

“What About Those Who Have Never Heard?”

Romans 1:18-23

“The wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of man...” But how would God judge one who has never heard the gospel? The answer is summed up in the phrase “God Reveals Himself!” Four key principles help us understand this truth:

- I. ALL MEN HAVE SOME LIGHT (v. 19 “that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them.”)
 - A. All men have the light of CONSCIENCE (subjective) (v. 19a; Rom. 2:15).
 - B. All men have the light of CREATION (objective) (v. 20; Ps. 19:1).
- II. LIGHT REFUSED INCREASED DARKNESS (v. 21 “...though they know God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks, but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened.”)
 - A. We refuse light when we DISCOUNT THE TRUTH (v. 18b; v. 22; Jn. 3:19).
 - B. We refuse light when we DISREGARD THE LORD (v. 21; Eph. 4:17).
- III. LIGHT OBEYED INCREASES LIGHT (v. 17 “in it (i.e. the gospel) the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to (more) faith,...”) (Jn. 3:21; II Cor. 4:6).
- IV. MEN WILL BE JUDGED BY THEIR RESPONSE TO THE LIGHT THEY HAVE (v.18a “the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men,...”)
 - A. God’s judgment is IMPARTIAL (Rom. 2:11-12)
 - B. God’s judgment is INEVITABLE (Rom. 2:16)

What will you do (or have you done) with the light you have?