

## Are the Heathen Lost?

The Bible teaches that ALL men are lost because all have sinned (Rom 3:10-19). Since the wages of sin is death (Rom 6:23), all men are doomed to die.

It makes no difference whether a man is a Jew or a Gentile, a church member or a pagan, a civilized socialite or a savage heathen, he is a lost sinner. Unless he is born again, he will never see the kingdom of God (Jn 3:3).

There is only one way by which a person can be born again—that is by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ (Acts 4:12; 1 Cor 3:11). Jesus said, “I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but be me” (Jn 14:6).

But what about the heathen who has never heard the gospel?

The Bible teaches that God has revealed Himself to the heathen in two ways:

- a. by creation.
- b. by conscience.

The most unenlightened savage can know that there is a God by the creation about him. The beauties and marvels of creation proclaim His eternal power and Godhead (Rom 1:20).

Then there is also the witness to God in a man's conscience. Although he might never have heard of the law of God, his conscience serves as a monitor, accusing or excusing him (Rom 2:14, 15).

The light of God in creation or conscience is not enough to save a person. However, if a heathen were to live up to the light of God in creation and conscience, their God would make sure that he received the gospel. But the trouble is that most heathen people do not live up to the light they have received. Instead, they reject the knowledge of the true God, worship idols, and give themselves over to vile passions (Rom 1:21-32).

Notice God's answer to the question, “Are the heathen lost even though they have never heard the gospel?” “SO THEN THEY ARE WITHOUT EXCUSE” (Romans 1:20c).

It is because the heathen are lost that Christians are commanded to go into all the world and preach the gospel (Mt 28:19, 20).

“Therefore, go ye.”