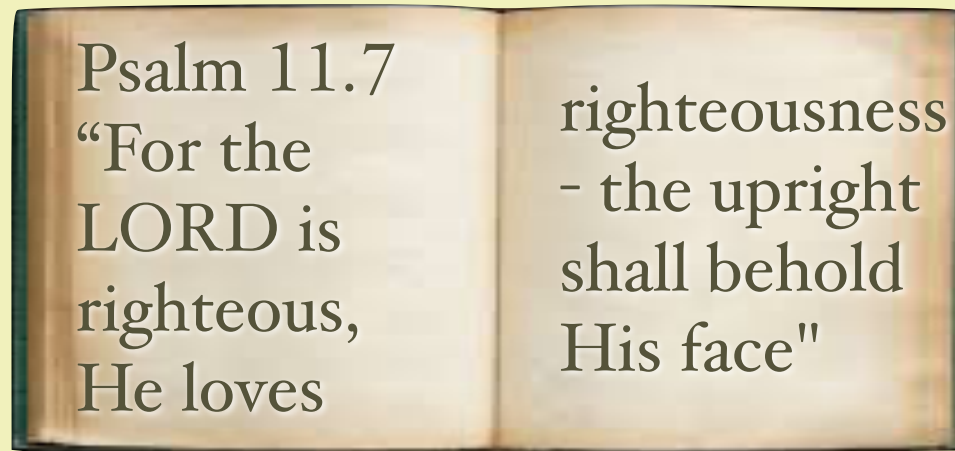




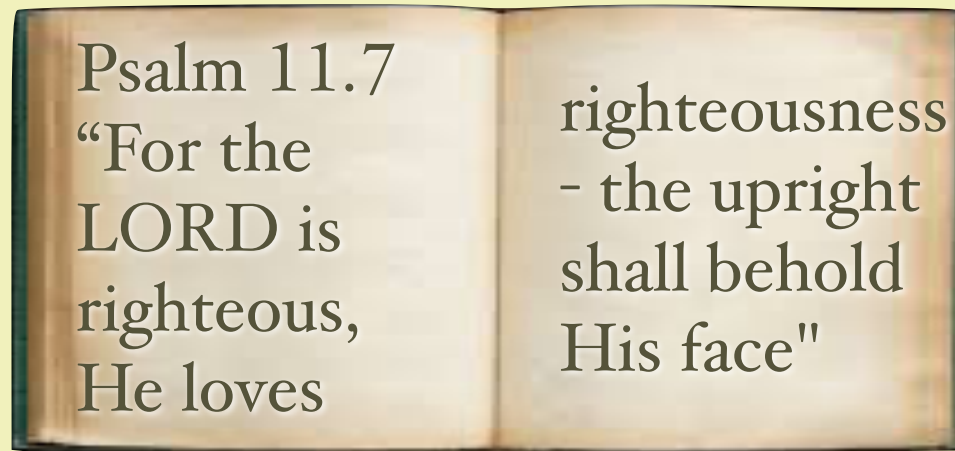
Paul's Epistle to the Romans

- Romans 2
- The Righteousness of God revealed in the Law

Romans Theme: The Gospel reveals the Righteousness of God

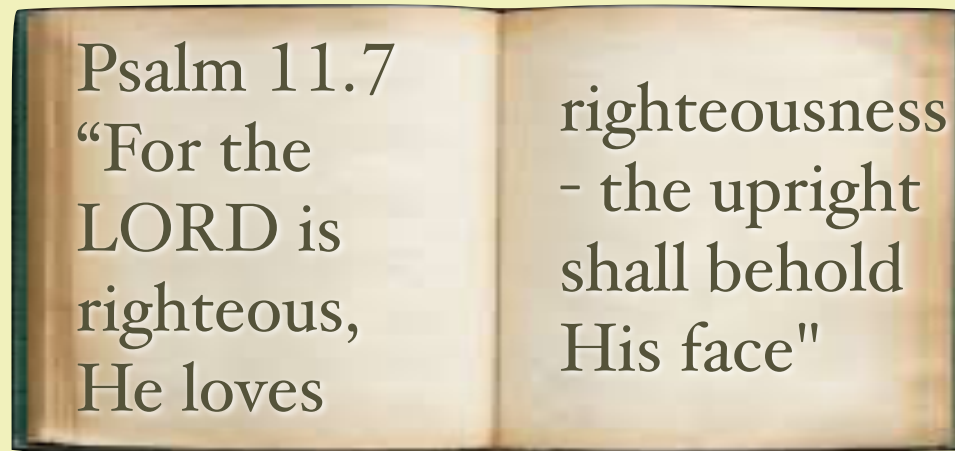


Romans Theme: The Gospel reveals the Righteousness of God



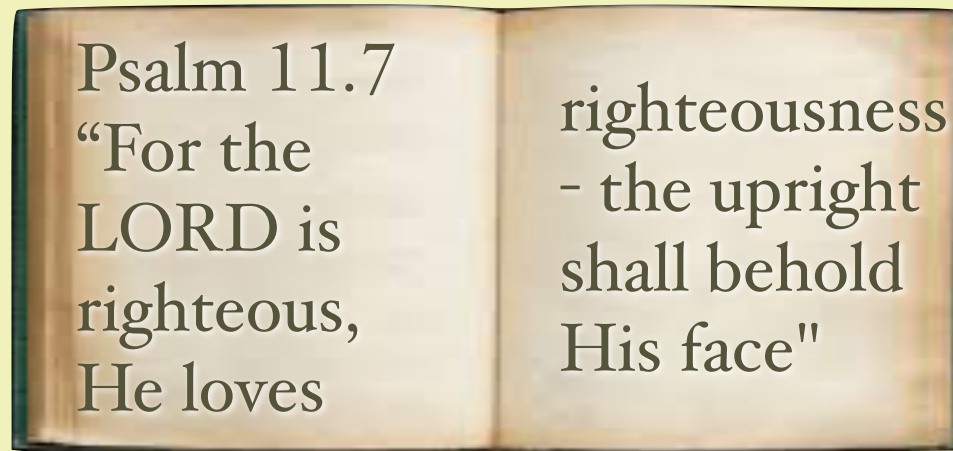
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Romans Theme: The Gospel reveals the Righteousness of God



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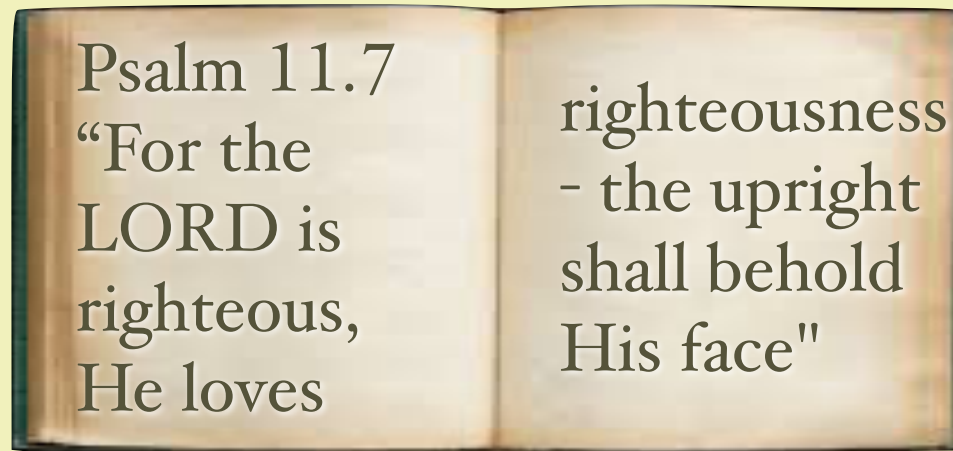
Romans Theme: The Gospel reveals the Righteousness of God



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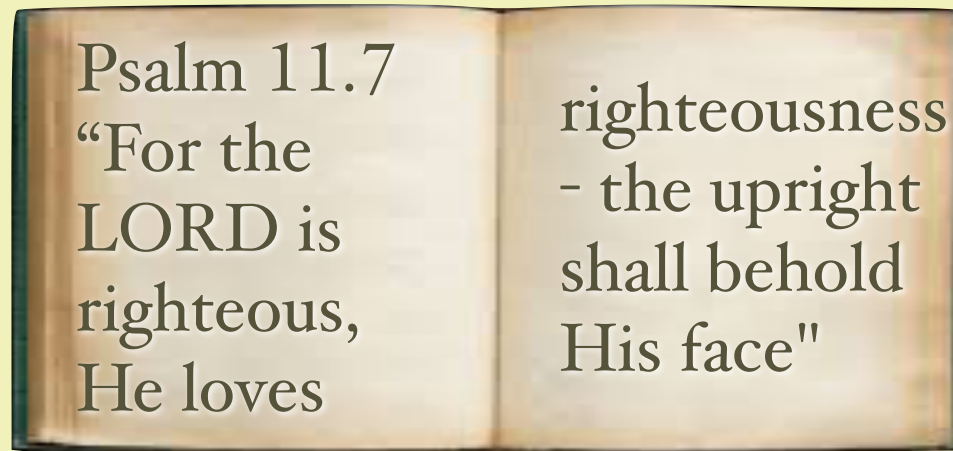
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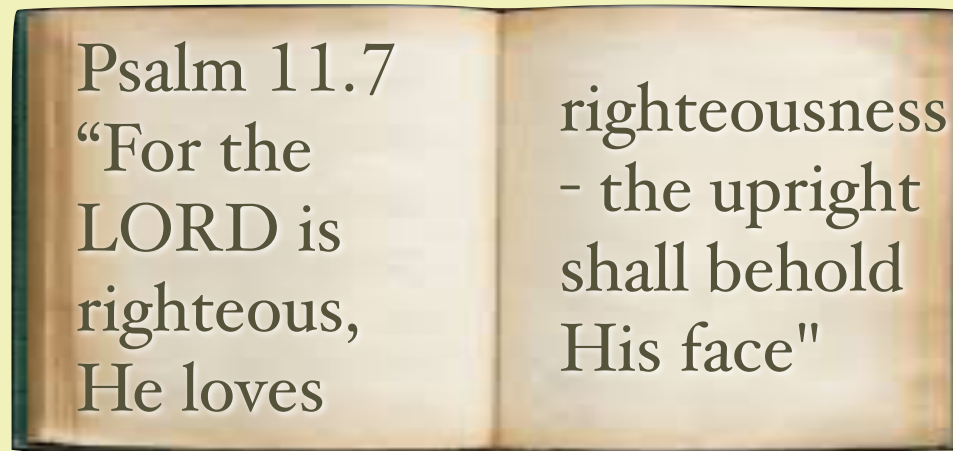
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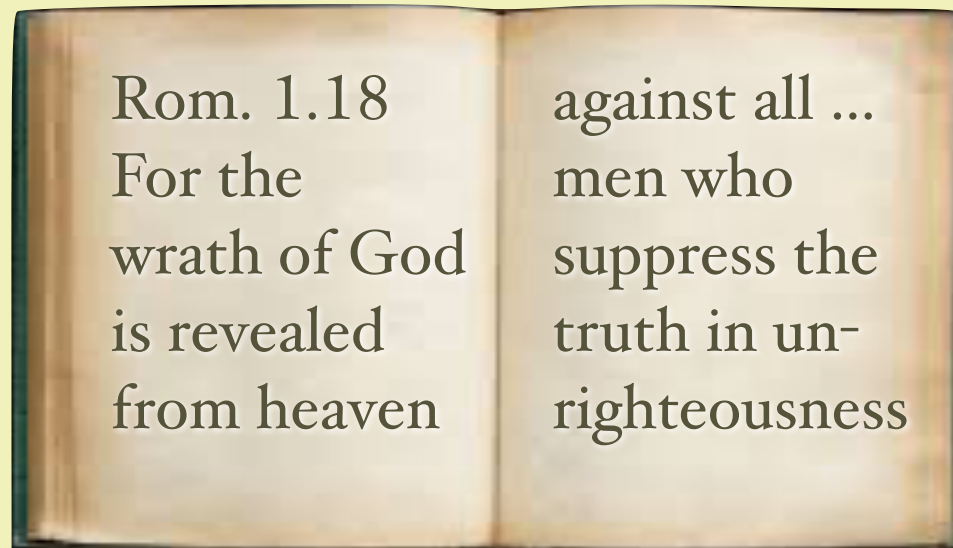
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4. **GOD MAKES things RIGHT** - when God looks upon man’s helpless estate He must provide a way to make what is wrong right (what is crooked straight)

Romans Theme: The Gospel reveals the Righteousness of God



I. Rom1.18-32 The Righteousness of God first revealed as “wrath”

A. Because all men are sinners our conscience and mind have an inner sense of judgment and usually first feel that God is our Judge

1. Prov. 9.10 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom

2. When a sinner chooses to suppress both the truth his mind can see about God in creation and the voice of his heart's conscience God's reveals His wrath

3. Paul reveals that the wrath of God comes not as expected: The first step is simply to remove his gracious hand from our life with all His positive protection and provision

Romans Theme: The Gospel reveals the Righteousness of God

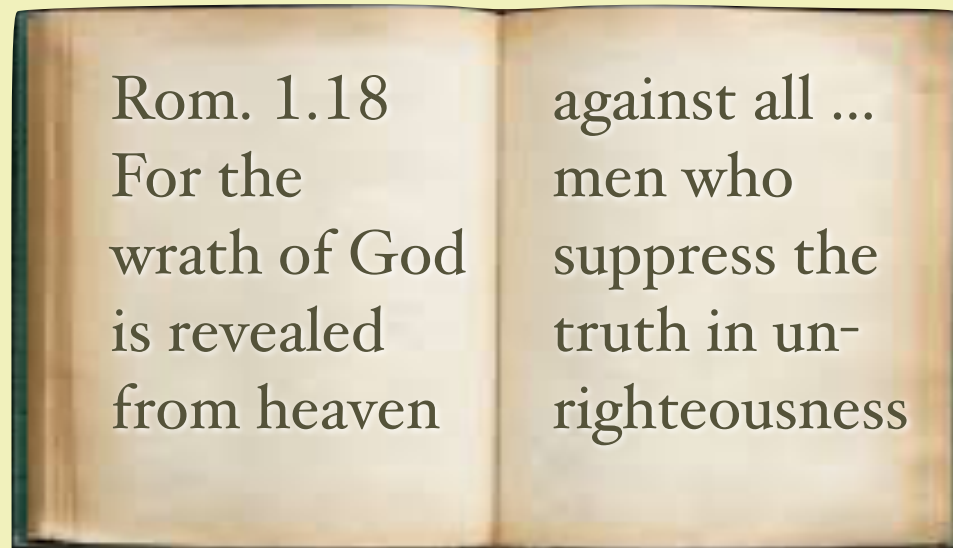
I. Rom 1.18-32 The Righteousness of God 1st revealed as “wrath”

“There comes a time when God abandons men. God comes to a point where He lets a people go, lets them go to the consequences of their own sinful choices. They will not accept His counsel, they spurn all His reproof, as Proverbs says, so they eat the fruit of their own choices and they have to be satisfied with the devices they have chosen.

