

2. The Law of God written on Adam and Eve's hearts at their creation

God's principles of right behavior were made a part of the moral nature of Adam and Eve at their creation. Although their fall into sin and death obscured and distorted that writing to some degree, it did not erase it totally.

In Romans 2:14-15 Paul tells us that the Law of God written into man's heart continues to express itself in actions, some of which are in external agreement with the republication of the Law of God through Moses. Paul says that what was true at Sinai is still happening at the present time.

Romans 2:14-15 states: "For when the Gentiles who do not have the Law (the Mosaic Law) do by nature the things of the Law (the Mosaic Law), these, not having the Law (the Mosaic Law), are a law (a standard of moral conduct) to themselves, who show the Law's work (the Law of God) written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness and their thoughts alternately accusing or defending them."

The following principles may be drawn from this passage:

- (1) The Gentiles do not have the Law of God given through Moses.
- (2) Nevertheless the Gentiles have something of the Law of God ingrained in their very nature.
- (3) The Law of God must have been ingrained in the Gentiles' nature at their creation, and cannot have been wiped out or rendered inoperative by sin, since the Law still operates in them.
- (4) The Law of God in the Gentiles' nature reveals its work in their hearts by actions which have moral value, some of which agree outwardly with the conduct required by the Law given through Moses.
- (5) The Gentiles eventually codify their moral values (either orally or in written form), and thereby become a law to themselves.
- (6) The Gentiles' conscience judges their conduct as being consistent or inconsistent with their moral codes.

3. The continuing binding obligation of all human beings to the Law of God

The Law of God in its original form is binding on all human beings everywhere and at all times. No human being is without Law. All men are under its obligations. The Law of God in its republished form is binding on all human beings to whom it comes.

In Romans 3:19 we are told, "Now we know that whatever the Law says, it speaks to those who are under the Law, that every mouth may be closed, and all the world may become accountable to God."

This means that all human beings are obligated to fulfill the requirements of the Law of God. It also means that, since all unsaved human beings are Law-breakers, they stand under the condemnation of the Law of God. Thus all unsaved persons are under the requirements and the condemnation of the Law of God. This is what it means to be under the Law.