

THE BOOK OF ROMANS

YOU MUST DO!

Romans 2:12-13

Remember Where We Are in This Book

Paul is continuing his thought process proclaiming everyone guilty before a holy God, not matter what group you might be a part of—Jews or Gentiles. As you can probably imagine, the Jews who see themselves as God's chosen people have a real hard time with this. They think that just because God has given them the benefits He has, they are fine in relationship with Him and have nothing to worry about. Paul is proving otherwise. Jews have had benefits, but those have just increased their accountability.

Everyone Dies and Goes to Judgment

Romans 2:12

The Historical Example of Law

The Mosaic Law is often called “the law” in Scripture. God orchestrated this example from the giving of the law at Mount Sinai to the day of Pentecost in which God governed the people of Israel with a legal covenant to show the futility of sinners trying to earn God's favor by good works.

John 1:17, Romans 6:14

First the Gentile

- ❑ Those who sin apart from the “law” would be Gentiles. They did not have the benefit of hearing God's law like Israel did. *Romans 9:1-5*
- ❑ Despite the fact that they did not have the law, they still died. This means that they offended God on their own. All people are accountable to Him and live under His rule, even if they don't have all the commands. *1 John 3:4*
- ❑ This would have been an accepted fact for the Jew.

Also for the Jew

- ❑ The Jews sinned under the law. They were not acceptable to God just because they had the law. This was faulty logic.
- ❑ They had to be reminded that God does not show favorites.

Hearing is Not the Point; Doing Is!

Romans 2:13

The Original Context

- ❑ Being declared righteous was the desire, but that only happens if you obey perfectly. Having the writings were not enough.
- ❑ This is an historical problem the Jews had in their thinking.

Anything for Us?

- ❑ While few of us are Jews, this passage has implications for us too.
- ❑ Whether you are an unbelieving Jew who has the law or a believing Christian who has the law, the issue is not just hearing the commands of God.
- ❑ We are commanded to obey everything that God says to us. *James 1:22-23*
- ❑ Remember that the new heart is guaranteed for every believer and we are compelled to love and obey. We can and do resist to some degree, but we will not continue to resist.

Titus 2:11-12