“Of the Pharisees Jesus said, "Let them alone, they are blind leaders of the blind," Matt. 15:14, the most terrifying words: "Let them alone."

From: When God Abandons a Nation by: John MacArthur

Romans Theme: The Gospel reveals the Righteousness of God

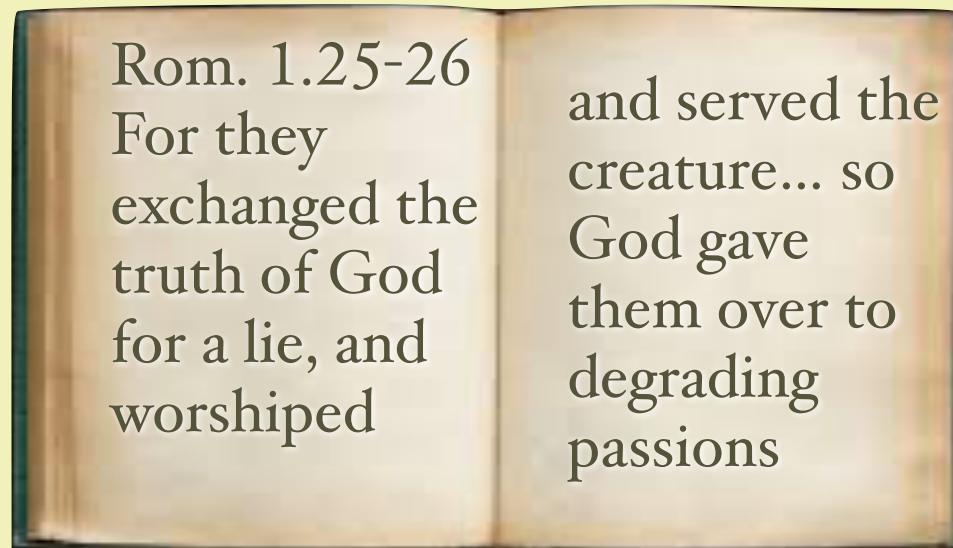


I. Rom 1.18-32 The Righteousness of God first revealed as “wrath”

B. 1.18-24 1st stage of man’s downward cycle: **Conscience**
Men knew God their Creator but suppressed the voice of their conscience

1. 1.22-23 man’s ‘wisdom’ without fear of God becomes ‘foolishness’
2. 1.23 man creates his own small gods to worship and manipulate
3. 1.24 God’s wrath takes off restraints of conscience and fear and man’s darkened heart filled with animal lusts

Romans Theme: The Gospel reveals the Righteousness of God



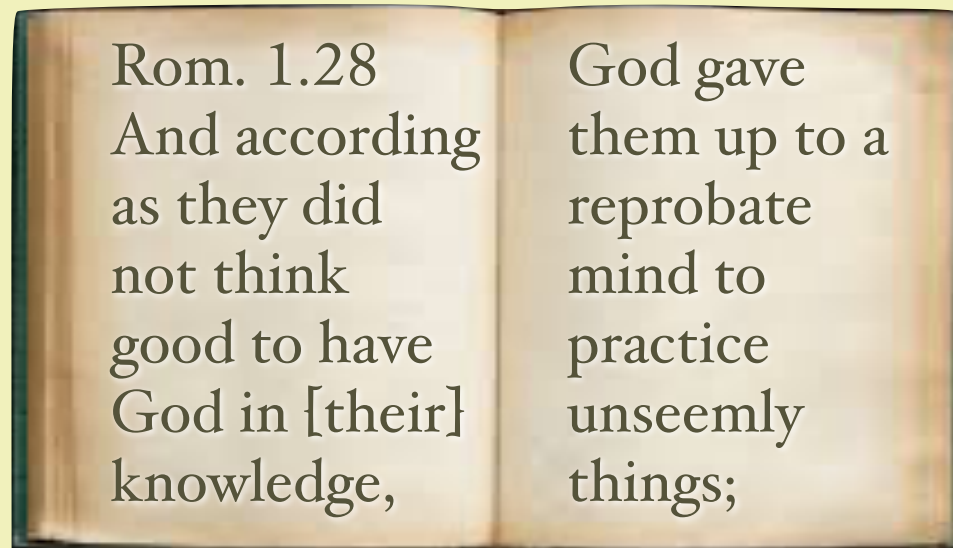
I. Rom 1.18-32 The Righteousness of God first revealed as “wrath”

C. 1.25-27 - 2nd downward spiral **Reason:** when the truth of God’s image is lost the image of male and female is lost and exchanged for lies of our animal nature

1. 1.26-27 God takes off restraints of reason and human decency man’s sexual passions become animal lusts seeking pleasure even in ‘unnatural’ and perverted sexual acts including homosexual acts among both men and women

2. 1.27 Often the wages of these ‘unnatural acts’ becomes STD’s (sexually transmitted diseases) in their physical bodies as well as psychological damage to their soul

Romans Theme: The Gospel reveals the Righteousness of God



I. Rom1.18-32 The Righteousness of God first revealed as “wrath”

D. 1.28-32 - 3rd downward spiral is **religion and morals**: when God is deliberately removed from family, culture and nation all protective laws and just punishments are abandoned until even the fear of judgment at death are lost

1. 1.28-30 With humans devoid of morals God removed the basic restraints of ‘law and order’ and nations are plunged into chaos as unrestrained evil, murder, fighting, unrestrained children and lawlessness destroy the very unique character of any people or nation

2. 1.32 Evil men take over control by not only defying God and law and order but even making heroes of those who are most wicked

Romans Theme: The Gospel reveals the Righteousness of God



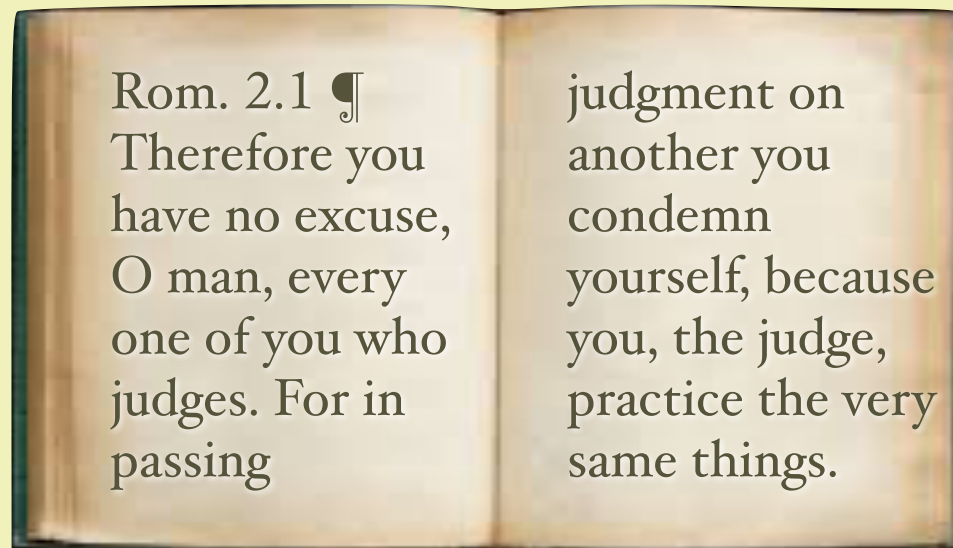
II. Rom 2 - The Righteousness of God revealed by the LAW

A. Paul anticipates some self righteous readers might feel superior to the wicked sinners described in chapter one

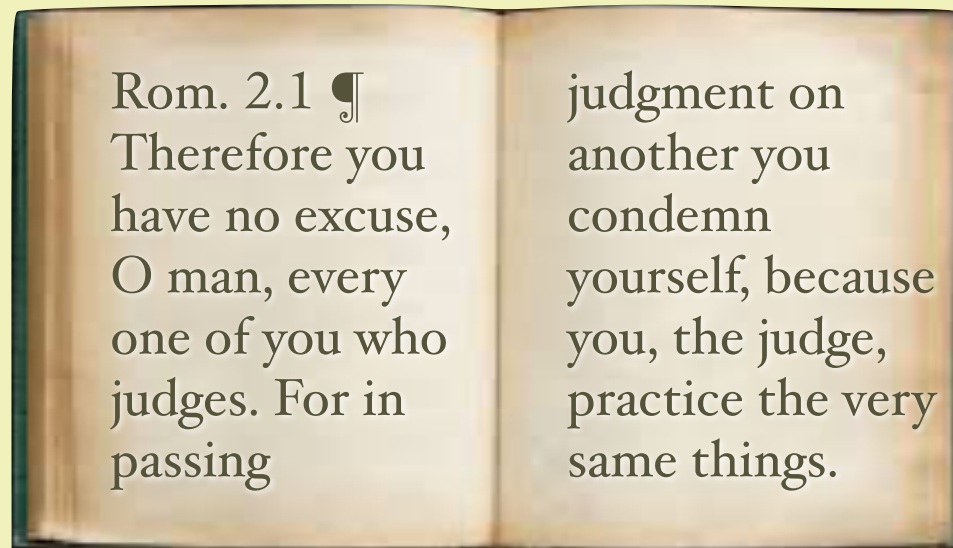
1. Paul will now reveal another aspect of the righteousness of God by showing He acts impartially using **His Righteous Law** in the day of judgment
2. He will apply the LAW first to the Jew who prides himself on being righteous by showing that his righteousness is flawed whereas God's righteousness is perfect
3. Then Paul expands the meaning of the LAW beyond Israel's covenant to His universal Law divinely written into every man's conscience and under which all men's righteousness will be judged whether Jew or gentile

B. Notice the theme words "judgment" (10x), and "Law" (21x) are repeated throughout chapter 2

Romans Theme: The Gospel reveals the Righteousness of God

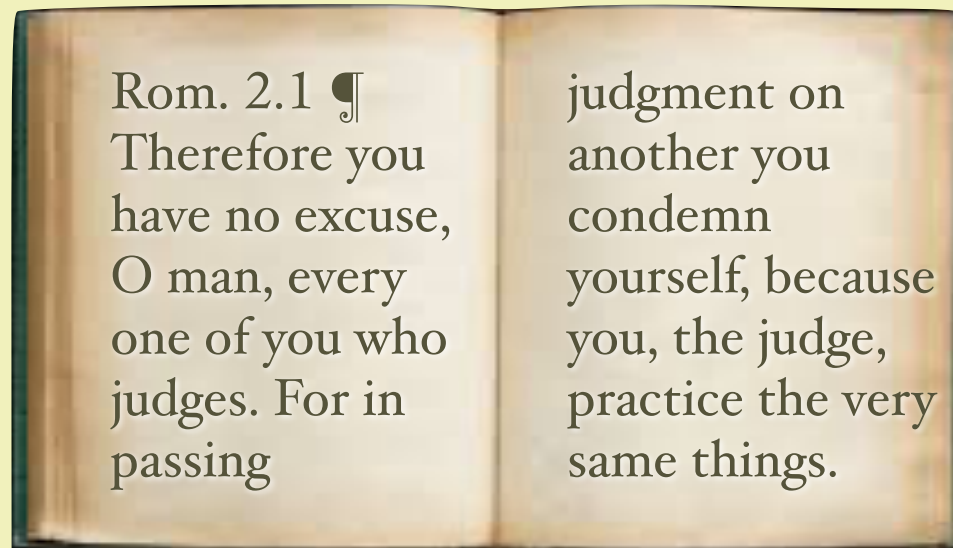


Romans Theme: The Gospel reveals the Righteousness of God



II. Rom 2 - The Righteousness of God revealed by the LAW

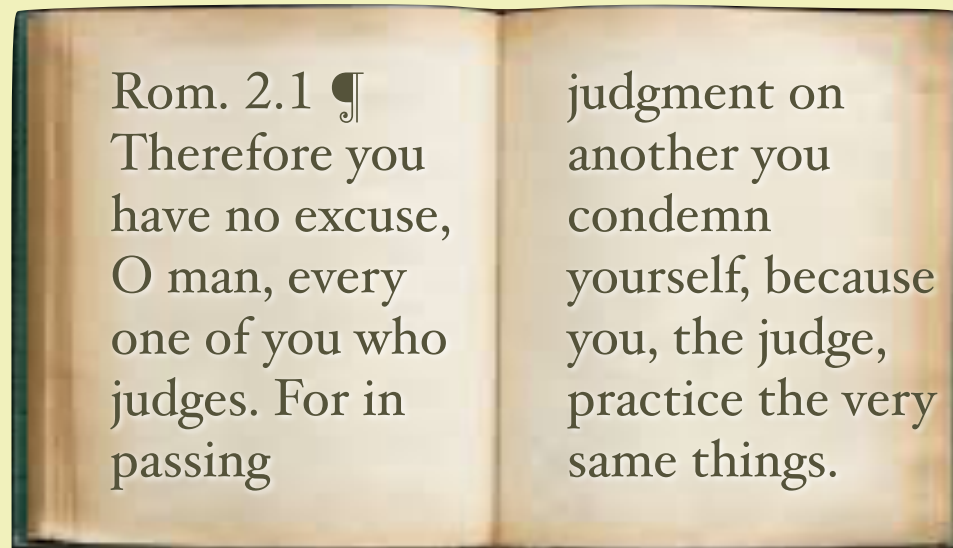
Romans Theme: The Gospel reveals the Righteousness of God



