

The Idolatry of Religion

Romans 2:17-29

How Religion becomes an Idol (vv.17-24)

1. A prideful boasting that we have a "SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP" with God instead of HUMBLE GRATITUDE for God's gifts.
2. An ARROGANT ASSUMPTION that we alone have the complete truth of God.
3. A mistaken belief that it is enough to KNOW GOD'S LAW rather than KEEP GOD'S LAW.
4. A REPUTATION that leads non-Christians to BLASPHEME GOD.

What is the value of Circumcision/Baptism? (vv.25-27)

1. Circumcision/Baptism is of no value if you have no intention to OBEY GOD'S LAW.
2. Many NON-BELIEVERS are better in obeying God's law than those who profess belief.
3. Those who profess faith and DO NOT LIVE THE FAITH are condemned.
4. Baptism is for those who desire to OBEY CHRIST.

The Truth about the Religion God Approves (vv.28-29)

1. You cannot INHERIT it.
2. You cannot get it through CEREMONY.
3. You can only get it through a CHANGE OF HEART produced by the HOLY SPIRIT.