## What are you boasting about? Romans 2:17-29; Jer. 9:19-26

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## Introduction

- I. The Jew and his status, vv. 17-20, cp. Gal. 1:14
  - a. Resting in the Law and boasting in a relationship with God, 17b
  - b. Knowledge of the Divine will and discerning, vs. 18
  - c. Boastful attitudes, vv. 19-20
    - i. Guide to the blind, a light for those in the dark, vs. 19, cp. Isa. 42:6-7
    - ii. A corrector of the foolish, a teacher of infants, vs. 20, Jesus' correction of these attitudes, cp. Matt. 11:25
      - Paul also admonished those who should have been more mature, 1 Cor. 3:1; Eph. 4:14; Heb. 5:13
- II. Correcting misconceptions about knowing and doing, vv. 21-23
  - a. Hard questions five rhetorical questions Do you practice what you preach?
- III. The result of not living up to what we claim, vs. 24 cp. 2 Peter 2:2; Phil. 3:16
- IV. Correcting misconceptions about circumcision, vv. 25-27
  - a. Jews who don't do what they expect others to do
  - b. Gentiles who do what the Law expects, although not Jewish
  - For Paul's view on circumcision, cp. 1 Cor. 7:19; Gal. 5:6; 6:15
- V. You can expect to be judged accordingly, vs. 27, cp. Matt. 12:41-42//Luke 11:31-32
- VI. What is a "Jew"?, vv. 28-29
  - a. Contrast between the inward and outward
  - b. Contrast between the Spirit and the flesh Circumcision of the heart, cp. Deut. 10:16; 30:6; Jer. 4:4 Praise from God rather men, cp. John 5:41, 44; 12:43
- VII. What do you boast about? cp. 2 Cor 10:8-12:13; Phil. 3:1-17

## Conclusion

Paul's concern for the local church in Rome is that although they can quickly see the glaring sins of the Gentiles and the inconsistencies of the Jew who prides himself in being God's instrument of knowledge and truth, they are having their own struggles with the same kinds of attitudes towards each other. Gentile Christians judging Jewish Christians and vice versa.