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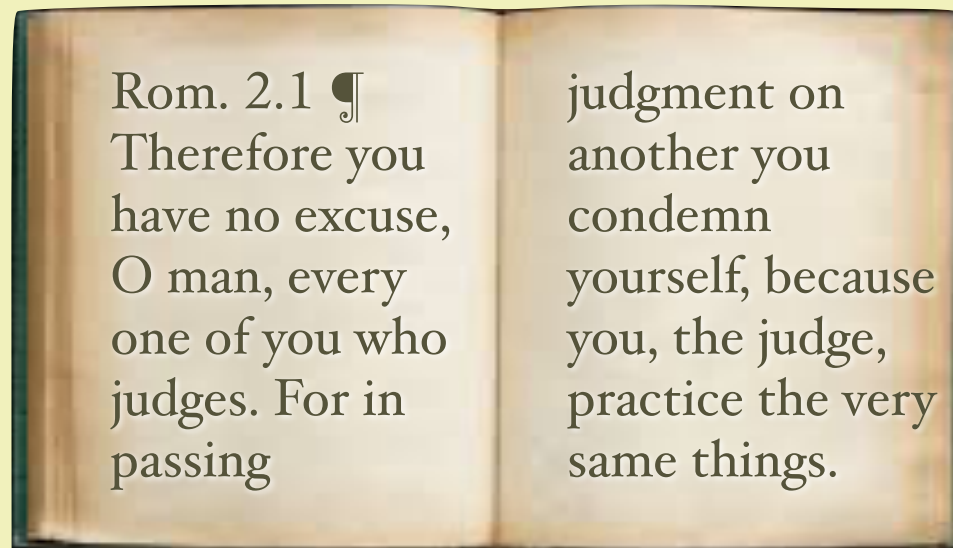


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Romans Theme: The Gospel reveals the Righteousness of God



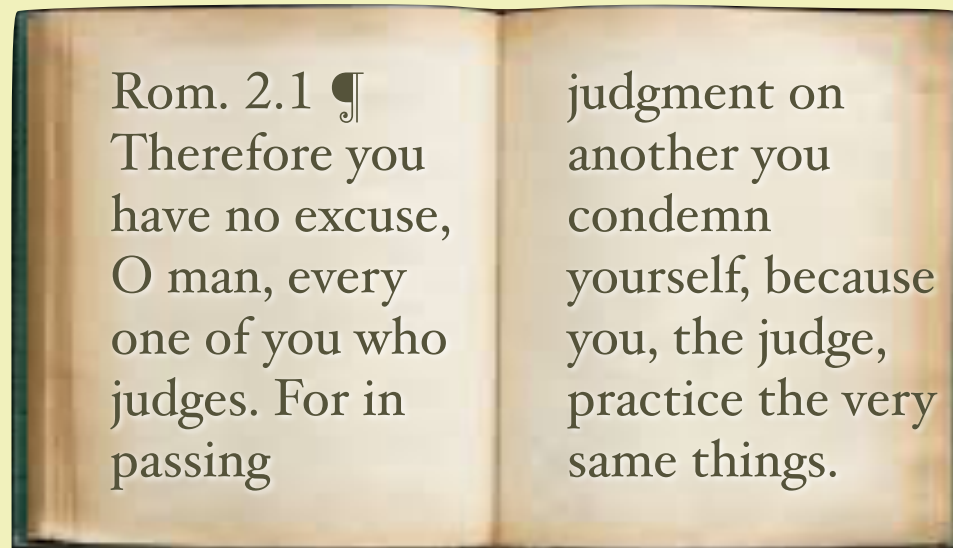
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Romans Theme: The Gospel reveals the Righteousness of God



II. Rom 2 - The Righteousness of God revealed by the LAW

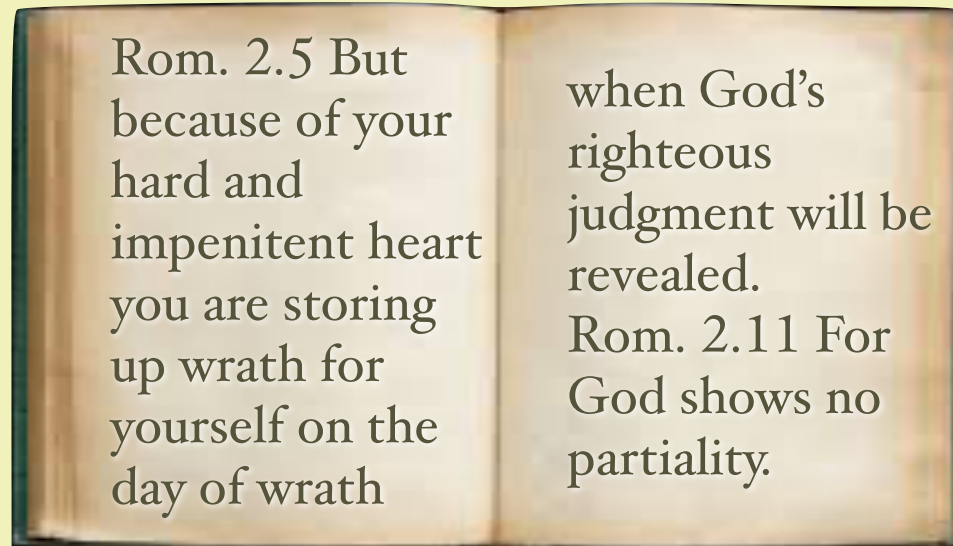
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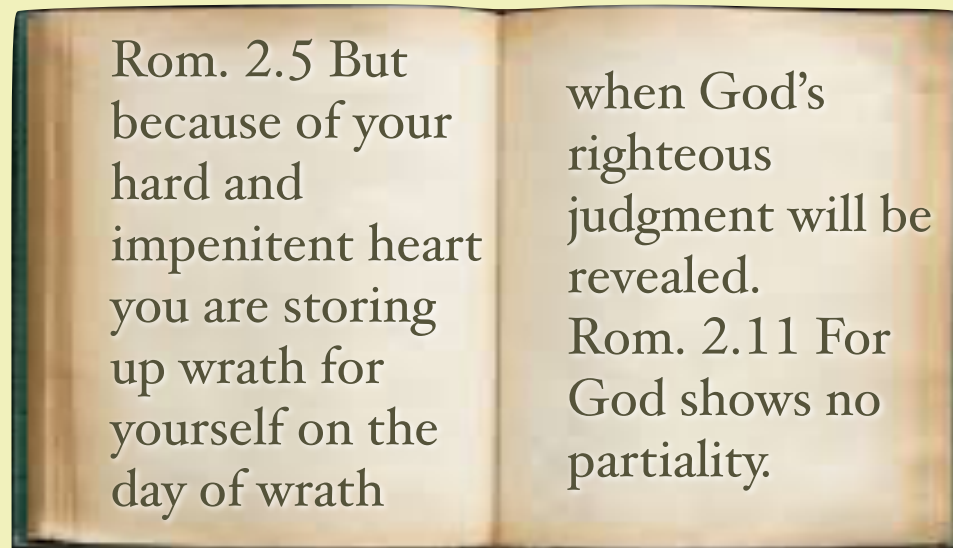
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3. 2.4 Paul says this “man” wrongly ‘presumes’ God is blessing their righteousness when in fact God in mercy is withholding His wrath and judgment in hope His kindness and patience will lead him to repentance

Romans Theme: The Gospel reveals the Righteousness of God

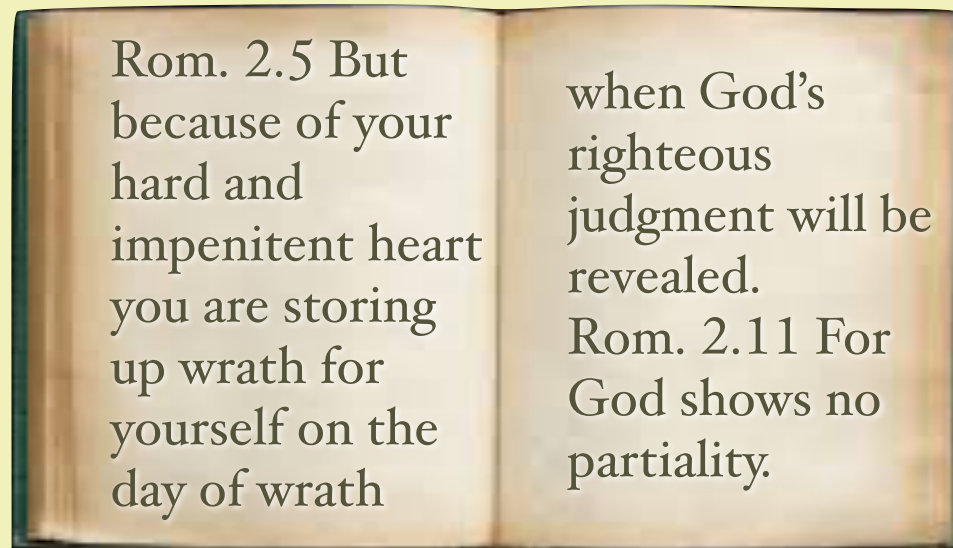


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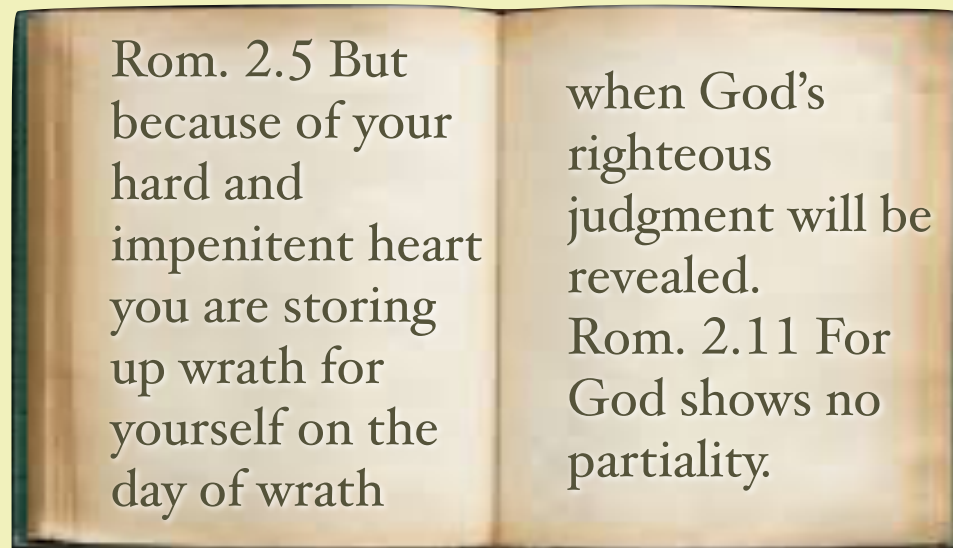
Romans Theme: The Gospel reveals the Righteousness of God



