



# ADVANTAGE

## Romans 2:12-29

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### **Gentiles and the Law - verses 12-16**

1. What is the difference between Law and law?
2. How does Paul describe Gentiles in relationship to the Law / law?
3. What is the point Paul is making with this description?
4. The church in Rome was a mixture of different peoples of various backgrounds. How might the Jews and Gentiles each have responded to what Paul writes in these verses?
5. How might Paul's description relate to people today who do not have the law?
6. Is there a part of Paul's description which you find particularly helpful?

### **Jews and the Law - verses 17-24**

7. What is Paul's description of how the Jews saw their relationship with God and others?
8. What are the four questions Paul asks the Jews? Why these four questions? (i.e. are there other questions he could have asked? Hint: How do these relate to the law?)
9. How might these four questions apply to your life?
10. Because of the sin of God's people, the name of God was blasphemed (despised / dishonored) (c.f. Isaiah 52:5). Read through Ezekiel 36:16-32. What does God say is the problem? What is God's response?
11. What do you think? Is it easier to pursue religion or relationship with God? Tradition or transformation? Comfort or consecration? Status quo or surrender? Façade or faith? Why or why not? What are the consequences to ourselves and to others as we live this way?

### **Circumcision and the Law - verses 25-29**

12. What is Paul's point regarding circumcision?
13. Read Deuteronomy 10:12-16; 30:6; Jeremiah 4:1-4. What is meant by "circumcision of the heart"? What might "circumcision of the heart" that look like in your life?
14. Religion gets ugly when it emphasizes the physical over the spiritual, secondary matters over what is of essential importance, and promotes self-interest ahead of God and others. How do we fall into this the trap of ugly religion?
15. How can turning to God and relying on His grace redeem us from ourselves?
16. What might this turning to God look like in your life?
17. If you had to pick just one insight from this study that speaks specifically to you, what would it be? Why? How do you plan to respond to it?