

The Attackers: Conscience & Norms and Standards: Hearing & Keeping the Law Does Not Save, Only Faith in Christ; Conscience Consults about Right & Wrong & Bring a Person to God Consciousness; Objectivity toward Christ as an Option Saves; Rejection Results in the Great White Throne

15. However, the doing of the Law is not what justifies anyone before the justice of God.
16. Paul then accuses the Jews of doing the same thing as the Gentiles: they hear the Law and assume they keep the Law, but neither of these things makes a person justified before God. Only faith in Christ can do that.
17. Here we see unbelievers, both Jew and Gentile, whose consciences restrict their behavior, the Jew in compliance with the Mosaic Law, the Gentiles in compliance with their consciences' guidance from natural law.
18. Although both were keeping the Law, one knowingly, the other unknowingly, their consciences achieved the same objective.
19. What neither recognized was that the demands of the Mosaic Law and the natural law were not sufficient for salvation but only as a guide to ordered behavior within the commonwealth.
20. It is order that establishes an environment in which the gospel can be associated with the spiritual code of the Mosaic Law.
21. Establishment principles in coordination with the conscience restrain the lust patterns and subsequent behavior of the sin nature.
22. However, attempts to keep either of these laws are impossible and the conscience is able to convict the individual of his inability to achieve perfect compliance with their demands.
23. From this circumstance the conscience convicts the individual of his depravity and convinces him of the necessity for an outside source of justification.

24. From this comes God consciousness, the recognition of the existence of a Supreme Being.
25. From God consciousness comes objectivity with regard to a divine solution. Once Christ is presented as the solution then volition must accept or reject Him as a qualified personal Savior.
26. Failure to do so results in the individual being left under just condemnation until a subsequent expression of positive volition occurs or, if such is not forthcoming prior to physical death, until the prosecution of human good and evil at the Great White Throne noted in Revelation 20:11-15.