II. Rom 2 - The Righteousness of God revealed by the LAW

C. Rom 2.5-11 God is righteous and His Judgment is "Impartial"

Romans Theme: The Gospel reveals the Righteousness of God

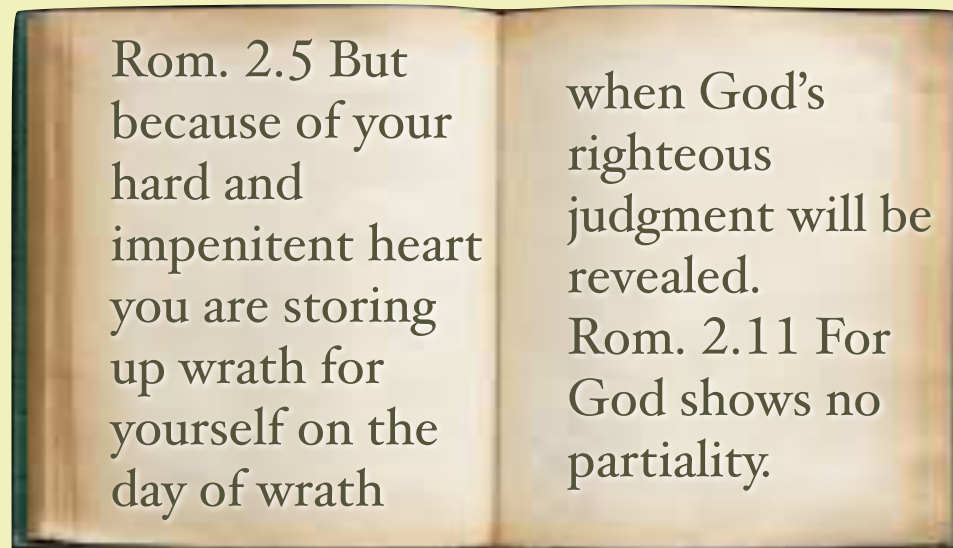


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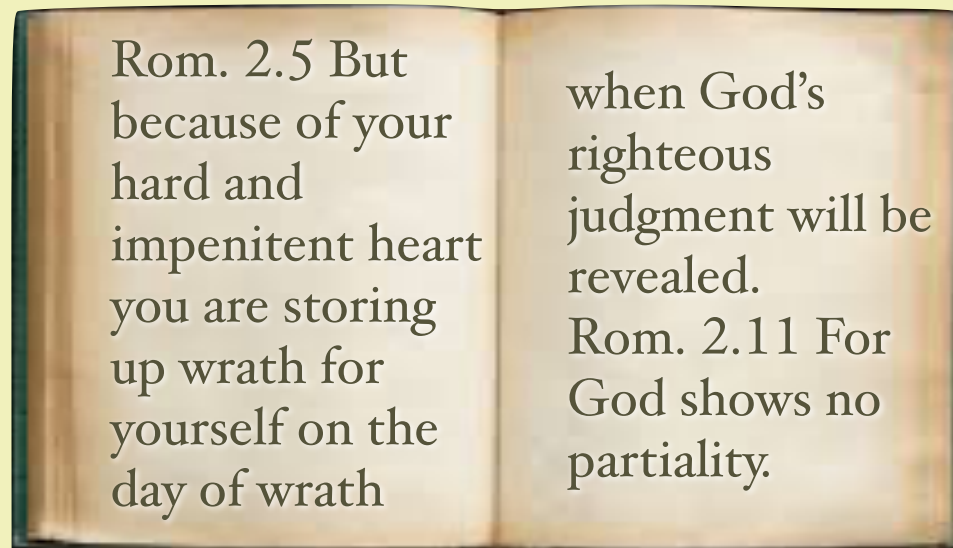


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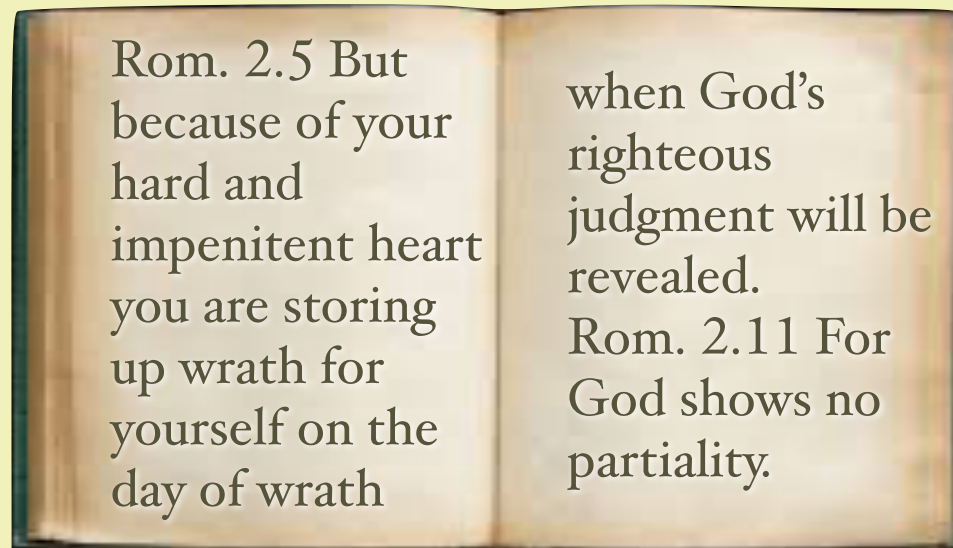


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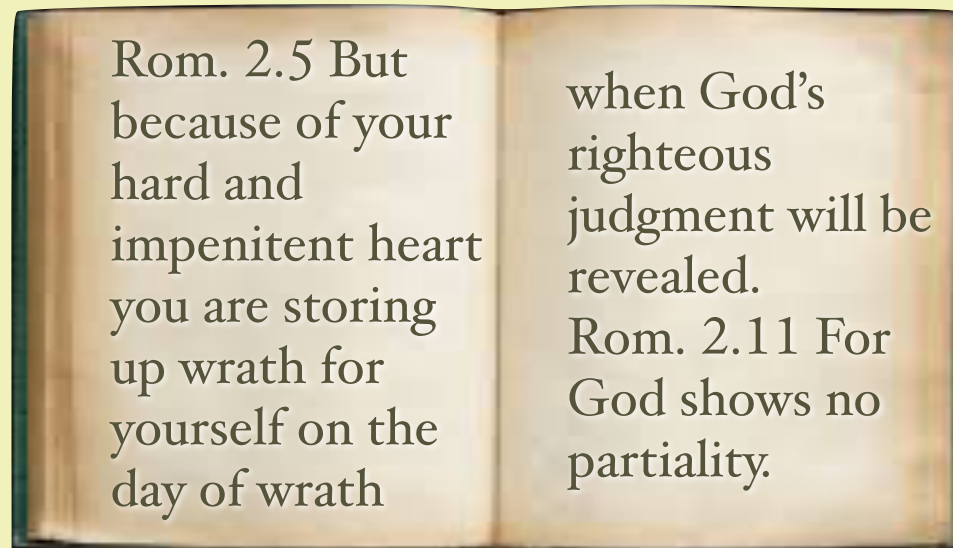


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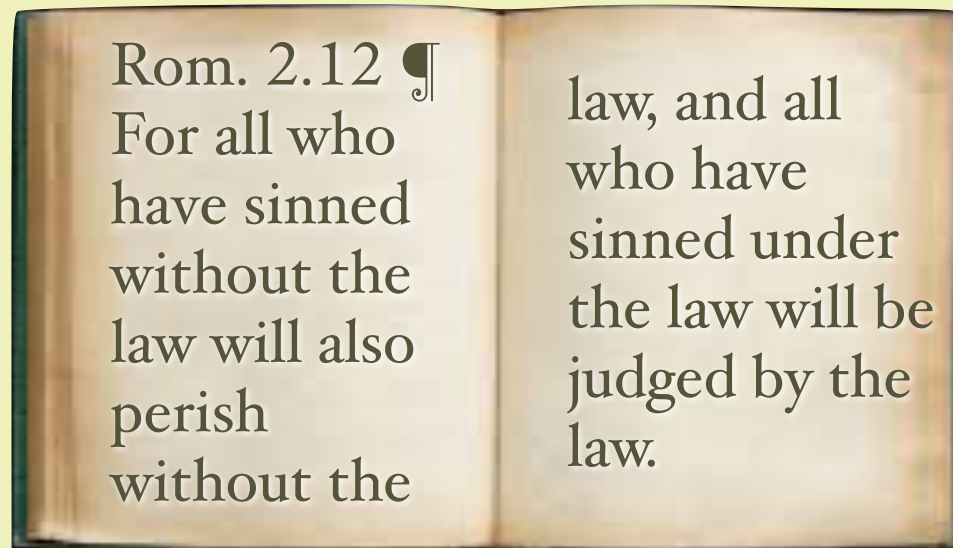


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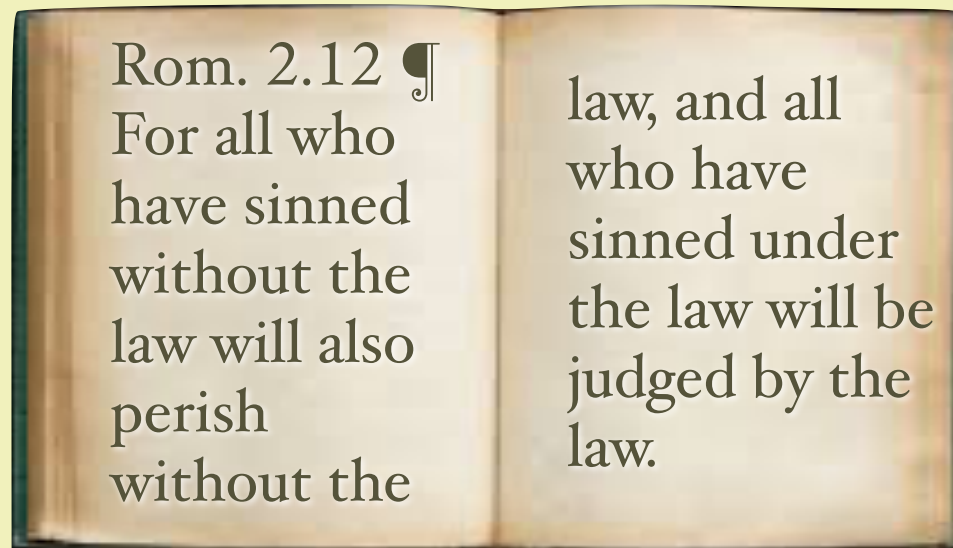
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3. 2.9-11 Whether Jew or Greek, God will impartially render to every 'man' either tribulation and distress or glory and honor

Romans Theme: The Gospel reveals the Righteousness of God

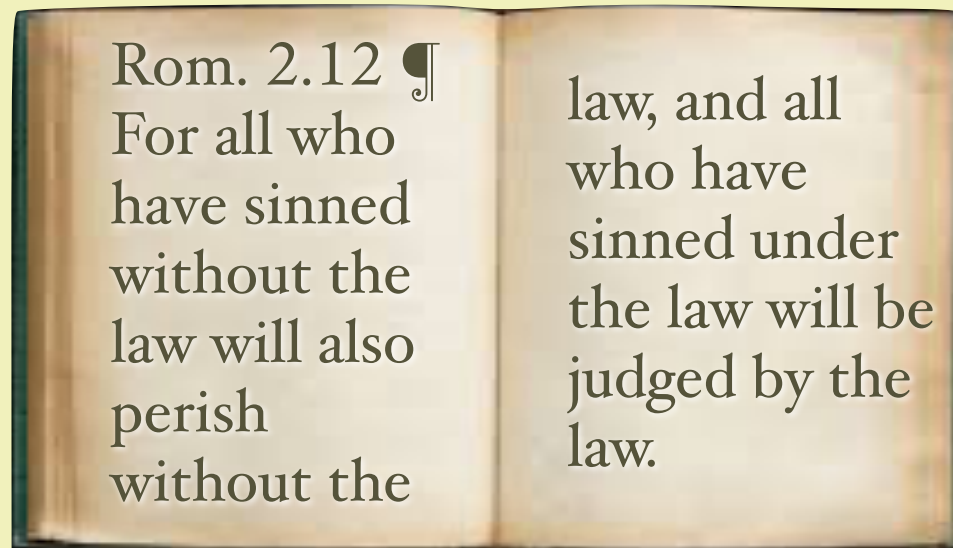


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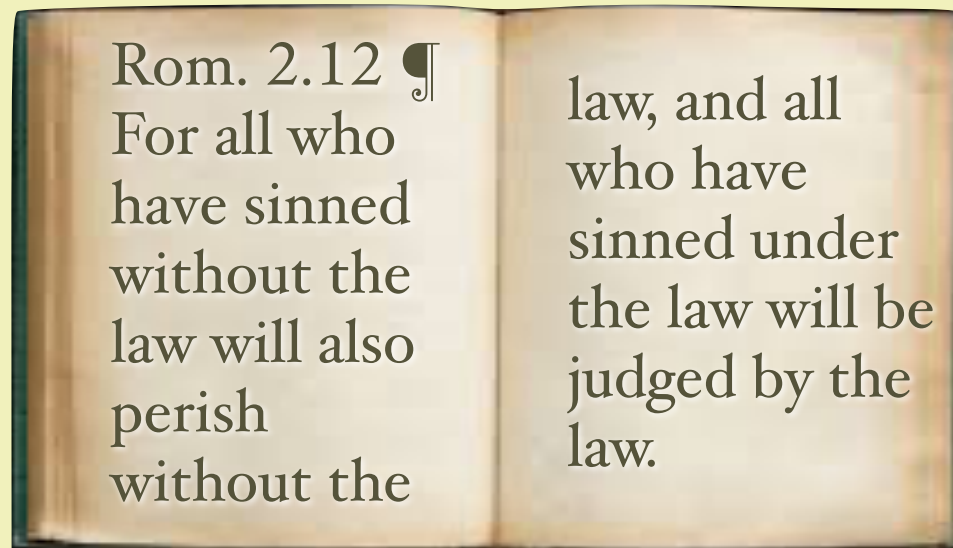
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II. Rom 2 - The Righteousness of God revealed by the LAW

