

Taking Away our False Security

Romans 2:17 Behold, **thou art called a Jew**, and **restest** in the law, and **makest thy boast of God**, 18 And knowest *his* will, and approvest the things that are more excellent, being instructed out of the law; 19 And **art confident** that thou thyself art a guide of the blind, a light of them which are in darkness, 20 An instructor of the foolish, a teacher of babes, which hast the form of knowledge and of the truth in the law. 21 Thou therefore which teachest another, teachest thou not thyself? thou that preachest a man should not steal, **dost thou steal?** 22 Thou that sayest a man should not commit adultery, **dost thou commit adultery?** thou that abhorrest idols, **dost thou commit sacrilege?** 23 Thou that makest thy boast of the law, **through breaking the law dishonourest thou God?** 24 **For the name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles through** you, as it is written. 25 For circumcision verily profiteth, if thou keep the law: but if thou be a breaker of the law, thy circumcision is made uncircumcision. 26 Therefore if the uncircumcision keep the righteousness of the law, shall not his uncircumcision be counted for circumcision? 27 And shall not

uncircumcision which is by nature, if it fulfil the law, judge thee, who by the letter and circumcision dost transgress the law? **28** For he is not a Jew, which is one outwardly; neither *is that* circumcision, which is outward in the flesh: **29** But he *is* a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision *is that* of the heart, in the spirit, *and* not in the letter; whose praise *is* not of men, but of God.

1. Salvation is more than **knowing** something **Romans 2:17**
Behold, **thou art called a Jew**, and **retest** in the law, and makest thy boast of God, **18** And knowest *his* will, and approvest the things that are more excellent, being instructed out of the law; **19** And **art confident** that thou thyself art a guide of the blind, a light of them which are in darkness, **20** An instructor of the foolish, a teacher of babes, which hast the form of knowledge and of the truth in the law.
 - a. The Jews had the law and they knew what it said
 - i. They rested in the law
 - ii. They knew God's will
 - iii. They had been taught the law and approved of what it said

- b. They taught others the law
 - i. They felt like they had the law and were teaching others that didn't have the law
 - ii. They instructed others
 - iii. They were confident in what they knew and taught
- c. The problem is knowing and not doing
 - i. They taught others but did not live up to their own knowledge **Romans 2:13** (For not the hearers of the law are just before God, but the doers of the law shall be justified.
 - ii. They taught others but didn't teach themselves **21** Thou therefore which teachest another, teachest thou not thyself? thou that preachest a man should not steal, dost thou steal? **22** Thou that sayest a man should not commit adultery, dost thou commit adultery? thou that abhorrest idols, dost thou commit sacrilege?
 - iii. They bragged about knowing God but dishonored Him by breaking the law they knew and taught **Romans 2:17** Behold, **thou art called a Jew,** and **restest** in the law, and makest thy boast of God, **23** Thou that makest thy boast of the law, through breaking the law dishonourest

thou God? **24** For the name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles through you, as it is written.

d. Application is

- i. If we judge others we should be able to judge ourselves
- ii. If we teach others we should be able to teach ourselves
- iii. We can't plead ignorance since we already bragged about knowing

e. Actually having the law would bring a great condemnation

James 3:1 My brethren, be not many masters, knowing that we shall receive the greater condemnation.

2. Salvation is more than **being a member** **Romans 2:17**

Behold, **thou art called a Jew**, and **retest** in the law, and makest thy boast of God, **18** And knowest *his* will, and approvest the things that are more excellent, being instructed out of the law; **19** And **art confident** that thou thyself art a guide of the blind, a light of them which are in darkness, **20** An instructor of the foolish, a teacher of babes, which hast the form of knowledge and of the truth in the law. **28** For he is not a Jew, which is one outwardly; neither *is that* circumcision, which is outward in the flesh: **29** But he *is* a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision

is that of the heart, in the spirit, *and* not in the letter;
whose praise *is* not of men, but of God.

- a. They felt like that they were the chosen, the Jewish nation, the circumcision and therefore God was pleased with them
- b. You can't expect to be born into a group, raised in a group and for that to be your inward reality
 - i. Paul had been born a Jew. He had all the outward signs of membership but realized he needed what Christ had done on Calvary **Philippians 3:4** *Though I might also have **confidence in the flesh**. If any other man thinketh that he hath whereof he might trust in the flesh, I more: **5** Circumcised the eighth day, **of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, an Hebrew of the Hebrews; as touching the law, a Pharisee;** **6** Concerning zeal, persecuting the church; touching the righteousness which is in the law, blameless. **7** But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. **8** Yea doubtless, and I count all things *but* loss **for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord:** for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them *but* dung, that*

I may win Christ, **9** And be found in him, **not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law,** but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith:

ii. The Jews had a zeal for God but not according to knowledge **Romans 10:1** Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved. **2** For **I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge.** **3** For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to **establish their own righteousness,** have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God. **4** For Christ *is* the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth.

c. Membership or agreement with a group, their doctrine, etc is not salvation.

d. You should not rest in your church membership

3. Salvation is more than **outward conformity** **25** For circumcision verily profiteth, if thou keep the law: but if thou be a breaker of the law, **thy circumcision is made uncircumcision.** **26** Therefore if the uncircumcision keep

the righteousness of the law, shall not **his uncircumcision be counted for circumcision?** 27 And shall not uncircumcision which is by nature, if it fulfil the law, **judge thee,** who by the letter and circumcision dost transgress the law? 28 For he is not a Jew, which is one **outwardly;** neither *is that* circumcision, which is **outward** in the flesh: 29 But he *is* a Jew, which is one **inwardly;** and circumcision *is that* of the **heart, in the spirit, and** not in the letter; whose praise *is* not of men, but of God.

- a. The circumcision should have been simply an external that showed what was true internally but it had degenerated to simply an external
- b. Being circumcised meant nothing if you didn't keep the law
- c. God was not looking for outward conformity but inward reality **I Samuel 16:7** But the Lord said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for *the Lord seeth* not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart.

- d. Circumcision minus obedience equals uncircumcision, while uncircumcision plus obedience equals circumcision.
- e. Do not rely on your baptism, convictions, morality, etc

4. Salvation is about **realizing your lost condition**

Galatians 3:22 But **the scripture hath concluded all under sin**, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe.

- a. The goal of the passage is to strip away any confidence in anything or anyone other than Christ
- b. You know the Bible but you do not obey it
- c. You have been physically circumcised but not in your heart
- d. You are a Jew, a member, but just being born a Jew doesn't save you
- e. Until you get a point of helplessness you will not be ready to trust Jesus and what He did on the cross of Calvary

5. Salvation is a work that God does in us! **Romans 10:1**

Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved. 2 For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according to

knowledge. 3 For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to **establish their own righteousness**, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God. 4 For Christ *is* the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth.

- a. God must get us to a point that we see that we can't save ourselves and only Jesus can
- b. Being religious and sincere is not the answer
- c. Only Jesus is the answer **Romans 3:23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; 24 Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: 25** Whom God hath set forth *to be* a propitiation through faith in his blood, **to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past**, through the forbearance of God; 26 To declare, *I say*, at this time his righteousness: **that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.** 27 Where *is* boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? of works? Nay: but by the law of faith. 28

Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law.

- d. God is striking us down, making us nothing, so we can realize that He is everything
- e. God is showing the Jew and the Gentile that only Jesus saves
- f. He strikes at the very root of all that they believed