

¹⁷ Indeed you are called a Jew, and rest on the law, and make your boast in God,

¹⁸ and know His will, and approve the things that are excellent, being instructed out of the law,

¹⁹ and are confident that you yourself are a guide to the blind, a light to those who are in darkness,

²⁰ an instructor of the foolish, a teacher of babes, having the form of knowledge and truth in the law.

²¹ You, therefore, who teach another, do you not teach yourself? You who preach that a man should not steal, do you steal?

²² You who say, "Do not commit adultery," do you commit adultery? You who abhor idols, do you rob temples?

²³ You who make your boast in the law, do you dishonour God through breaking the law?

²⁴ For "the name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you," as it is written.

Romans 2:17-24

HOW THE JEWS THINK ABOUT THEMSELVES

1. That they are called "Jews" (Praise of God)
2. "Rest" (confidence) in the law
3. "Boast in God" (their covenant relationship)
4. Knowledge of "God's will"
5. Ability to approve of what is "excellent"
6. "Instructed out of the law"
7. "A guide to the blind"
8. "A light to those in darkness"
9. "An instructor of the foolish"

10. "A teacher of babes"

11. "Having a form of knowledge and truth in the law"

CHECKING THE REALITY OF KNOWLEDGE IN THE CONTEXT OF REAL LIFE

1. Do they teach themselves as they teach others?

2. Do they steal even as they teach others not to do so?

3. Are they guilty of the same sins they teach others not to commit?

4. Do they only give lip service to the law while breaking it?

THE BAD NAME OF THE JEWS

1. The name of the Jews among the Gentiles

a) They did not enjoy a good name

b) In reality, they had a bad reputation

2. The name of God is blasphemed

a) Because of the Jews

b) Because of the way they had failed to live up to their profession of faith in God

WHAT WAS PAUL TRYING TO SAY?

1. To debunk the idea that Jews would not be judged by God

2. To challenge those professing faith in God to check:

a) Their faith in God

b) Their lifestyles

3. To help people to become aware of:

a) The Judgment from God

b) To repent from their sins

c) To seek God's forgiveness

d) To seek salvation from God