

The Footsteps of Faith Series
Lesson # 4 “The Jews need for Righteousness Part 2”
Romans 2:17-29

Scripture: Romans 1:16-17

“For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. 17 For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, “BUT THE RIGHTEOUS man SHALL LIVE BY FAITH.”

Introduction:

In 2005 there was a man named Dennis Rader who was all over the news. He and his wife lived in Kansas. People saw him and his wife as a typical American family. He had an associates degree in electronics and went on to obtain a bachelor’s degree from Wichita State University in “Administration of Justice.

He was also a member of Christ Lutheran Church, a Lutheran congregation of about 200 people, near his former high school. He had been a member for about 30 years and had been elected president of the Congregation Council. He was also a Cub Scout leader.

The news reporters called him “BTK” which stood for bind, torture, and kill because as it turned out he was a local serial killer who had strangled some 10 people to death.

His wife and family along with everyone else was amazed because he seemed to be one thing on the outside while he was something very different on the inside.

Transitional Statement:

Church, the Jews fell really short in understanding faith. They struggled with putting their faith in only what they could understand and manage. They liked being in control which is opposite of faith. Today I hope we will gain the understanding that the footsteps of faith are not found in any external position or privilege but are a matter of the heart before the Living God.

Lesson:

I. The Jew’s confidence / trust

Romans 2:17-20

17 But if you bear the name "Jew" and rely upon the Law and boast in God, 18 and know His will and approve the things that are essential, 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 a corrector of the foolish, a teacher of the immature, having in the Law the embodiment of knowledge and of the truth,

- A. Having Name "Jew"
 - B. Rely upon the Law
 - C. Boast in God
 - D. Know His will
 - E. Approve of things that are essential
 - F. Instructed out of the Law, confident
 - G. Guide to the blind
 - H. A light for those in darkness
 - I. A corrector of the foolish
 - J. A teacher of the immature
 - K. Having knowledge and truth through the Law
- * The Jews trusted in their ability...they liked to be in control

II. The Jew's failure

Romans 2:21-24

21 you, therefore, who teach another, do you not teach yourself? You who preach that one shall not steal, do you steal? 22 You who say that one should not commit adultery, do you commit adultery? You who abhor idols, do you rob temples? 23 You who boast in the Law, through your breaking the Law, do you dishonor God? 24 For "THE NAME OF GOD IS BLASPHEMED AMONG THE GENTILES BECAUSE OF YOU," just as it is written.

- A. Do not learn the very lessons they are teaching others
 - 1. Teach....from experience and personal understanding
 - 2. Set themselves above their students
 - 3. White washed
- B. Preach / herald straight from the law
 - 1. Then turn around and break it.
 - a. Steal
 - b. Adultery

c. rob temples

C. Boast in the Law, while breaking it and so dishonors God.

1. Our boast should be in God

D. The name of God is blasphemed among the gentiles because of you.

III. The heart of the matter

Romans 2:25-29

25 For indeed circumcision is of value if you practice the Law; but if you are a transgressor of the Law, your circumcision has become un-circumcision. 26 So if the uncircumcised man keeps the requirements of the Law, will not his un-circumcision be regarded as circumcision? 27 And he who is physically uncircumcised, if he keeps the Law, will he not judge you who though having the letter of the Law and circumcision are a transgressor of the Law? 28 For he is not a Jew who is one outwardly, nor is circumcision that which is outward in the flesh. 29 But he is a Jew who is one inwardly; and circumcision is that which is of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the letter; and his praise is not from men, but from God.

A. Jews said we have circumcision

1. Define circumcised. Romans 4:11

2. Ticket to heaven

3. Rabbis words.

-R. Levi "In the hereafter Abraham will sit at the entrance to Gehenna (Hell) and permit no circumcised Israelite to descend therein"

B. Value only if you keep the whole law Gal. 5:3

C. If you are a transgressor your circ. Becomes un-circumcised.

1. Fall from Grace

2. Their covenant relationship was revoked.

D. If the gentiles keep the law won't they be counted as circ

E. Verse 27

F. Outward / inward

-Spirit of the law

*Seeking praise from God not men

*God looks at the heart 1 Samuel 16:7

Conclusion:

- * Confidence should have resulted in an obedient, faithful, surrender to God.