



God's Righteous Judgement: The Many Faces of False Security

Sunday, February 28/21

Text: Romans 2:12 – 29

And the Lord your God will circumcise your heart and the heart of your offspring, so that you will love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, that you may live. – Deuteronomy 30:6

For no one is a Jew who is merely one outwardly, nor is circumcision outward and physical. 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. – Romans 2:28 – 29

The deceitfulness of the heart of man appears in no one thing so much as this - of spiritual pride and self-righteousness. The subtlety of Satan appears in his managing persons with respect to this sin. Perhaps one reason may be that here he has most experience; he knows the way of its coming in; he is acquainted with the secret springs of it; for it was his own sin. Experience gives vast advantage in leading souls, either in good or evil. – Jonathan Edwards

1. Security arising from Ignorance of the Law (2:12 – 16)

- Paul's Argument: The true nature and purpose of **Conscience**

2. Security arising from Reliance on the Law (2:17 – 24)

- Paul's Argument: The true nature and purpose of being **Called**

3. Security arising from Outward Obedience to the Law (2:25 – 29)

- Paul's Argument: The true nature and purpose of **Circumcision**



Study and Discussion Questions –

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Open It

1. How would you judge the character of a person who wanted to date your only daughter?
2. What are some "wrong" reasons a person might have for going to church?

Explore It

3. What special relationship did the Jews have with God? (2:17-18)
4. How did Jews describe themselves in relation to Gentiles? (2:19-20)
5. Of what did Paul accuse the Jews? (2:21-24)
6. Why would the Gentiles blaspheme God's name because of the Jews? (2:21-24)
7. What was the purpose of circumcision? (2:25-26)
8. What is more important to God than being physically circumcised? (2:26-27)
9. How did Paul redefine what it means to be a Jew? (2:28-29)

Get It

10. How do our actions show others what we genuinely believe?
11. How does hypocrisy in a religious person affect people who observe that person?
12. How could a person be outwardly a Christian and inwardly something else?
13. What makes a person a true Christian?
14. How much does peer pressure from others influence our beliefs and behavior as Christians?

Apply It

15. How can you change some inconsistent behaviors and attitudes in your Christian life this week?
16. How do you demonstrate that you are more concerned with pleasing God than you are with pleasing other people?