

“The Dangers of Being Religious”
Series: “Truth That Transforms” (Romans 2:17-29)
5/10/26

The Apostle Paul develops the convincing case: *All* are guilty

1. The “Rebellious” (Romans 1:18-32)
2. The “Respectable” (Romans 2:1-16)
3. The “Religious” (Romans 2:17-29)

The Definition of Religion:

Human attempt to: _____
and to _____

8 Characteristics of the “Religious” Person (Romans 2:17-29)

1. _____

Vs. 17a “...if you call yourself a Jew...”

2. _____

Vs. 17b “...if you rely on the law...”

John 5:39-40 “You diligently study the Scriptures because you think that by them you possess eternal life. These are the Scriptures that testify about Me and yet you refuse to come to Me to have life.”

3. _____

Vs. 17c “...and brag about your relationship to God...”

4. _____

Vs. 18a “...if you know His will and approve of what is superior because you are instructed by the law.”

Philippians 1:30 “...that you may be able to discern what is best.”

5. _____

Vs. 18b “...because you are instructed by the law.”

6. _____

Vs. 19-21 “...if you are convinced that you are a guide for the blind, a light for those who are in the dark, an instructor of the foolish, a teacher of little children, because you have in the law the embodiment

of knowledge and truth—you, then, who teach others, do you not teach yourself?”

7. _____

Vs. 21-23 “You, then, who teach others, do you not teach yourself? You who preach against stealing, do you steal? You who say that people should not commit adultery, do you commit adultery? You who abhor idols, do you rob temples? You who brag about the law, do you dishonor God by breaking the law?”

The Negative Impact of Religion, Two Things to Remember:

Vs. 24 “...God’s name is blasphemed among the gentiles because of you.”

A. _____

B. _____

8. _____

Vs. 25-27 “Circumcision has value if you observe the law, but if you break the law, you have become as though you had not been circumcised. So then, if those who are not circumcised keep the law’s requirements, will they not be regarded as though they were circumcised? The one who is not circumcised physically and yet obeys the law will condemn you who, even though you have the written code and circumcision, are a lawbreaker.”

Who is a real Jew?

Romans 2:28,29 “A person is not a Jew who is one only outwardly...No, a person is a Jew who is one inwardly...by the Spirit, not by the written code. Such a person’s praise is not from other people, but from God.”

Galatians 3:29 “If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise.”

Application For My Life Today

1. What or whom are you trusting in to get to heaven?
2. Is your lifestyle turning people *on* or *off* to Christ and Christianity.

1 Peter 2:15 (LB) “Live in such a way that it silences critics.”

Next Week: Romans 3:1-20

