

Expositional Preaching from the Authorized Version of the Holy Bible
Current Book: Romans – Message 9

2017 VISION: *Prioritizing God*

Scriptures for Today: Romans 2:17-29 – Paul challenges the religious Jew; exposing the heart

Title of Today's Message: Ten Mighty Cannons – *Confronting the Jew and the religious hypocrite.*

INTRODUCTION

Last week, we saw Paul under the inspiration of the Holy Ghost detail specifics about the righteous judgment of God. The crimes presented in chapter 1 must be considered in light of the manner in which all people will be judged by God. We were reminded that there is a **DAY** coming in which **God shall judge** the **SECRETS** of men **by** Jesus Christ. And, this truth of judgment and the responsibility and accountability of all people towards God for the light and truth He has given is a leading tenant in the gospel that Paul preached! We also learned that the word “*law*” is recorded **21** times in chapter 2! Today, we will see Paul use the **TEN** Commandments – God’s Law – to expose the sin of people who considered themselves to be “*religious*” or good. And, we will learn that the religious Jew is a lot like the “*religious*” Baptist or Methodist or Catholic who trusts in his religion and not Christ – **LOST!** God’s spiritual weapon to deal with this satanic blindness is the Ten Commandments.

PREACHING NOTES

1. Paul confronts **the Jew** – the man who boasts in his *religion* and *religious* **WORKS**. Vs. 17-20

- ✓ RESTEST in the law, and makest thy BOAST of God...

Matthew 3:9 *“And think not to SAY WITHIN YOURSELVES, **We have Abraham to our father: for I say unto you, that God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham.**”*

John 9:28-29 *“They REVEILED him, and said, **Thou art his disciple; but we are Moses’ disciples.**”*

John 8:41-42 *“Ye do the deeds of your father. Then said they to him, **WE be not born of fornication; we have one Father, even God.** Jesus said...If God were your Father...”*

NOTE This is a scary place for someone to be. By RESTING in the law, they were very comfortable with the religion in which they were brought up. They even BOASTED of God! Yet, they MURDERED their Messiah! They completely missed Him. The religious Jew is a lot like a religious Baptist or Methodist – or any other religion for that matter. Beware not to REST in the fact that you have gone to church your entire life, or that your parents were “*religious*”.

- ✓ KNOWEST his will, and APPROVEST the things that are more excellent, being INSTRUCTED...
- ✓ CONFIDENT that thou thyself art a GUIDE of the blind, a LIGHT of them which are in darkness...
- ✓ An INSTRUCTOR of the foolish, a TEACHER of babes, which hast a FORM of knowledge...

Deuteronomy 4:8 *“And **WHAT NATION** is there so great, **that hath statutes and judgments so righteous as all this law, which I set before you this day?**”*

2 Timothy 3:15-17 *“And that from a child thou hast **KNOWN THE HOLY SCRIPTURES, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.**”*

Matthew 15:14 *“They be **BLIND LEADERS** of the blind. And if the blind lead the blind, **both shall fall...**”*

Matthew 23:16-26 *“**Woe unto you, ye BLIND GUIDES, which say ...**”*

2 Timothy 3:5 *“Having a **FORM OF GODLINESS, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.**”*

NOTE The fact of the matter is that the Jews HAD God’s holy words in their hands! They KNEW the truth! They KNEW what the Bible said! However, instead of being on their face surrendered to Christ, they were self-centered hypocrites doing what they wanted to do! Often times, there are people who sit in Baptist churches who are in the same condition.

2. Paul uses the **Ten Commandments** to expose the **SIN** of the *religious hypocrite*. Vs. 21-24

- ✓ He questions the religious man using the Ten Commandments – **7 questions** in total.

Romans 3:19-20 *“Now **we know** that what things soever THE LAW saith, it saith to them who are under THE LAW: **that every mouth may be stopped**, and ALL THE WORLD may become GUILTY BEFORE GOD...for by THE LAW is the knowledge of sin.”*

Mark 10:17-27 *“**Good Master, what shall I do that I may inherit eternal life?** And Jesus SAID UNTO HIM, Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one, that is, God. THOU KNOWEST THE COMMANMENTS, Do not commit adultery, Do not kill, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Defraud not, Honour thy father and mother.”*

NOTE At some point as God is teaching us this truth, we come to the realization that this is how God wants us to witness to those who are lost. It has been said by some, “*What WOULD Jesus Do?*” I think it has been better said, “*What DID Jesus Do?*” We KNOW because we have the holy Scriptures! And, Jesus was a MASTER of evangelism and questions! :)

- ✓ The religious Jew needed to hear truth about his SIN – he was guilty and condemned ALREADY.

John 3:17-36 *“But **he that believeth not** IS CONDEMNED ALREADY, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. ... **he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; BUT THE WRATH OF GOD ABIDETH ON HIM.**”*

NOTE Remember, when we tell someone that he is going to Hell when he dies if he does not repent and trust Jesus Christ by faith, we are NOT judging him. He has already been judged by God! *The unsaved man has already had his trial. The soulwinner is not passing sentence; he is simply reading it from the Bible. The unsaved man thinks he is waiting for his trial, but he has gone far beyond that. He is actually on death row, waiting to be executed! Amen.*

- ✓ It is important to know that the Law can chase a man to Calvary, but no further!

Gal 3:24-25 *“Wherefore **the law was our schoolmaster** TO BRING US UNTO CHRIST, that we might be JUSTIFIED BY FAITH. But after that faith is come, we are no longer **under** a schoolmaster.”*

1 Timothy 1:8-11 *“But we know that the law is good, IF A MAN **USE IT** LAWFULLY; Knowing this, that THE LAW IS NOT MADE FOR A RIGHTEOUS MAN, **but for the lawless and disobedient**, FOR THE UNGOLDY and FOR SINNERS ... **According to the glorious gospel of the blessed God, WHICH WAS COMMITTED TO MY TRUST.**”*

NOTE Some of our brethren in other churches have said we “*use the Law incorrectly*” saying, “*We are not under Law now but under grace.*” If the Holy Spirit is teaching you today through the Word of God, you should be able to answer that one biblically – although it is true that WE (believers) are not “*under*” the condemnation of the Law any more, the LOST still are!

3. Paul focuses on **the heart of the problem** – a problem of the **HEART**. Vs. 25-29

- ✓ The truth is that WHAT YOU SAY YOU ARE does not mean anything if you are a law breaker.
- ✓ A Gentile who OBEYS what THE BIBLE SAYS is counted more godly than a Jewish hypocrite.
- ✓ A profession or EXTERNAL religion does not make you God’s child – your HEART must be right.

Psalms 51:3-4 *“**Against thee, thee only, have I sinned**, and done this evil IN THY SIGHT...”*

Psalms 51:17 *“The SACRIFICES OF GOD are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart.”*

NOTE The religious man will not humble himself to expose to others the TRUE condition of his heart. Yet, if he does not surrender his will to Christ, he will spend eternity in Hell. Many professing Christians (i.e. “*Baptists*”) have come face-to-face with this reality at some point in life and REPENTED and trusted Christ. **Are you pretending?** If so, today is your day. Ask.