## The Book of Romans, Lesson 12, Romans 2:1, "Sin is Sin"

Typical of the human experience: we think we are doing well but, but in reality, we have major flaws that we don't even see. It is this condition that Paul speaks to in **Romans 2:1.** Even though none of us is perfect and we all have sinned, we all still have a tendency to look down on other sinners as if we aren't sinners ourselves. God's word provides no room for anyone to look down on anyone else because sin is sin. It is all hated by God **Romans 1:18**. It all receives the same penalty **Romans 6:23.** The doctrine of sin teaches us that there is no difference between the highest-ranking person in the world and a person forced into living on the streets, between a Harvard scientist and an aboriginal living in the bush. All of us are sinners who, without a Savior, will be thrown into Hell, **Romans 3:23.** Thinking that we or others are better than another is a delusion. Sin is a great equalizer.

## 1. Sin is sin and sin leads to more sin, always.

- ✓ We talked about this last time; there is a consistent progressive nature to sin. Day to day if sin isn't on the decrease in our lives by our surrendering ourselves to the Spirit of God and obeying Him as He convicts us then sin is on the increase. Sin is ever on the increase in our world, and apart from the intervention of God. This is why it takes more and more to drown out the message that we are indeed God's enemies. We cannot escape from the voice of the universe's testimony and from our conscience's that there is a God to whom we will all have to answer to. If we give in to sin, it will start calling the shots, and it will want more and more at time moves on, John 8:38.
- 2. Sin is sin; sin leads to more sin; sin and more sin causes us to look down on others who are no different than us.
  - ✓ Remember what sin does, it suppresses the truth: Romans 1:18. To a large degree, the more we sin, the dumber we get: Romans 1:21-23. Speaking of dumb: looking down on other sinners only proves that we are just like them: Romans 2:1. It is hard to tell what we are really like by self-examination because our sinful hearts fool us. A good rule of thumb according to Romans 2:1 is that we are like the ones we look down on, 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 8:2, 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 10:12. Apparently, the Corinthian church had a tendency of looking down on others, forgetting that they too were sinners. People who do not understand sin are proud of themselves; they are concerned about appearances; careful to appear good; are quick to point the finger at others; and all the while they are exposed as sinners.
- 3. To avoid such a predicament, I have something for us to consider.
  - ✓ It is ridiculous for us to think that we are good at seeing other people's sins when we have difficulty seeing our own: Matthew 7:3. Jesus doesn't say that is impossible for us to see others sin accurately, but not until we can see sin in ourselves accurately.
- I would like to suggest a fast for us, not necessarily from food, but maybe. Instead, I would suggest a fast from the media influence which fills us with so much interference. A fast from reading anything other than the Bible and devotional materials. We should then ask God to reveal all the hidden places in our lives where our sins need to be exposed and addressed.