



ROMANS

PART I: THE PROBLEM

#1

RELATIVISM
will fail you.

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Romans 2:12-16

¹² All who sin apart from the law will also perish apart from the law, and all who sin under the law will be judged by the law. ¹³ For it is not those who hear the law who are righteous in God's sight, but it is those who obey the law who will be declared righteous. ¹⁴ (Indeed, when Gentiles, who do not have the law, do by nature things required by the law, they are a law for themselves, even though they do not have the law.

Romans 2:12-16

¹⁵ They show that the requirements of the law are written on their hearts, their consciences also bearing witness, and their thoughts sometimes accusing them and at other times even defending them.) ¹⁶ This will take place on the day when God judges people's secrets through Jesus Christ, as my gospel declares.

PREDICTABLE

¹⁴ Indeed, when Gentiles, who do not have the law, do by nature things required by the law, they are a law for themselves, even though they do not have the law. ¹⁵ They show that the requirements of the law are written on their hearts, their consciences also bearing witness.

SURPRISING

¹² All who sin apart from the law will also perish apart from the law, and all who sin under the law will be judged by the law.

ALARMING

¹² All who sin apart from the law will also perish apart from the law, and all who sin under the law will be judged by the law.

¹⁶ This will take place on the day when God judges people's secrets through Jesus Christ, as my gospel declares.

#2

**MORALISM
will fail you.**

¹⁷ Now you, if you call yourself a Jew...

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Six Reasons for Self-Righteousness

1. Nationality (v.17)
2. Security in the Law (v.17)
3. Chosen Ones (v.17)
4. Ethical Standards (v.18)
5. Mastery of the Law (v.18)
6. Moral Leaders

Romans 2:21-24

²¹ you, then, who teach others, do you not teach yourself? You who preach against stealing, do you steal? ²² You who say that people should not commit adultery, do you commit adultery? You who abhor idols, do you rob temples? ²³ You who boast in the law, do you dishonor God by breaking the law? ²⁴ As it is written: "God's name is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you."

10 Commandments Quiz

1. You shall have no other gods before me: YES or NO
2. Honor your parents: YES or NO
3. You shall not lie: YES or NO
4. You shall not covet: YES or NO

Moralism's fatal flaw:

It cannot protect or prevent the heart from sinning; all it can do is seek to hide that sin behind outward rules and self-deception.

Diagnosing a Dead Faith

**1) You have a HEAD-DEEP but
not HEART-DEEP faith.**

Diagnosing a Dead Faith

2) You feel morally superior.

²⁴ As it is written: "God's name is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you."

#3

Our only hope.

V.25-27

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#3

Our only hope.

v.25-27

“A Circumcised Heart”

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Romans 2:28-29

²⁸ A person is not a Jew who is one only outwardly, nor is circumcision merely outward and physical. ²⁹ No, a person is a Jew who is one inwardly; and circumcision is circumcision of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the written code. Such a person's praise is not from other people, but from God.