

InsideOUT series
Week 3 outline
2.28.21
Romans 2:17-3:8

THE GOSPEL AND GOD'S WRATH

I. **If, Then, and the Law** (vs 17-24)

A. If you...

-“call yourself a Jew, rely on the law, and brag about your relationship with God...”

B. Then...

-why do you through hypocrisy dishonor the law by breaking it?

C. “The Law”

-the rules and ways of God (think 10 commandments)

-recorded in the torah (the books of Moses)

-as God's word (Scripture)

II. **Circumcision and the Heart of the Matter** (Romans 2:25-3:8)

A. **Mistaken Understanding of Circumcision**

1. Jews (God's chosen people)

-wrongly thought circumcision was a vehicle of
Righteousness (one's right standing with God)

2. Paul Confronts this wrong thinking:

a. Physical Circumcision does NOT equal the outward MEANS

...not the mode of righteousness

b. Physical Circumcision was the outward SIGN

...of God's covenant promise of salvation for his people

-Gen 17:11

B. **The MEANS of Righteousness**

The MEANS of Righteousness however is (vs 28-29)

“Circumcision of the Heart”

1. inward not outward

2. of the heart, not the body

3. by the Spirit not the law (*written code*)

4. In the eyes of God, not man (*praise not from others, but from God*)

-and... it's always been that way even back with Abraham

-the next person to be circumcised was Ishmael

-Abraham's salvation was through faith, not a knife

III. Confronted by the Gospel

A. Our "circumcision of the heart" (righteousness)

- not from outward appearances but by inward transformation
- of the heart
- by the work of the Holy Spirit in us not the law
- in the eyes of God not man

OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS IS IN CHRIST, BY GRACE, THROUGH FAITH

B. Circumcision and Baptism

1. The old covenant sign of circumcision is similar to the new covenant sign of baptism
 - Baptism is an outward SIGN of an inward transformation
 - Baptism is not the MEANS to salvation but a SIGN of salvation
2. Our new covenant MEANS to salvation is through Jesus Christ,
 - by grace, through faith

C. Inside Out Faith

1. Christ-likeness doesn't happen through our hard work but rather his complete work
 - It's not *"what would Jesus do?"* but rather *"what Jesus has done"* that makes us righteous
2. Moral "Jesus-likeness"
 - a. turns the fruit of the Spirit into a checklist of good works rather than life in the embodiment of Christ in us
 - b. is a facade
 - it's an outside-in attempt
 - it's focused on the visible, material, and superficial
 - it's focus is on the eyes of man, not God
3. Good work comes as an overflow of Jesus' completed work and manifests itself in real life as we remain in him

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control." -Gal 5:22