



DOES YOUR HEART BELONG TO JESUS?

Romans 2:17-29

Sunday, April 11, 2021

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Good morning church! We are back in Romans today. I have entitled this series for Paul's letter of Romans called "Know God. Make Him Known." which goes well with our Church vision to Make disciples, Mature disciples, and Multiply disciples. If we truly know our God, who is our creator, then I think we will truly know ourselves and our purpose, which is to know God and make Him known. In verse 17, Paul speaks directly to the Jews, who claim to have special privileges. The Jews possess the law of God and circumcision.

Romans 2:17-24

*"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."*

1. GOD is pleased with the HEART of Obedience.

*"Christ is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility" **Ephesians 2:14***

2. SALVATION results from the work of God's SPIRIT in the heart, not external efforts to conform to his law.

Romans 2:25-27

*"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."*

3. An outward SIGN is nothing without the inner REALITY.

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.”

Put your trust and life in his hands today. Does your HEART belong to Jesus? Is your life reflecting that it does? Neither heritage or ethnicity, knowledge of the world or even of the Bible, nor their religious ceremonies like circumcision and our going to church or getting baptized, will protect them or us from God's righteous judgment. Only the person and power of our Lord Jesus Christ will judge and justify us as the righteous and redeemed people of God.