

Romans

(8) The status of the Jew

The introduction of the written law...2:12-16

Who is it who is "apart from the law" and who is "under the law"? vs.12

The Jew is "under the law". The Gentile is "apart from the law", the written law.

What does "perish" mean? Is it annihilation? Rev.14:11

Perish = "to be ruined"; not usable for intended purpose. Eternal existence...

What premise of the Jew does Paul destroy next? vs.13 James 1:22-25

Hearing the law (ie, Jew) is not enough. Only the doers of the law are declared righteous.

Although the Jew normally looked down on the Gentile, what does Paul assert? vs.14

There are Gentiles who observe the law naturally even though they don't have "the law".

And when this happens what does it confirm? vs.15 1:19

This clearly demonstrates that the law is in everyone's conscience, Jew or Gentile.

The Jew felt that having the law was salvation. What does Paul teach? Gal.3:24

The law is our tutor to lead us to Christ, to be justified by faith. Greater light, greater ...

What is the sobering truth of verse 16?

God will judge men's secrets through Jesus. Our conscience will accuse or defend us...

The position of the Jew...2:17-24

Summarize Paul's description of the Jew (apart from Christ). vs.17-20

Proud, instructed by the law, superior to Gentiles, holder of God's law. Pride, pride, pride

And to the proud teacher of what's right, Paul's question is...? vs.21-23

Do you teach yourself? Stealing, adultery, idols, dishonor God by breaking the law.

Finally, taking the Jew's own Scripture, Is.52:5; Paul concludes what? vs.24

God's name is blasphemed (defamed, reviled) because of them. Should bring repentance.

Does circumcision have value for the Jew? vs.25

It has value for the Jew IF they obey the law. Breaking the law = uncircumcision.

What devastating point does Paul make about some Gentiles? vs.26-27

When they (without the law) keep the law it equals circumcision. Their works judge you.

What fatal mistake were the unsaved Jews making? vs.28

They believed being a Jew (heritage), by physical circumcision, they were righteous.

But what is the truth of being a real Jew? vs.29 Gal.3:6-7

Not outwardly but inwardly. Circumcision of the heart by the Spirit. Of Abraham...

Having crushed any spiritual pride in being a Jew, what would be the next question? 3:1

Ok, what advantage is there in being a Jew or value in circumcision? Excellent strategy.