

#6 Heart Matters

Romans 2:12-29 (ESV)

Romans 2:12 – 16 For all who have sinned without the law will also perish without the law, and all who have sinned under the law will be judged by the law.

¹³ For it is not the hearers of the law who are righteous before God, but the doers of the law who will be justified. ¹⁴ For when Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do what the law requires, they are a law to themselves, even though they do not have the law. ¹⁵ They show that the work of the law is written on their hearts, while their conscience also bears witness, and their conflicting thoughts accuse or even excuse them ¹⁶ on that day when, according to my gospel, God judges the secrets of men by Christ Jesus.

1. God will judge **OUR SECRETS**
2. God will judge **THROUGH JESUS CHRIST**
3. God will judge **THROUGH THE GOSPEL**
4. The Law is a basis of **DIVINE JUDGEMENT**
5. The Law is a basis of **CHRISTIAN MISSION**

The Deception of Religion

Romans 2:17 - 27 But if you call yourself a Jew and rely on the law and boast in God ¹⁸ and know his will and approve what is excellent, because you are instructed from the law; ¹⁹ and if you are sure that you yourself are a guide to the blind, a light to those who are in darkness, ²⁰ an instructor of the foolish, a teacher of children, having in the law the embodiment of knowledge and truth ²¹ you then who teach others, do you not teach yourself? While you preach against stealing, do you steal? ²² You who say that one must not commit adultery, do you commit adultery? You who abhor idols, do you rob temples? ²³ You who boast in the law dishonor God by breaking the law. ²⁴ For, as it is written, "The name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you." ²⁵ For circumcision indeed is of value if you obey the law, but if you break the law, your circumcision becomes uncircumcision. ²⁶ So, if a man who is uncircumcised keeps the precepts of the

law, will not his uncircumcision be regarded as circumcision? ²⁷ Then he who is physically uncircumcised but keeps the law will condemn you who have the written code and circumcision but break the law.

1. They were called **JEWS**
2. They relied upon **POSSESSION OF THE LAW**
3. They bragged of **THEIR STATUS WITH GOD**
4. They prided themselves for **KNOWING GOD'S WILL**
5. They applauded themselves for **MORAL JUDGEMENT ABILITY**

Heart Matters

Romans 2:28 – 29 For no one is a Jew who is merely one outwardly, nor is circumcision outward and physical. ²⁹ But a Jew is one inwardly and circumcision is a matter of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the letter. His praise is not from man but from God.

1. God is never **FOOLED**

Are you counting on your religion to make you right with God?

The Heart Matter is, have you been born again?

Are you allowing the Gospel to transform you?