

“First...human beings, all over the earth, have this curious idea that they ought to behave in a certain way...Second...they do not in fact behave that way. These two facts are the foundation of all clear thinking about ourselves and the universe we live in.” - C. S. Lewis

Romans 2:12-16

For all who have sinned without the law will also perish without the law, and all who have sinned under the law will be judged by the law.

¹³ For it is not the hearers of the law who are righteous before God, but the doers of the law who will be justified. ¹⁴ For when Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do what the law requires, they are a law to themselves, even though they do not have the law.

¹⁵ They show that the work of the law is written on their hearts, while their conscience also bears witness, and their conflicting thoughts accuse or even excuse them ¹⁶ on that day when, according to my gospel, God judges the secrets of men by Christ Jesus.

Probing questions

- Q: Is it possible to sin without knowing the Bible? – 2:12 *For all who have sinned without the law will also perish without the law, and all who have sinned under the law will be judged by the law.*
 - A: Apparently so!

- Q: Is *knowing* the Bible *enough* to have a right relationship with God? – 2:13 *For it is not the hearers of the law who are righteous before God, but the doers of the law who will be justified.*
 - A: Only “*the doers of the law*” will be justified.
 - Q: Who are “*the doers of the law*?”
 - Religious devotees (Pharisees)?
 - Secular moralists (Stoics)?

- Q: What is the ultimate standard? – 2:16 *on that day when, according to my gospel, God judges the secrets of men by Christ Jesus.*
 - A: Jesus Christ. Look to Him!

Action points

- Download the Joshua Project app: <https://joshuaproject.net>
- Commit to praying for a specific Unreached or Unengaged People Group.