

**The Law of God reveals God's perfect standard of righteousness, which in turn reflects God's attribute of righteousness.**

**Whenever God's stand of righteousness confronts fall human beings it reveals sin.**

**Romans 3:20 tells us that "by the law is the knowledge of sin."**

**And what is sin? I John 3:4 tells us that " Whosoever commits sin transgresses also the law, for sin is the transgression of the law.**

**And in Romans 3:23 we are told that "all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." This cannot mean that we all fall short of the splendor of God's magnificence, for that would simply mean that we are not GOD, but are FINITE. The "glory of God" here must mean God's glorious attribute of righteousness ( because this " falling short" is related to sin) as reflected in His perfect standard of righteousness. His law; and the verse must mean that " all human beings have sinned (i.e. have transgressed the Law of God, since "sin is transgression of the law")a and continue to sin (i.e. fall short of God's standard of righteousness, which reflects God's glorious attribute of righteousness.)**

**Paul provides a great deal of evidence to show that unsaved human beings are unrighteous. He does this by pointing out various ways in which men transgress the Law of God, especially by violating the Ten Commandments.....**

**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 Romans 2:14-15, where he identifies the standard by which the Gentiles are shown to be unrighteous.**

**Paul summarizes his evidence concerning man's unrighteousness in Chapter 3, verses 9-10 and 12 ( let us read them)**

**B. This brings us to the second major strand of thought in this first section of the epistle: that of GOD'S RIGHTEOUS JUDGMENT**