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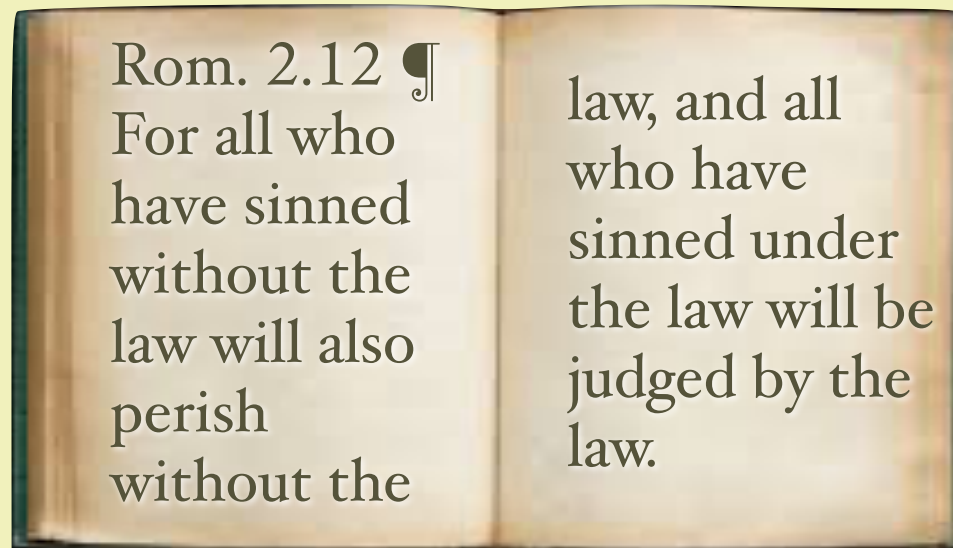


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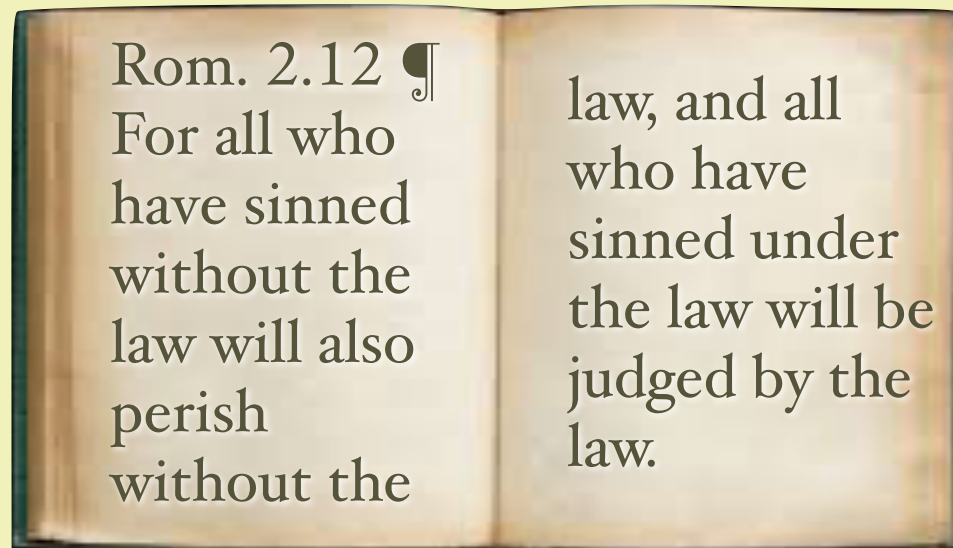


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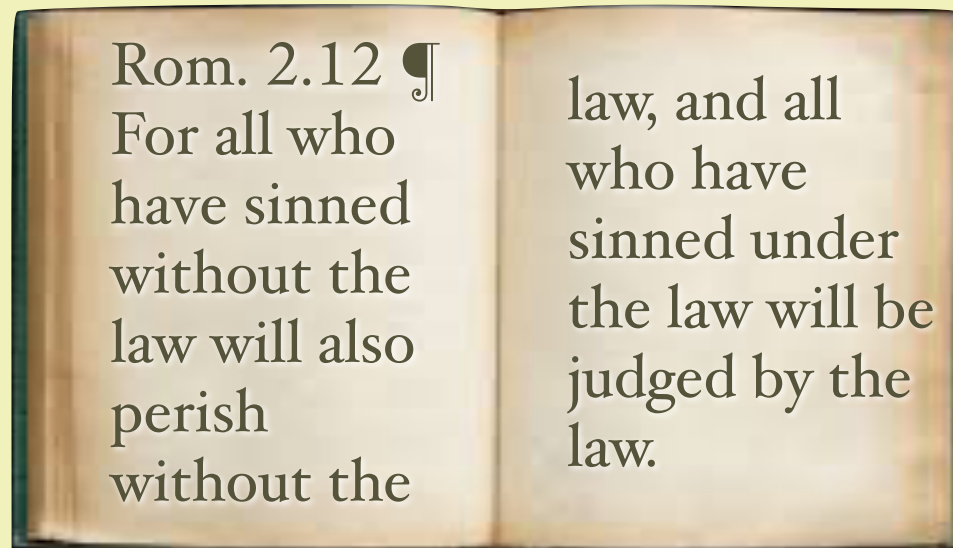


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Romans Theme: The Gospel reveals the Righteousness of God

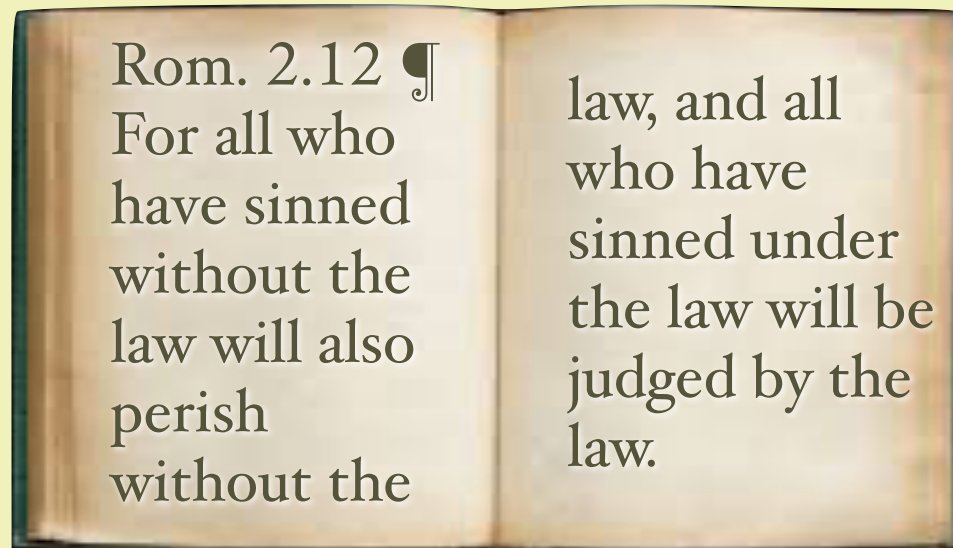


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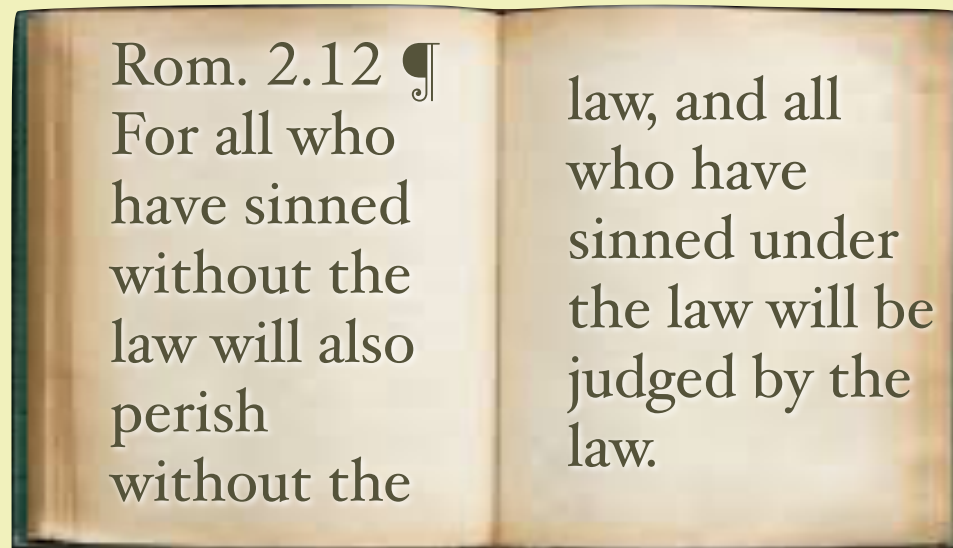


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Romans Theme: The Gospel reveals the Righteousness of God

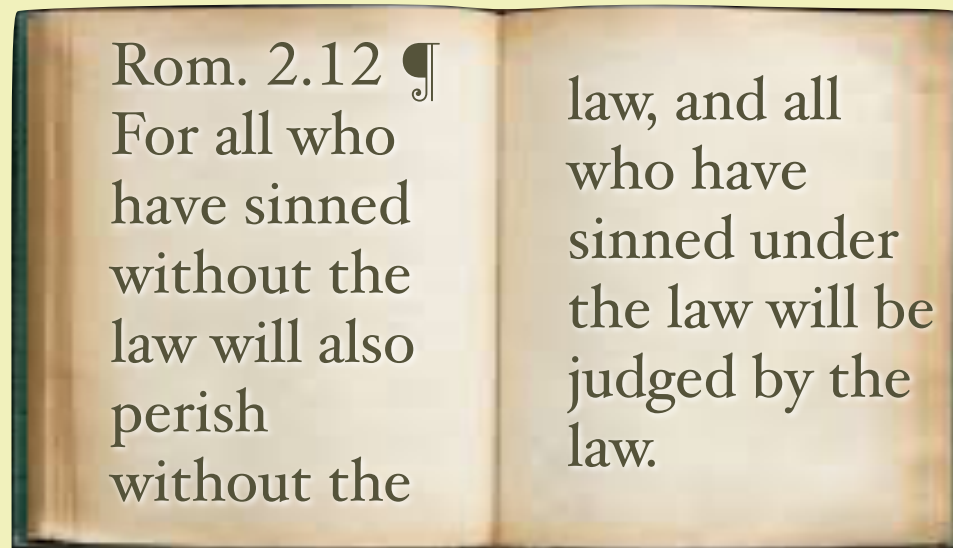


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Romans Theme: The Gospel reveals the Righteousness of God

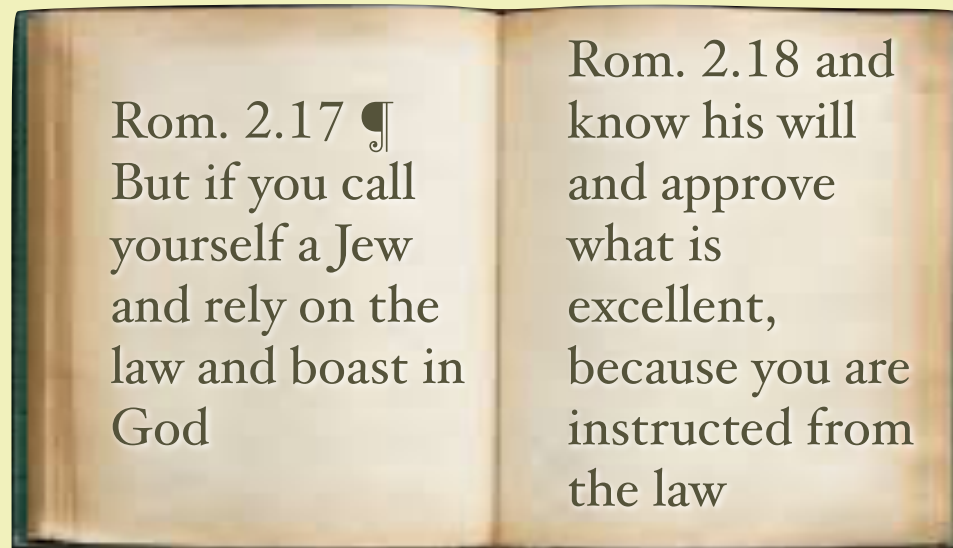


II. Rom 2 - The Righteousness of God revealed by the LAW

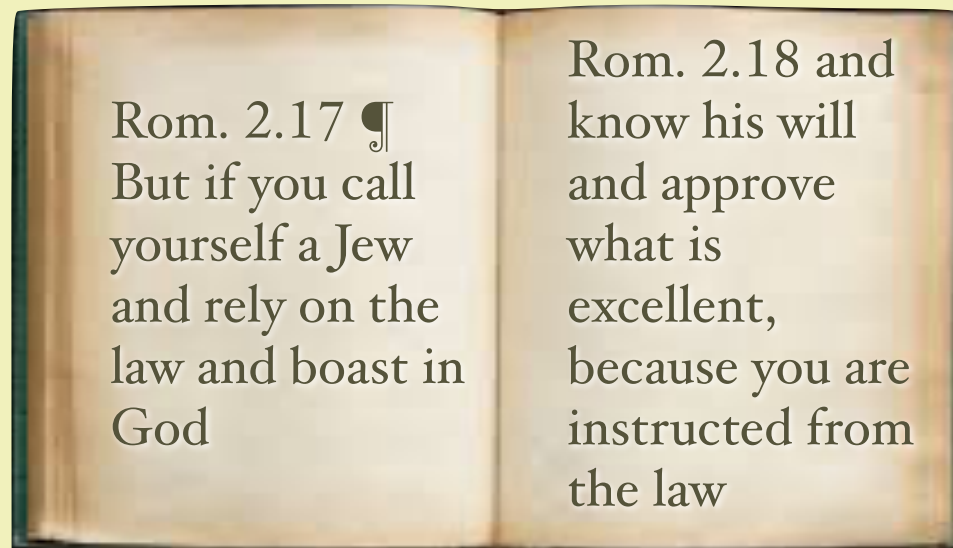
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Romans Theme: The Gospel reveals the Righteousness of God

