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# **THE BOOK OF ROMANS: The Problem of a Self-Satisfied Life**

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*New Hope Community Church  
Dr. Jack Bracy, March 12, 2017*

## **Romans 2:12-29**

What Am I Doing That Makes Me Think I Am Ok  
with God and That God Is OK with Me?

The Law: The Embodiment of the Commands of God  
Found in Genesis Through Deuteronomy

Justified = Not Guilty

## **The Problem of Trusting in My Own Behavior for Justification**

### 1. God Judges Me Based on What I Do, Not on What I Say

“For it is not the hearers of the law who are righteous before God, but the doers of the law **who will be justified.**” *Romans 2:13, ESV*

The Problem Is When I Don't Think  
I'm That Bad

### 2. I Must Do the Law All the Time

“For circumcision indeed is of value if you obey the law, but if you break the law, your circumcision becomes uncircumcision.” *Romans 2:25, ESV*

“For the person who keeps all of the laws except one is as guilty as a person who has broken all of God's laws.” *James 2:10, NLT*

I Can Never Be Good Enough

### 3. I Don't Listen to My Own Conscience

“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” *Romans 2:15, ESV*

Having Conflicting Thoughts Is a Good Thing

## Signs of Being Merely Religious

External Religion Does Not Justify Me or  
Get Me into Heaven

Circumcision Was the Sign of The OT Covenant

Baptism Is the Sign of NT Faith

1. I Judge Other People by Their Appearance
2. I Try to Earn God's Love and Salvation by Being Good to Other People
3. I Try to Conform to Outward Holiness Without Inward Transformation
4. I Perform Christian Duties but Have No Passion or Hunger for God
5. I Desire Recognition from People More Than Recognition from God
6. My Identity Is Rooted in A Lifestyle of Christianity Instead of In Christ
7. I Know About the Truth of Jesus But Not the Way of Jesus
8. I Project Righteousness but Inwardly I'm Filled with Anger and Resentment

“My old self has been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. So I live in this earthly body by trusting in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.” *Galatians 2:20, NLT*