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**HEART OF THE GOSPEL: ON THE RUN FROM THE LAW**

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**ROMANS 2:17-29, CSB 17**“Now if you call yourself a Jew, and rely on the law, and boast in God, **18**and know his will, and approve the things that are superior, being instructed from the law, **19**and if you are convinced that you are a guide for the blind, a light to those in darkness, **20**an instructor of the ignorant, a teacher of the immature, having the embodiment of knowledge and truth in the law— **21**you then, who teach another, don’t you teach yourself? You who preach, “You must not steal”—do you steal? **22**You who say, “You must not commit adultery”—do you commit adultery? You who detest idols, do you rob their temples? **23**You who boast in the law, do you dishonor God by breaking the law? **24**For, as it is written: The name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you. **25**Circumcision benefits you if you observe the law, but if you are a lawbreaker, your circumcision has become uncircumcision. **26**So if an uncircumcised man keeps the law’s requirements, will not his uncircumcision be counted as circumcision? **27**A man who is physically uncircumcised, but who keeps the law, will judge you who are a lawbreaker in spite of having the letter of the law and circumcision. **28**For a person is not a Jew who is one outwardly, and true circumcision is not something visible in the flesh. **29**On the contrary, a person is a Jew who is one inwardly, and circumcision is of the heart—by the Spirit, not the letter. That person’s praise is not from people but from God.”

**NOTES:**

1. **False assurance comes from idolizing what is not most important.**
2. **False assurance comes from ignoring what is most important.**