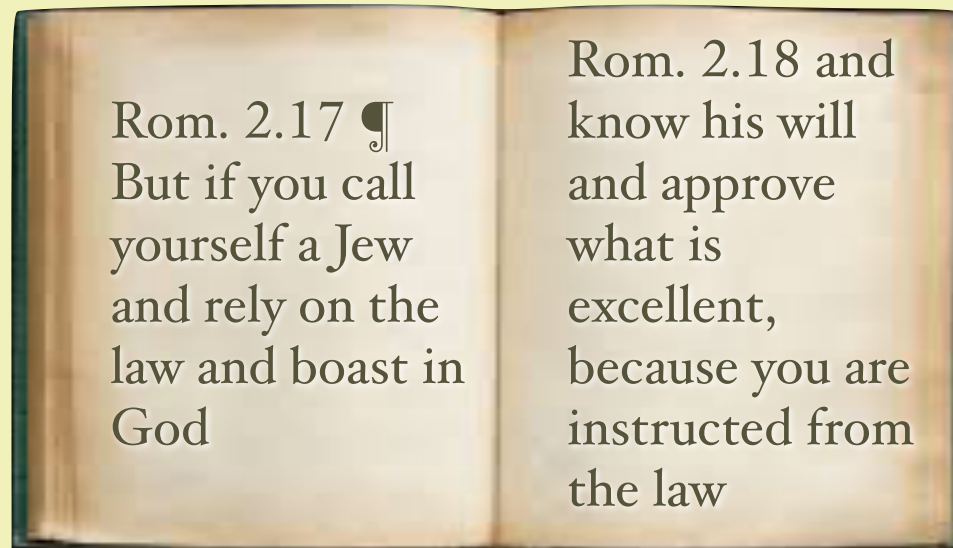


Romans Theme: The Gospel reveals the Righteousness of God



II. Rom 2 - The Righteousness of God revealed by the LAW

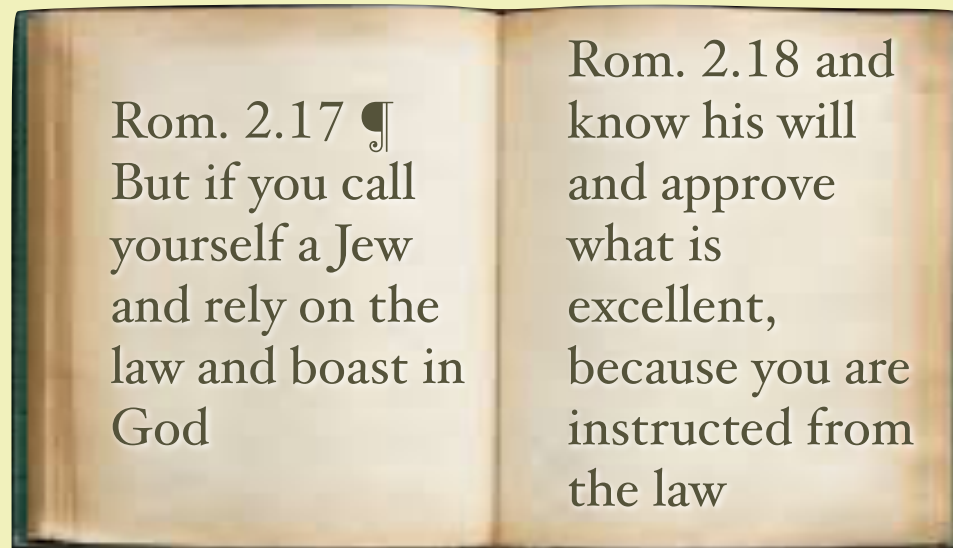
Romans Theme: The Gospel reveals the Righteousness of God



II. Rom 2 - The Righteousness of God revealed by the LAW

E. Rom 2.17-29 Paul now specifically returns to the Jews and their LAW to deal with the problem of Jewish self righteousness and prejudice against gentiles

Romans Theme: The Gospel reveals the Righteousness of God

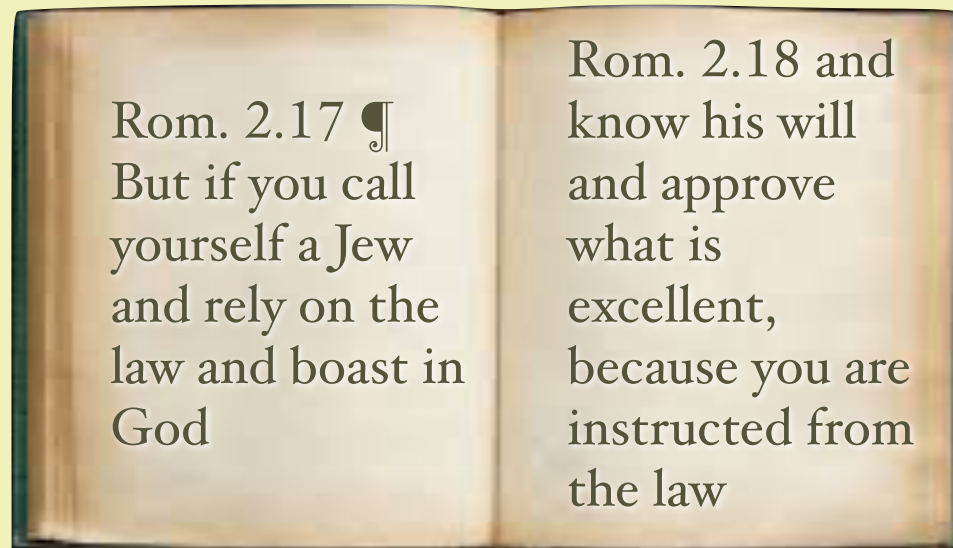


II. Rom 2 - The Righteousness of God revealed by the LAW

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1. 2.17-20 Paul reveals the proud attitude of a practicing Jew who rests in the spiritual privileges of being a Jew

Romans Theme: The Gospel reveals the Righteousness of God



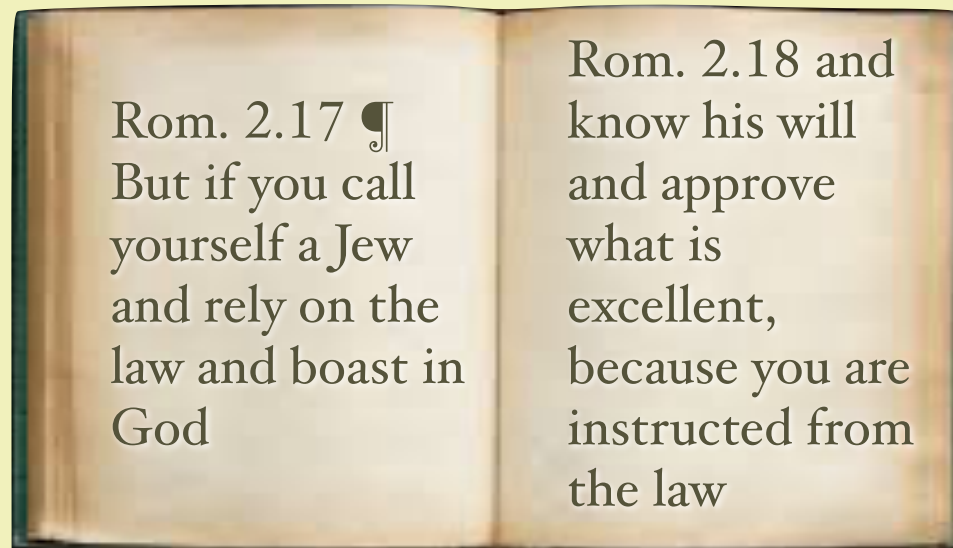
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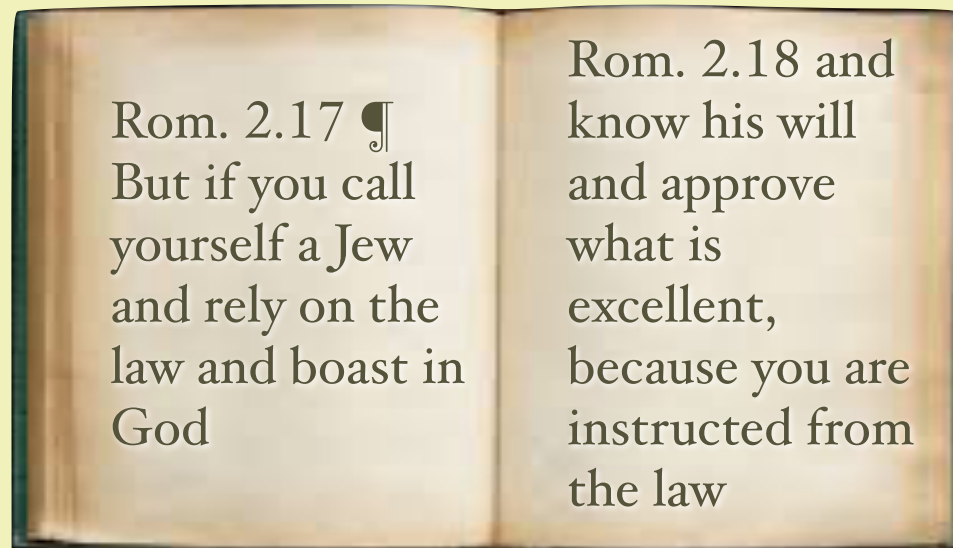
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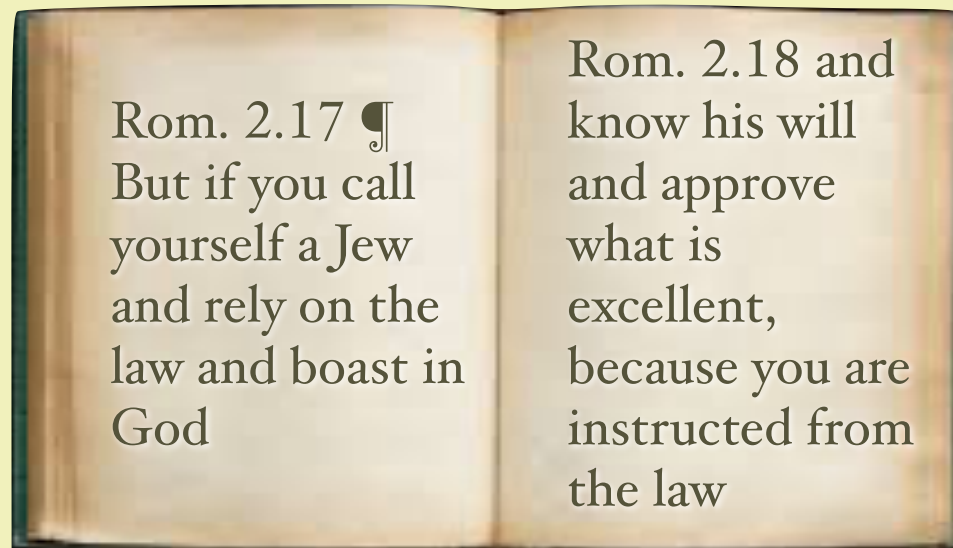
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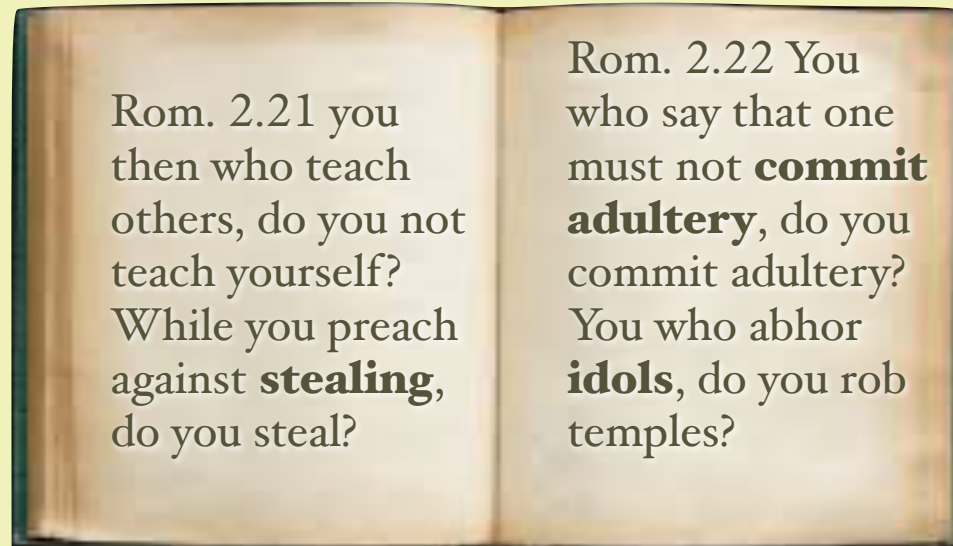
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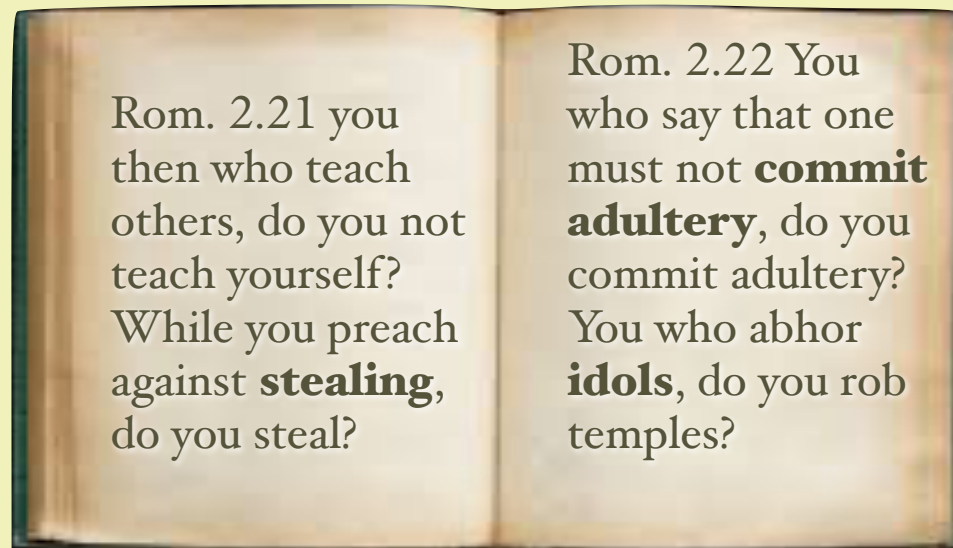
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2. Probably this was exactly the mind set of Paul before his conversion: **sincerely proud**

