

1:22 -- "you who say that people should not commit adultery, do you commit adultery?"

Eighth Commandment -- "You shall not steal."

2:21 -- "You who preach against stealing, do you steal?"

Ninth Commandment -- "You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor."

1:29 -- "They are gossips"

1:30 -- "slanderers"

3:13-14 -- "Their throats are open graves; their tongues practice deceit. The poison of vipers is on their lips. Their mouths are full of cursing and bitterness."

Tenth Commandment -- "You shall not covet."

1:29 -- "They have become filled with . . . greed . . . They are full of envy."

Speaking of mankind in general Paul says, "They have become filled with every kind of wickedness, evil, . . . and depravity." (1:29)

Speaking of the Jews Paul says, "You who brag about the law, do you dishonor God by breaking the law?" (2:23)

And speaking of Jews and Gentiles Paul says, "What shall we conclude then? Are we any better? Not at all! We have already made the charge that Jews and Gentiles alike are all under sin. As it is written: 'There is no one righteous, not even one.'" (3:9-10)

But now we must ask: What about those human beings who do not have the Ten Commandments, who do not possess the revealed Law of God? Are they unrighteous? And if so, by what standard?

Paul takes up these questions in 2:14-15, where he identifies the standard by which the Gentiles are shown to be unrighteous:

For when the Gentiles who do not have the Law do by nature the things of the Law, these not having the Law are a law to themselves, who show the Law's work written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness and their thoughts alternately accusing or even defending them.

Paul summarizes his evidence concerning mankind's unrighteousness in 3:9-10, 12:

What then? Are we better than they? Not at all; for we have already charged that both Jews and Greeks are all under sin; as it is written, 'There is none righteous, not even one; . . . All have