



Romans 2:25-29

Trusting in Religious Practices

I. **Introduction:** Paul told the Roman believers that Jewish people should not rely on their circumcision to get them into heaven, but upon conversion of the heart.

II. Trusting in Religious Practices (**Rom 2:25-29**).

A. The Value of Circumcision (**v. 25**).

1. Paul proclaimed that there was only value in circumcision if one obeyed the law perfectly, but that circumcision does not guarantee salvation.

B. The Reality of Uncircumcision (**vv. 26-27**).

1. Paul's point is that a Gentile belongs to God's covenant family through faith in Christ, whose obedience satisfies the law where circumcision never could.

C. The Nature of Circumcision (**vv. 28-29**).

1. Paul declared that true Jews were those who were not just circumcised in their physical bodies, but were circumcised in their hearts by the Holy Spirit.

III. **Conclusion:** Paul says that not everyone who claims to be a Jew is a true Jew, but only those who have been justified by Christ and transformed by His spirit.



Questions About: Trusting in Religious Practices

1. How did Paul address the Jews in Romans? (**Rom 2:17-29**) What did Jews believe would save them from God's wrath? (vv. 25-29) Why did they think circumcision would save them?
2. What did Paul say was the value of circumcision? (**Rom 2:25**) To whom did God give the sign of circumcision? (**Gen 17:9-14**) What was the significance of circumcision? (**Rom 4:11-13**)
3. How did Paul say God would regard their circumcision if they didn't obey the Law? (**Rom 2:25**) Why did Jews refer to Gentiles as uncircumcised? (**1 Sam 17:26**) How was it an insult?
4. How would God treat Gentiles who kept His Law? (**Rom 2:26-27**) How would Gentiles be treated like Jews by God if they obeyed? (v. 26) How could they keep the Law? (**Matt 5:17**)
5. Why did Paul say that Gentiles would judge Jews? (**Rom 2:26-27**) How would they become witnesses against them? (**Luke 11:29-32**) Who did Jesus say was their father? (**John 8:31-59**)
6. What did Paul say was the true nature of circumcision? (**Rom 2:28-29**) What does it mean that not every Jew was a true Jew? (**Rom 9:6**) Why was circumcision not an indicator of salvation?
7. What did Paul mean when he said they need to be circumcised in the heart? (**Rom 2:28-29**) What did this mean to the Jews? (**Deut 30:6; Jer 4:4**) Why did they need heart surgery?
8. How did the new covenant promise the Jews a new heart? (**Ezek 36:24-28**) How was Israel repeatedly hard-hearted? (**Acts 7:51**) What hope does God offer sinners? (**Psa 51:10**)

Prayer

1. Pray that God would bring conviction of sin to religious people who need salvation.
2. Ask God to help you honor Him by helping you to repent of your sins.