Romans Theme: The Gospel reveals the Righteousness of God

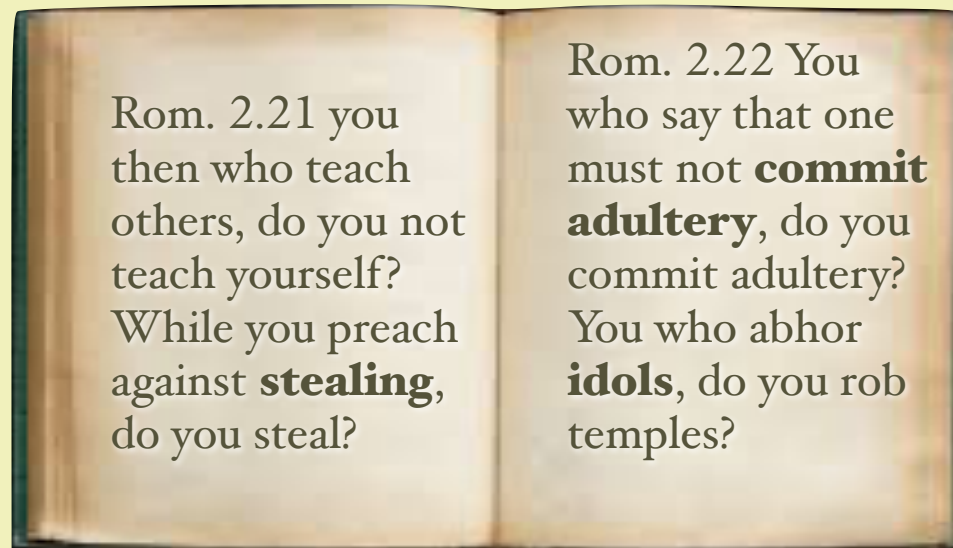


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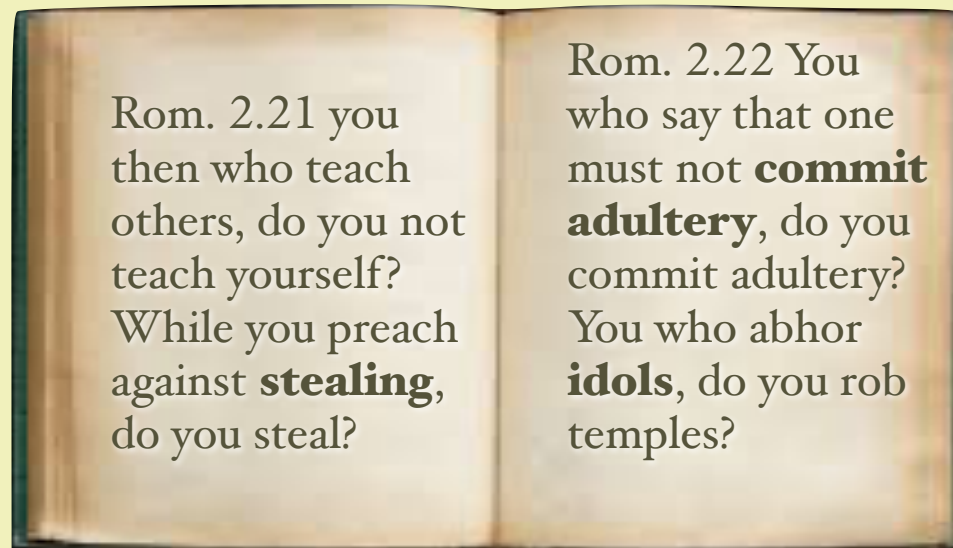
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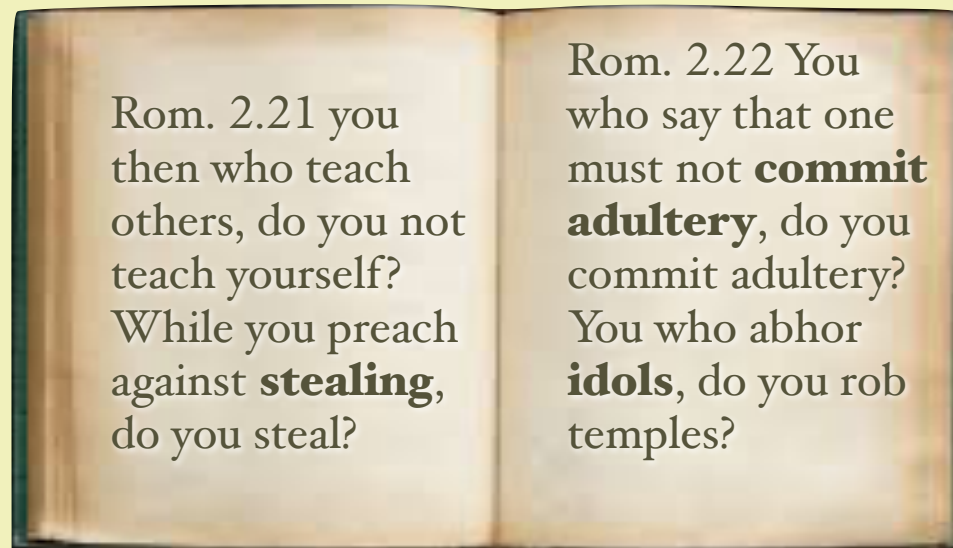


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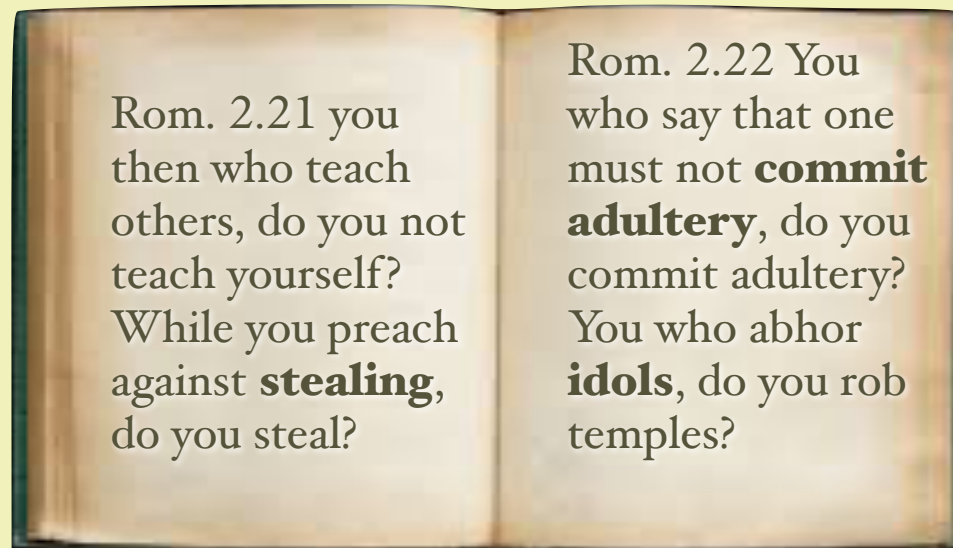
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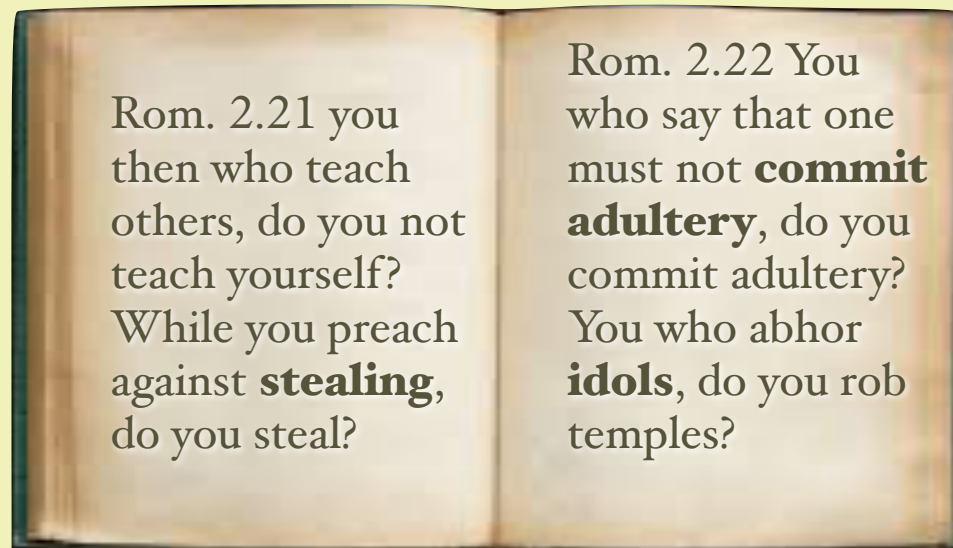
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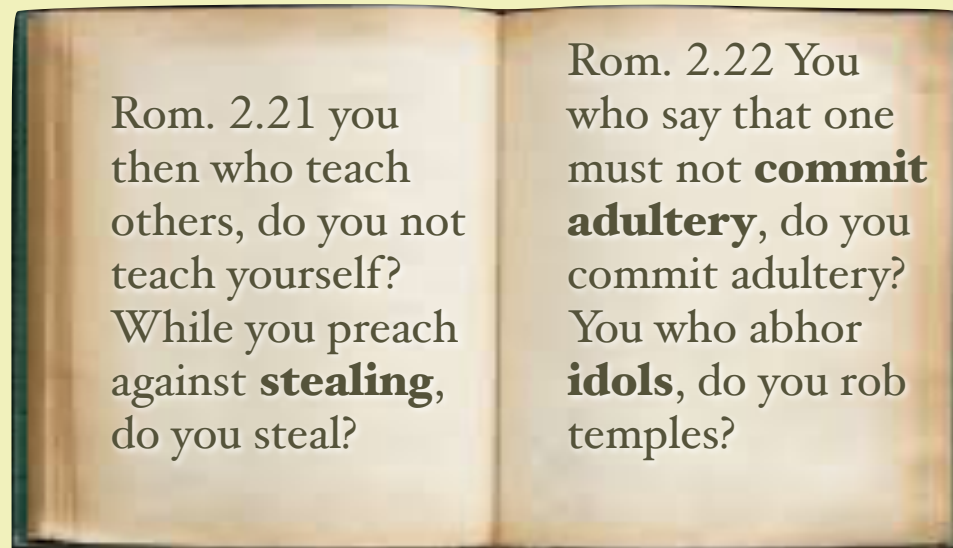
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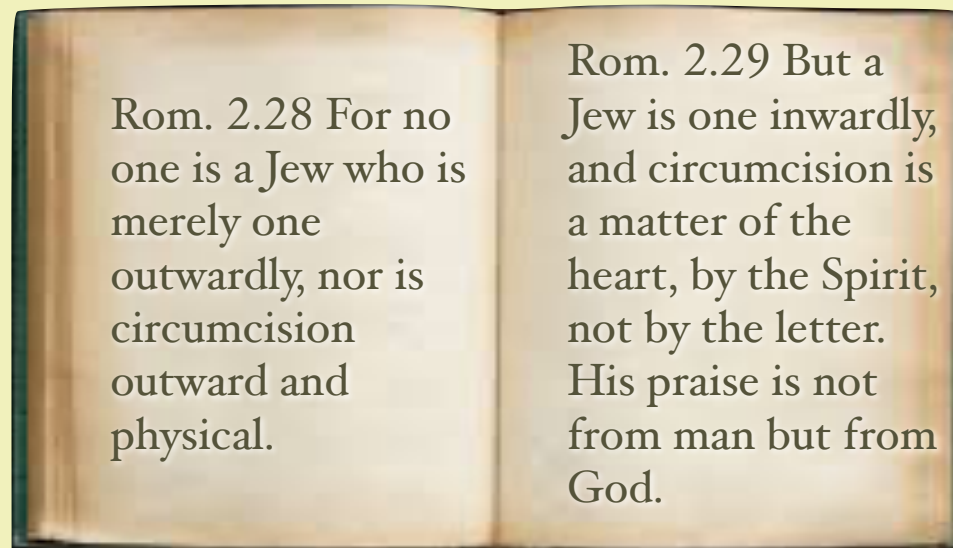
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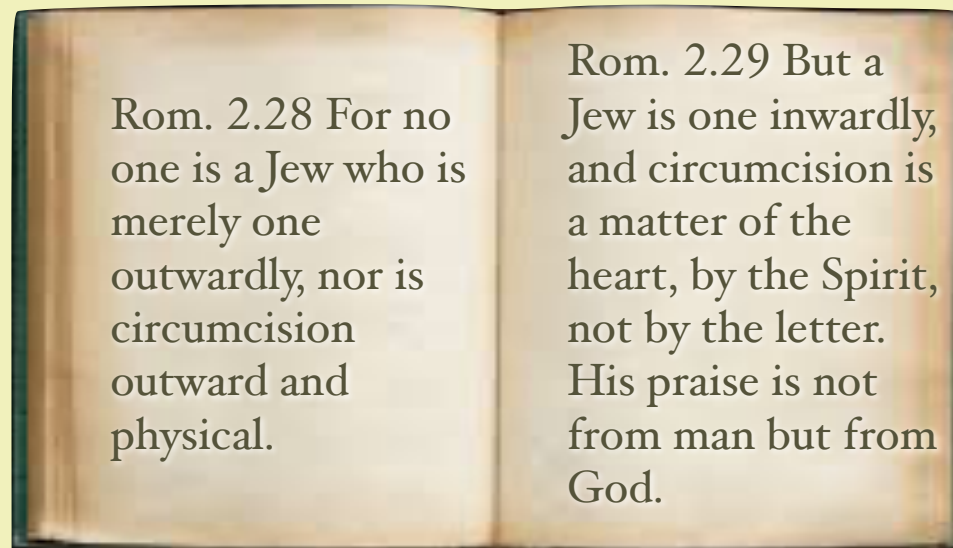
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4. 2.23-24 Paul's does not accuse them himself but shares scripture to convict them of their hypocrisy: **Isaiah 52.5** where God declares that His people have blasphemed the **Name** of God (Ha Shem) before the gentiles by their hypocrisy

