

“The Whitewashed Tomb”  
Romans 2:1-5 & Matthew 23:27-28

- “Therefore”: The man who judges “knows God’s righteous decree.” The man who judges also knows that “those who practice sin deserve to die” (Romans 6:23).
- “You have no excuse”: Because not only do you have God’s creation as an evidence to you but you also have God’s Word as an evidence to you.
- “For in passing judgment...”: This judgment is based on knowledge of the truth. When we have knowledge it brings greater accountability and responsibility (Matthew 23:25-28; Luke 20:46-47; Matthew 11:20-24).
  - So often knowledge can lead to self-righteousness. This self-righteousness is a denial of God’s standard of perfection (Matthew 5:48) and a denying of the depth of our sins; there is no self-evaluation, just an evaluation of others (Matthew 7:1-5). Helping others with their sin starts with dealing with our own sins (Galatians 6:1).
- “The judgment of God rightly falls on those who practice such things”: God judges righteously because He knows all things (1 Corinthians 4:5). God judges righteously because He sees all things (Hebrews 4:13). God judges righteously because He is Holy (Isaiah 6:3-5). God judges righteously because He truly hates all sin (Psalm 7:11-13). God is a righteous judge because He is perfect (Deuteronomy 32:4).
- “Do you think you will escape the judgment of God?” We have been promised judgment in the Word of God. We should live like we will stand before a Holy God who sees and knows all things (Hebrews 4:13; 2 Corinthians 5:9-10; Revelation 20:13-15).
  - Most of the Jews believed these false realities about judgment, as do so many people today: 1) They believed that by doing certain moral and religious acts they produced a righteousness of their own. 2) They believed they had a certain favor with God because they were inherently good by the keeping of the Law and their traditions. 3) They believed that their failures only had earthly consequences and that they would escape God’s judgment because they were Jewish. But all are equally condemned before God (Romans 3:22-23).
- “God’s kindness is meant to lead you to repentance”: When we sin we are ignoring the kindness of God. We should never underestimate the value and purpose of God’s kindness. Often the more grace that is given, the more comfortable we feel sinning (Romans 6:1-2). God’s forbearance is Him holding off our inevitable judgment and punishment outside of Christ; this is an extension of His patience and kindness. God does not wish for any to perish but for all to come to repentance (2 Peter 3:9; Ezekiel 18:23 & 33:11). If it wasn’t for God’s kindness, patience, and forbearance none of us would be alive (Job 12:10).
- “Because of your hard and impenitent (not feeling shame) heart”: We must be very careful in hardening our hearts. There are at least three ways we can harden our hearts: 1) We can ignore His voice/Word (Hebrews 3:7-8). 2) We can have a lack of faith in God’s promises (Hebrews 3:12; 11:6). 3) Living in habitual sin can harden our hearts (Hebrews 3:13; 1 John 3:9-10).

**Worship:** All Creatures (Kings Kaleidoscope)  
His Mercy is More (Matt Boswell)

O Lord My Rock and My Redeemer (Sovereign Grace Music)  
**Closing Song:** This is Amazing Grace (Chris Tomlin)