

Romans: Forming Faith by Favor & Freedom
Session 7
Romans 2:17 – 3:8

Session Focus:

The trouble and challenges of faith formed by knowledge and faith revealed through actions.

Faith that pleases God requires righteous activity

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- Condemnation of the happy hypocrite
 - **2**:17-24
 - ☐ What does God require of the elect?
- Circumcision and ideal identification
 - **2**:25-29
 - ☐ What is the relationship between circumcision and faith?
- Confirmation of the just Judge
 - **3:1-8**
 - ☐ What do we learn about God through God's judgment of sin?

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Condemnation of the Happy Hypocrite (2:17-24)

What does God require of the elect?

- Do what you know to be just (2:17-23)
 - > Refuse personal acclaim/notoriety/privilege. Seek God's glory.
 - > Reject confidence in your will to do right. Trust the Spirit's light.
- Return to the purpose of your election/salvation (2:24)
 - > Represent the One who appointed you for purpose. Honor God.

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Circumcision and Ideal Identification (2:25-29)

What is the relationship between circumcision and faith?

- Circumcision according to the Law (2:25-27)
 - > A physical state based on one's actions.
 - > An outward symbol.
 - > Profitable for Jews who keep the law.
- Circumcision according to the Spirit (2:28-29)
 - > A spiritual state based on one's heart.
 - An inward sign.
 - > Possible for all who believe.

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Confirmation of the Just Judge (3:1-8)

What do we learn about God through God's judgment of sin?

- The Judge's original intent (3:1-4)
 - > The elect keep God's word.
 - > The elect overcome judgment.
- The Judge's consistent rule (3:5-8)
 - > Our sin neither diminishes nor improves God's character.
 - Our salvation is a result of God's character, not our sin.