



MARCH 30, 2025

FALSE SECURITY

Romans 2:17-29

Have you ever received an “alert” that pops up in your browser claiming your computer is infected or your personal information is at risk? This is known as a “Windows Defender” security warning. It’s a fake alert, a type of tech support scam designed to scare you into clicking a malicious link or contacting a fraudulent support center. The idea that your computer is infected with a virus or that your personal information has been stolen can be quite unsettling. In Romans 2:17-29, Paul issues an alert to the religious Jew and the “cultural Christian.” His warning is for those who have a false sense of spiritual security. We are commanded to examine ourselves to be sure we know Christ and belong to Him.

“Test yourselves to see if you are in the faith; examine yourselves! Or do you not recognize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you—unless indeed you fail the test?” *2 Corinthians 13:5 (NASB95)*

God wants you to know with certainty you belong to Him. John specifically wrote to the early church to help those struggling with doubt to have assurance. “These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.” *1 John 5:13 (NASB95)*

Thus far in Romans, Paul has made clear that “the heathen is a man with a perverted religion (Romans 1), the hypocrite is a man with a pretended religion (Romans 2:1-16)” and now he warns the Roman Jews that trusting in religion is powerless. Religion will give you a false sense of security. Verses 28-29 are the summation and key to Paul’s warning in the preceding verses. Trusting anything or anyone other than Jesus for your salvation leads to false security!

1. False security comes from trusting:

- a. Family history (verse 17a)**
- b. Familiarity with God’s Word (verses 18-24)**
- c. Following religious ceremony (verses 25-27)**



**2. True security comes from inward transformation that only God can accomplish!
(Romans 2:28-29)**

- a. **The true believer is the person who is one inwardly, not outwardly. (verse 28)
(John 3; Romans 10:9-10)**

- b. **The true believer has the witness and work of the Holy Spirit in their life. (verse 29)
(Romans 8:9-17)**

- c. **The true believer has their approval/praise from God. (verse 29)**