

Romans 2:17-29

FOLLOWING THE MESSAGE

- 1) Definition of religion: doing external things to make a person worthy of salvation.
- 2) 2:17 Gradually, this privilege given to the Jews gave birth to self-righteousness. They lost sight of their calling to be the channel through which “all the families of the earth shall be blessed” (Genesis 12:3) and had no desire to share God-given truths with the rest of the world, much less be used to draw the nations to God.
- 3) 2:19 Instead of being a light to those living in the darkness, the Jews withdrew from culture.
- 4) 2:21 Human nature is always tempted to grade the moral behavior in others very seriously while ignoring our own dishonesties.
- 5) 2:21-23 It is one thing to have knowledge of God’s Ways and quite another to carry it out.
- 6) 2:23 Because of their great responsibility, they brought great shame when they broke those laws.
- 7) 2:24 When a believer falls into sin, his witness is damaged, and the name of Jesus is polluted by his actions. A non-believer has no reason to turn to God if he sees believers committing the same sins of which he is told to repent.
- 8) 2:25 Circumcision was the sign of admission to the covenant (Genesis 17:9–14) and an act of obedience to God. It was a reminder of one’s relationship to God. The word is often used as a metaphor to symbolize a right relationship to God (Philippians 3:3; Galatians 6:15).
- 9) 2:25 No ritual has any saving value; otherwise you would be earning salvation, which we know is not possible.
- 10) 2:26 To respond with faith and obedience is to possess all that circumcision means (Colossians 2:11).

11) 2:27 The Gentiles will not perform the actual judgment, but their obedience will stand as a witness against the disobedience of hypocrites who had God’s Word.

12) 2:28 It is not the outward, but the inward that matters.

13) 2:29 Authentic circumcision is the cutting away of the sin nature and is only accomplished by the Spirit of God. Those who experienced it receive their praise from God (Matthew 23:5; John 5:44).

GREEK WORDS

Katēcheō (kat-ay-kheh'-o)—to sound down into the ears, to indoctrinate (“catechize”) or to apprise of :- inform, instruct, teach

Bdelyssomai (bdel-oos'-so)—to stink; to be disgusted, detestable: - abhor, abominable, to reek

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