependent on one's deeds? Explain your answer.
8. How can a person meet the requirements for eternal life in verse 7? (also see Chapter 3)
9. Verse 11 says that God is impartial. In what way?
10. What does it mean that the Gentiles are a law unto themselves? That they are free to follow their own rules?
11. Is our conscience a reliable gauge of our righteousness?