Romans Theme: The Gospel reveals the Righteousness of God

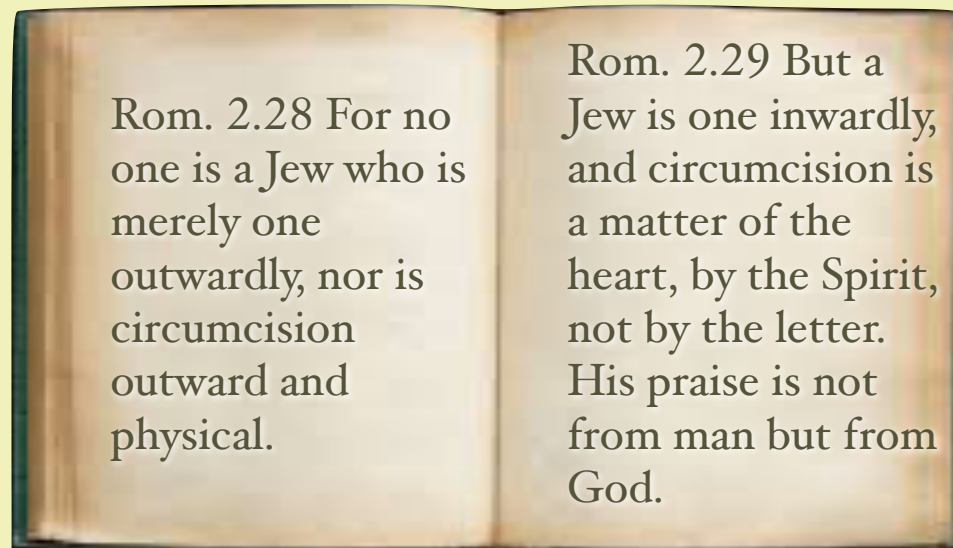


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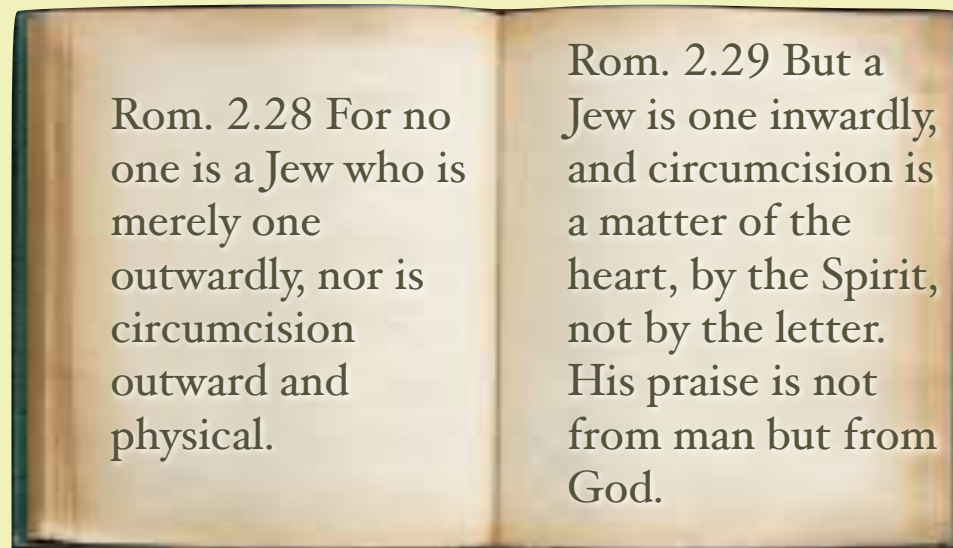
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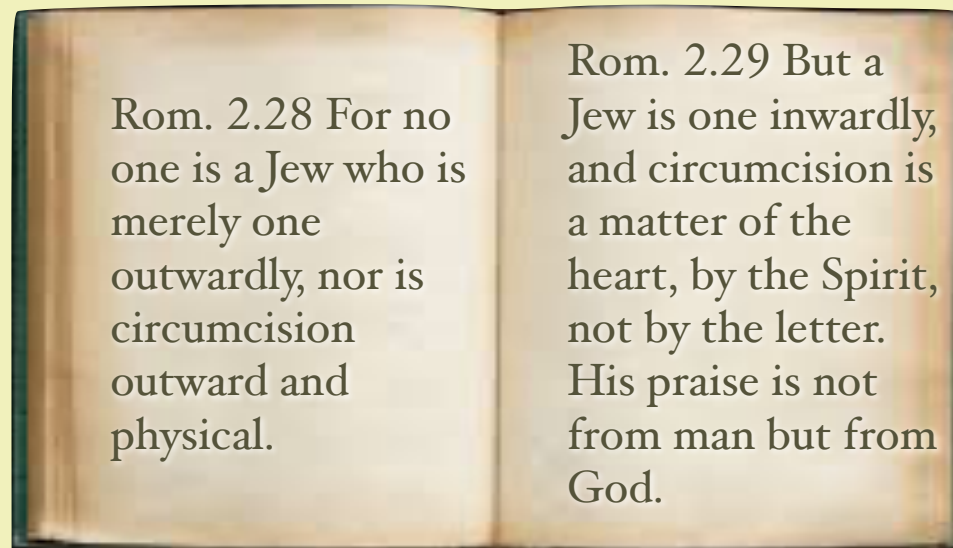


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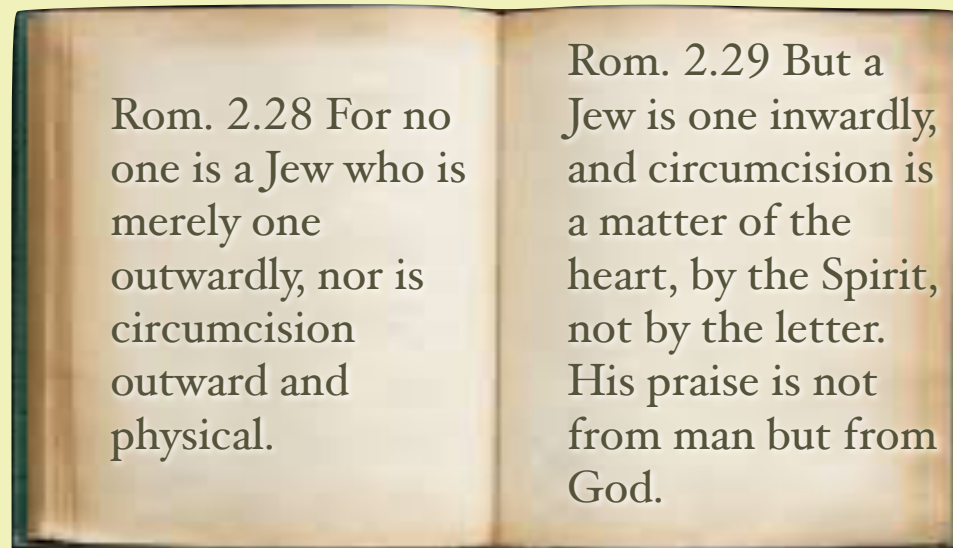
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Romans Theme: The Gospel reveals the Righteousness of God



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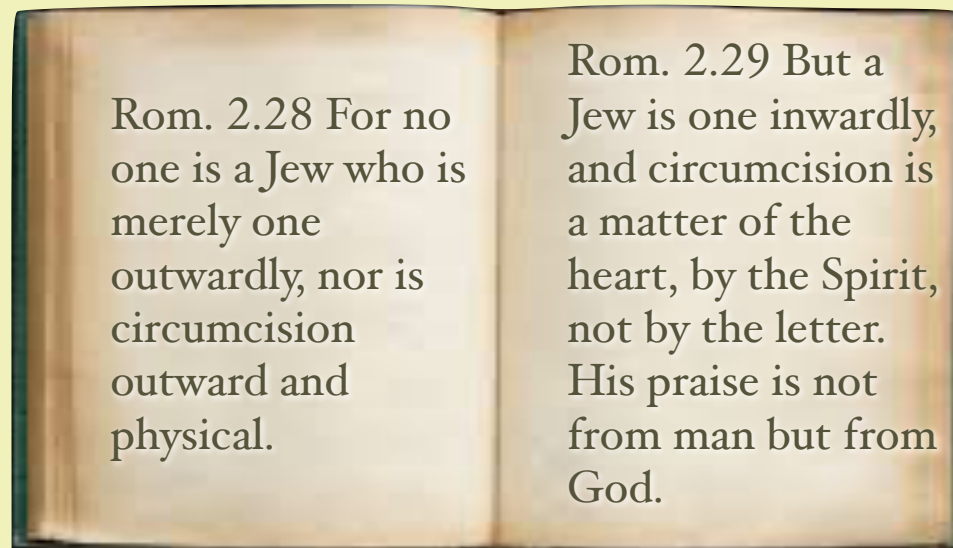
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b. 2.26 Q: In spiritual terms would it not also follow that if one who is uncircumcised (gentile) keeps the LAW he would be considered "**circumcised**" before God?

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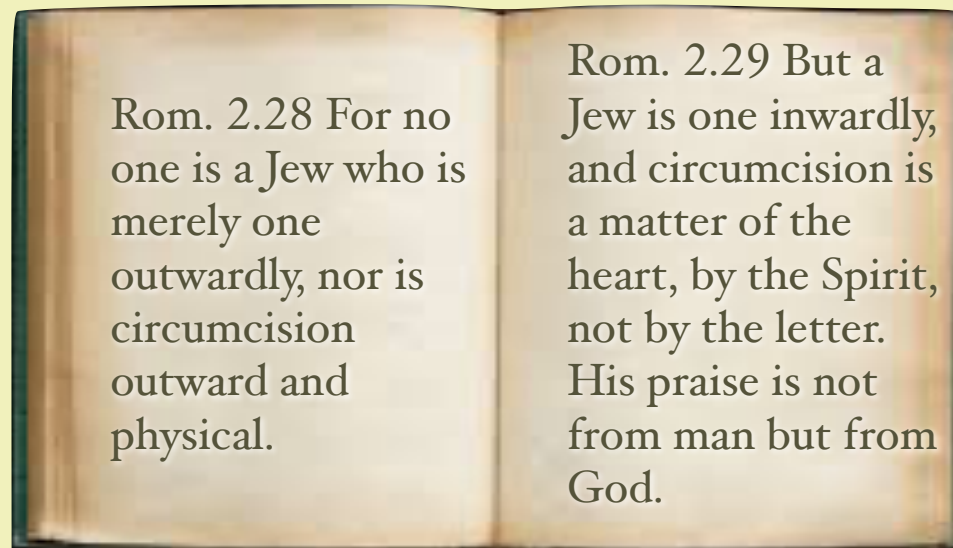
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6. 2.28-29 Paul now **re-defines** a true Jew in spiritual terms as one who is inwardly circumcised in heart by the Spirit of God (by spiritual birth) and not just one with the outer sign of circumcision according to the letter (Law)

Romans Theme: The Gospel reveals the Righteousness of God



II. Rom 2 - The Righteousness of God revealed by the LAW

Summary

1. Paul is preparing his readers for chapter 3 where he will **reveal** the righteousness of God which comes only through faith in Christ who died for us
2. But first in chapter 1 he had to reveal what all men know: that God is Righteous and reveals His wrath against sin
3. Then in chapter 2 Paul speaks of how the LAW also reveals the righteousness of God giving all men an impartial standard of judgment
4. The first 2 chapters are now used in chapter 3 in two ways:
 - a. first to indict all mankind as sinners - whether Jew or Gentile - deserving righteous judgment by God
 - b. then to present the good news of a new righteousness of God in Christ - how in love he has **made things right** - which neither Jew nor gentile has ever heard or understood



Paul's Epistle to the Romans

- next time: Rom 3.1-20
- All men are indicted by God's Righteousness