



Word Of Life Ministries

A Ministry For All Nations

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Newsletter
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Circumcision

Colossians 2:11

In whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ.

The earliest reference to circumcision is found in Genesis 17:10 where God commanded Abraham to circumcise himself and all other males of his household including his slaves. According to this account, circumcision is one of the ways God re-established His covenant with Abraham. Circumcision was not merely a surgical procedure, it was above all a symbol of God's covenant with Abraham and his descendants.

Israel was not the only nation practicing circumcision in the ancient Near East. In fact, the Egyptians, Midianites, Ammonites, Edomites, Moabites, and Phoenicians considered it a common custom, but for Israel circumcision symbolized the physical and spiritual continuity of the Israelite generation. Israel renewed the covenant with God at the end of the wilderness wandering. Moses summoned the Jews to be circumcised in the foreskin of their hearts; it was to love God and bring their willfulness to end.

We are the spiritual Jews according to the Word of God (***But he is a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit, and not in the letter; whose praise is not of men, but of God—Romans 2:29***). We also have to be circumcised in our hearts in order to worship God in spirit and in truth. Just professing to be a Christian is not enough if we're not living according to the Word of God in order for us to be the reflection of His Son.

Our Scripture text denotes circumcision as a cutting off or removal of the believer's sinful nature is broken or removed by Jesus Christ. Jesus can only remove the sinful nature when we allow Him. Jesus will never go against our will. If we desire to continue in sin, then He will allow it.

This is the reason why there are so many professing Christians practicing sin. Many received salvation because of guilt and shame, it was not from the heart; and because it was not from the heart they continue to practice and have actions of the secular world. No one can come in contact with Jesus and stay the same. Their behavior is different, their communication is different.

We can either practice godliness or sinfulness. What is sin? Sin is everything that is opposite of the Word of God. Whatever we practice is what we will be good at. As Christians we have to purposely live according to the Word of God if we want to be children of God.

We as a people have sinned against God and the only way we could be reunited with Him was through the sacrifice of Jesus. Jesus died for us to be free from sin, not to continue to practice sin (***What shall we say then?***

Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid, How shall we that are dead to sin live any longer therein—Romans 6:1-2)? The Bible has gray areas that does not simply say certain actions are sin, such as listening to secular music and attending secular concerts. Certain movies we shouldn't watch as Christians, but if we have not received the Spirit of Christ in our hearts we will not know what is acceptable and not acceptable

to God because our hearts and minds have not been transformed by the Word of God.

"Sugar-coated" messages are sending a lot of professing Christians to hell because they have been ministered by pastors that have not received Christ in their heart themselves; so they teach God loves you and you can live any kind of way you want and God still loves you. Yes, God does love everyone, but God has given Christians an instruction manual to adhere to, and we are to live our lives according to the manual, the Bible.

The Bible has instructed Christians or believers not to serve sin (***Knowing this that our man is crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin—Romans 6:6***). How would one know if he or she is sinning, they wouldn't know if they don't read and study the Bible? Just because they don't know the Bible will not excuse them from God's discipline.

As professing Christians, it's our responsibility to read and study the Bible, and then submit our lives to what God has instructed us to live by, if not, then we're being disobedient to the Word of God purposely, and the wages of sin is death either physically or spiritually, either one of these will cause one to be hell bound.

God has given us a way to escape the wrath that is going to come upon the earth. Judgment is coming whether people believe in God or not. Their disbelief will not stop the coming of the Son of God from coming. When He first came to earth He came with meekness, but when He return it will be with the wrath of God to compensate those that rejected Him and His Father as well as rejecting His Word.

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In order to escape the wrath of God, we must be a people that will worship Him in spirit and in truth. That's submitting ourselves to His instructions. Those whose heart has been circumcised are willing to submit themselves to the written Word of God. Those who haven't will always find an excuse the reason why they don't. God's Word is easy to adhere to when you have the Spirit of Christ living within you.

Yes, everyone has a portion of God's Spirit within them, but when one has been born of the Spirit, Jesus will be in their heart; as well as the Father. *(Jesus answered and said unto him If a man love me, he will keep my Words; and my Father will love him, and We will come unto him and make Our abode with him—John 14:23).* Abode means to live, the Father and Son will be living within the persons being. This is what makes the Christian different from the non-believer.

