

Eleutheros Newsletter

May 2025

Thoughts on Romans

2:24 *For the name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles through you, as it is written.*

Paul, writing under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, points out the hopelessness and depravity of both the Jew and the Gentiles in this verse, basing his case largely from the previous verse: “Thou that makest thy boast of the Law, through breaking the Law dishonorest thou God?” ([2:23](#))

The Jews often ignored the Law’s intent but with their mouths would honor it. Their rebellion and hypocrisy were evident to God Who knows the thoughts and intent of hearts (see [Hebrews 4:12](#)).

Simply put, the Law cannot save anyone, and dependence on religious zeal confirms the legitimacy of God’s condemnation of those who think such an attitude. The problem is in the heart (see [Romans 10:10a](#)), and boasting about disobedience disgusts holy God!

Not only did the ways of the Jews create such a strong barrier between them and their God, it also was something that caused great harm “among the Gentiles, as it is written.”

Sin, like leaven in a loaf of bread, spreads!

The word “blasphemed” is from the Greek verb βλασφημέω, a compound word: βλας means “harmful” and φημέω means “to say” or “to speak.” Thus, the idea here is to speak harmful things.

The Jews were jealous for the Name of God and would not even pronounce the four main letters of “Yahweh”, but their acts caused Gentiles to blaspheme the Name they pretended to honor!

God has provided the way: faith in Him. [Hebrews 11](#) indicates this to be true even from the earliest days of human history.

But man has perverted the way, creating many ungodly religions. These ungodly religions cause other onlookers to blaspheme the Name of God!

Consider this truth as proclaimed by Isaiah: “Now therefore, what have I here, saith the Lord, that My people are taken away for naught? They that rule them make them to howl, saith the Lord; and My name continually every day is blasphemed” ([Isaiah 52:5](#)).

Today’s church does well to learn the lessons of these verses. We who name the name of Christ do well to avoid arrogance, but to “speak the truth in love” ([Ephesians 4:15](#)) to a world which so desperately needs the glorious message of the Gospel.

The Gospel is the answer, not arrogance, religion, hypocrisy, man-made rules, or any such thing.

We will continue these thoughts on Romans in next month’s newsletter.