

The Book of Romans

The Gospel of God

False Security Exposed

Romans 2:25-29

²⁵ For indeed circumcision is of value, if you practice the Law; but if you are a transgressor of the Law, your circumcision has become uncircumcision. ²⁶ If therefore the uncircumcised man keeps the requirements of the Law, will not his uncircumcision be regarded as circumcision? ²⁷ And he who is physically uncircumcised, if he keeps the Law, will he not judge you who though having the letter *of the Law* and circumcision are a transgressor of the Law?

²⁸ For he is not a Jew who is one outwardly, nor is circumcision that which is outward in the flesh. ²⁹ But he is a Jew who is one inwardly; and circumcision is that which is of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the letter; and his praise is not from men, but from God.

(Romans 2:25-29)

False Security Exposed

1. Becoming “Uncircumcised”

- transgressing the Law nullified the value of circumcision
- to become “uncircumcised” was to be in the category of a “Gentile” – cut off from God’s people

False Security Exposed

2. Becoming “Circumcised”

- those who are not circumcised, yet keep the Law, will be regarded as “circumcised”
- the Jewish transgressor of the Law will be judged by the uncircumcised keeper of the Law

False Security Exposed

2. Becoming “Circumcised”

➤ *Implications:*

- (1) physical circumcision is irrelevant for keeping the Law (cf. 1 Cor. 7:19)
- (2) the Law itself cannot impart the obedience it prescribes

False Security Exposed

3. Becoming "Jewish"

➤ *A True "Jew" – Three Contrasts:*

- the inward attitude, not the outward rite, matters
- heart circumcision, not physical, is essential
- the Spirit, not the letter, produces life

"So circumcise your heart, and stiffen your neck no longer." (Deut. 10:16)

"Moreover the LORD your God will circumcise your heart and the heart of your descendants, to love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, so that you may live." (Deut. 30:6)

"Circumcise yourselves to the LORD and remove the foreskins of your heart, men of Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem; (Jer. 4:4)

"Behold, the days are coming," declares the LORD, "that I will punish all who are circumcised and yet uncircumcised— Egypt and Judah, and Edom and the sons of Ammon, and Moab and all those inhabiting the desert who clip the hair on their temples; for all the nations are uncircumcised, and all the house of Israel are uncircumcised of heart."

(Jer. 9:25-26)

For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision means anything, but faith working through love. (Gal. 5:15-16)

For neither is circumcision anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. (Gal. 6:15)

and in Him you were also circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, in the removal of the body of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ;... When you were dead in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our transgressions, (Col. 2:11,13)

False Security Exposed

➤ Ongoing Danger

- trusting in outward signs and rituals for salvation with no inward reality of faith in and love for Christ