Sadly, many professing Christians don't want to hear the truth of God's Word, they want to hear "Bless Me" messages that will not give them entrance to heaven. Yes, God will bless His people, but God is more concern about your spirit being rich than your bank account being rich.

God blesses all of His creation whether they know it or accept that it is He that is blessing them. Although He's blessings them does not mean they will enter heaven. God blesses the just as well as the unjust. Prosperity does not mean that you are in right relationship with God. None but the righteous shall enter heaven. Religion and hypocrisy will send one to hell *(But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death—Revelation 21:7).*

Serving God is not hard, and it's rewarding for this life and for the world to come. God hasn't given us instructions we can't follow. It depends on whether or not we are willing to follow the instructions.

Many of God's people want to serve Him and Satan. It has to be one or the other, we can't serve God and Satan. Whoever we serve that's who servant we will be *(Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness—Romans 6:16).*

One may say, I don't drink, or fornicate or commit adultery, but do you lie, curse, envy, hold on to unforgiveness? These actions will send you to hell just like drinking, fornicating and adultery. People categorize sin, God does not. If we live opposite of His instructions, then we're practicing sin, and the wages of sin is death.

The Bible instructs the believer to examine themselves to see if they are in the faith *(Examine yourselves whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates—2nd Corinthians 13:5).* If Christ truly lives within you, then there should be a change in your speech, and behavior.

Christians have been bought with a price, their bodies don't belong to them, it belongs to God. We should present our bodies as living sacrifices, holy and acceptable to God. When we do this, then we are the people of God. We can't serve God on our terms. Our thoughts are not His thoughts nor is our ways until we become conformed to His Word.

God nor His Word changes, what He said in His Word over two thousand years ago, still goes for those that profess to be Christians in this dispensation.

Jesus is soon to return and the closer to His return there are more false doctrines and ministers sent by Satan to confuse and distract people from God. Being a Christian is more than just professing to be a Christian, you must take the time to read and study God's Word. When you do He will give you more and more revelation of His Word.

You don't read and study His Word to receive intellectual knowledge or how many Scriptures you can quote. If you can't live by what you quote, your quoting of Scriptures are in vain as well as your religion.

When the heart has been circumcised the individual opens their heart for Jesus to come in and be Lord. Jesus wants to be more than a Savior, He wants to be Lord of your life, Lord over your decisions, and Lord in every area of your life.

He wants His people to accept Him from the heart, not from guilt, shame or fear. When heart salvation is accepted there will be a change in the person. What is happening on the inside will reflect on the outside.

God loves His people, but God does not love sin nor will He tolerate sin from His people. We will either live according to His Word or live according to what we think is right. What we think is right is wrong when it does not align with God's Word.

Both heaven and hell is eternal and God has given everyone a choice where they will spend eternity. We can't serve God on part-time basis, it's all the time or nothing. It's living according to His instructions and not what we think. Take time and study God's Word, make a conscious decision to adhere to it, and you will begin to feel and experience a spiritual change that only God can do by His Spirit and His Word.

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If you have not received Jesus as your Lord and Savior, all you have to do is ask God to forgive you of your sins. Let Him know that you are aware that you have not submitted yourself to the Lord or His doctrine. Ask God to forgive you of your sins. Ask Him to save you, tell Him you accept His salvation by His Son.

If you believe that Jesus is the Son of God, if you believe that Jesus died for your sins. If you believe that He was risen from the grave. Then you are saved.

Confess with your mouth that you're saved.

Romans 10:9-11

That if thou shall confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

For the Scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on Him shall not be ashamed.

If you have truly accepted salvation, your heart and spirit has been changed. You will feel the cleanliness within your spirit and heart. Now it's your responsibility to read the Word of God, pray, fast and submit yourself to the Word of God. If you can attend worship service at church or at your facility, you should attend to be strengthen spiritually. As you submit yourself to the doctrine of the Bible you will see a change in your character and attributes.

You can't receive salvation and stay the same. That was the reason Jesus died so that you would be free from the bondage of sin. You can't change yourself, He will change you, if you allow Him.

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walk in victory***