

# Paul and the Law, #1: The Natural Law

## "The Life of Paul" episode 12

Acts 14:17

The Council of Jerusalem in 49 A.D. wrestled with the question, "Is the Mosaic Law for everyone? Should Gentile believers be required to keep it?" Paul's view was no. The Council agreed, and that's why you and I don't "eat kosher" today!

But it raises a bigger question, a question that we must answer sooner or later: what was Paul's "worldview"? What was his view about moral standards in the world, and in the church? Are there moral absolutes, or are morals relative to the time and place? And to which rules or laws are we Christians accountable-- The Golden Rule? The Mosaic Law? The 10 Commandments? The Law of Love?

Never hesitating to tromp where angels fear to tread, we'll tackle this head-on in a three-week rest stop along our "Life of Paul" journey. Paul's view of rules, standards, and laws falls into 3 parts: Natural Law, Mosaic Law, & Christ's Law.

### The *Good News*: Everyone has the Natural written-on-their-heart Law.

Acts 14:17 17:22-23 Romans 1:20, 26-27 2:14-15

1. It's un . \*not special but *general* revelation
2. It's m . \*not physical but *moral* rules
3. It's in . \*not the cop but your *conscience*
4. It's sourced in God. \*not independent but *derived*

### The *Bad News*: We are in d .

Romans 1:18-32 3:10-11 Jeremiah 17:9 2 Corinthians 4:4

### The *Good News*: \_\_\_\_\_ changes hearts.

Ezekiel 36:26-27 Acts 13:48 2 Cor 4:6

### What difference should the N/L make to you?

Thinkin' about others' lives . . .

1. Take a .
2. Take c .
3. Take i .
4. Take comfort .

Thinkin' about your life . . .

1. E ate misbehaviors.
2. Re ate your conscience.
3. Appreciate apologists.
4. Supplicate God to change hearts.