

Why the World Hates God
Rom. 2:17-29

1. Don't trust in your _____ . (v. 17a)

They believed they were right to take such pride in the name of their religion because the word "Jew" is derived from the name of the tribe of Judah, which means "_____."

But in their selfish, false spiritual pride, the Jews had come to _____ the very people they were called by God to reach for Him.

And this realization could be a _____ for us to the same false, spiritual pride that the Jews had.

We must not let our false spiritual pride cause us to think that non-Christians are our _____.

2. Don't trust your _____ about God. (vv. 17b-24)

They were boasting pridefully. They knew _____ God, but they did not know God.

With all those possible good results of having God's Word, they weren't _____ it out. (vv. 21-22)

By their hypocritical actions, these Jews were _____ God and causing the Gentiles to blaspheme the name of God.

If we do not, if we settle for just knowing about Him, I believe we will be held to an even _____ judgment than the Jews when we stand before Jesus. (Heb. 2:1-3)

3. Don't trust in religious _____. (vv. 25-29)

Lastly, Paul says the Jews are _____ with circumcision.

It was supposed to be the _____ sign of an inward reality.

The circumcision that God really wants is the circumcision of the _____, a heart and mind set apart to God, loving Him and obeying Him out of that love.

But Paul is here telling us that ceremonies like this can't _____ us.

But they can alienate us even more from the world and cause even more people to hate God if we put religious ceremonies above _____ people, which Jesus said is the 2nd greatest commandment.

If we want to be praised, as those who called themselves "Jew" did (v. 17), we should seek _____ praise, not men's. (v. 29)

Calvary Connection Group
Leader's Guide for the week of Feb. 2, 2020

Getting to Know Me

- What person that you've actually met face-to-face do you admire most? Why?
- What person of history, other than Jesus, would you most like to meet? Why?

Into the Bible

- What one thing stood out to you in this week's sermon as something important to understand and apply?

- We all hate hypocrites. But in a very real sense we are all doomed to a certain amount of hypocrisy. Why? What does the Bible tell us we should do about this? (See Rom. 6:14-25; Rom. 12:1-2; Col. 3:16-17; Eph. 5:18-21)

- Why does knowledge *about* God, as opposed to knowing God, often end up in legalism and lack of love? (See 2 Cor. 3:5-6)

- If there is such potential for wrongly trusting in ceremonies, why do we still observe two ordinances: baptism and communion? (Hint: see Matt. 28:18-20; Rom. 6:1-7; Matt. 26:26-28; 1 Cor. 11:23-26)

Application

- Have you ever been discouraged in your faith by someone's poor example? Without naming names, can you tell us about that? Do you know someone who has turned their back on Christ because of the hypocrisy of the church?

- In what ways have you been tempted to see non-Christians as "the enemy"? What practical steps can we take to keep Jesus' attitude toward the lost?