

SERMON SERIES

THE WEIGHT OF SIN & THE POWER OF GOD

“HEART RELIGION RELIES ON THE POWER OF GOD”

Romans 2:25-29

Pastor Steve Cavallaro

I. Rituals lack the power to produce righteousness (vv. 25-27).

“For circumcision indeed of value if you obey the law”

“but if you break the law, your circumcision becomes uncircumcision”

“a man who is uncircumcised keeps ... the law ... regarded as circumcision”

Genesis 17:10

Joshua 5:8-9

“For circumcision is the sign of covenant membership, and covenant membership demands obedience.”

-John Stott

“It is a grave mistake to exalt the sign at the expense of what it signifies.”

-John Stott

II. Real religion is heart religion (vv. 28-29).

“For no one is a Jew who is merely one outwardly”

“nor is circumcision that which is outward in the flesh”

“But a Jew is one inwardly, and circumcision is a matter of the heart.”

Deuteronomy 10:15-16
Romans 4:11

III. Only the power of God can circumcise the heart (vv. 29).

“circumcision is a matter of the heart, by the Spirit”

“His praise is not from man but from God.”

Genesis 17:14
Deuteronomy 10:12-13
Isaiah 53:8
Galatians 5:6
Philippians 3:3
Colossians 2:11-12

“It is possible to trust in Christianity, rather than Christ.”

-Tim Keller

“This is brought about not by the letter, which demands and threatens, but by the Spirit who helps and heals.”

-Martin Luther

“Baptism says: ‘Look at what is yours in Christ’, not ‘Look at the faith that brought you to Christ.’”

-Sinclair Ferguson