



March 26, 2006 • Dr. David Platt

**AN ALL-ENCOMPASSING VISION**

Romans 1-3

ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT QUESTIONS FACING THE CHURCH TODAY:

**What happens to people who never hear about Jesus?**

SEVEN AFFIRMATIONS (ROMANS)

- All people **know** God the Father (1:18-21).
  - ▶ Continual.
  - ▶ Revealed by **creation**.
  - ▶ **Clear**.
  - ▶ Sufficient.
- All people **reject** true knowledge of God (1:21-23).
  - ▶ “Aren’t they religious?” No, they are **idolaters**.
- There are no **innocent** people in the world (1:24-32; 2:12-16)
  - ▶ “What about the innocent guy in Africa who has never heard the Gospel before?”
- All people are **condemned** for rejecting God (2:17-3:20).
  - ▶ If someone could go to heaven because they never heard about Jesus, this would completely **deter** the missionary enterprise of the church.
- God has made a way of **salvation** for the lost (3:21-26).
  - ▶ Not, “Why only one way?” Instead, “Why is there any way **at all**?”
- People **cannot** come to God apart from Christ (3:27-31).
  - ▶ If they could, then **why** did Christ have to die?
- Christ **commands** the church to make the Gospel known to **all** peoples (10:5-15).
  - ▶ Where’s the **breakdown** in the mission?

BIBLICAL TRUTH:

God’s desire for The Church at Brook Hills is not to answer this question, but to **alleviate** the question altogether.



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