

Colossians

(13) True Circumcision and Baptism

Col 2:8-13

8 See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deception, according to the tradition of men, according to the elementary principles of the world, rather than according to Christ. 9 For in Him all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form, 10 and in Him you have been made complete, and He is the head over all rule and authority; 11 and in Him you were also circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, in the removal of the body of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ; 12 having been buried with Him in baptism, in which you were also raised up with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead.

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The circumcision of Christ...2:11

What (2) truths has Paul just stated? 2:10

What truth does Paul immediately add? 2:11 see Phil.3:2-3

What is one aspect of circumcision declared in Scripture? Gen.17:10-14

Was (or is) physical circumcision a *requirement* of spiritual salvation? Rom.9:6-8; 2:25, 28-29

How does Paul drive this point home to both Jew and Gentile? Rom.4:7-12; Eph.2:8-9

How else is this taught in the NT? Acts 7:51; Rom.2:29

How is this heart-circumcision taught in other OT Scriptures? Deut.30:6; Jer.9:26

The baptism of Christ...2:12

What truth does Paul now add? 2:12a; Rom.6:1-7; 1Cor.12:13; Gal.3:27;

How does Paul express this same truth to the Galatians? Gal.2:20

What's the *really great news* about being baptized with Christ? 2:12b; Eph.2:4-7

From 2:11 and 2:12, what was obviously part of the 'deceptive philosophy' at Colossae?

And what is the clear doctrinal statement addressing all of this? 2:10

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The circumcision of Christ...2:11

What (2) truths has Paul just stated? 2:10

In Him (Christ) you have been made complete and He is Head over all rule/authority!

What truth does Paul immediately add? 2:11 see Phil.3:2-3

In Him you were also circumcised (putting off sinful nature), by Christ, not man.

What is one aspect of circumcision declared in Scripture? Gen.17:10-14

A physical act on every male to be a 'sign of the covenant'... between God/Jews as nation.

Was (or is) physical circumcision a *requirement* of spiritual salvation? Rom.9:6-8; 2:25, 28-29

NO! Physical circumcision was never about salvation! Salvation is not in the flesh, vs.28

How does Paul drive this point home to both Jew and Gentile? Rom.4:7-12; Eph.2:8-9

Regarding salvation (4:7-8), Abraham was saved *before* circumcision. By faith, alone...

How else is this taught in the NT? Acts 7:51; Rom.2:29

Physically circumcised Jews but *uncircumcised in heart*. God's circumcision is of the heart

How is this heart-circumcision taught in other OT Scriptures? Deut.30:6; Jer.9:26

Physical circumcision is a *picture* of circumcision of the heart, God's work of salvation.

The baptism of Christ...2:12

What truth does Paul now add? 2:12a; Rom.6:1-7; 1Cor.12:13; Gal.3:27;

In Christ, we have been buried with Him in baptism. This is a spiritual act at salvation.

How does Paul express this same truth to the Galatians? Gal.2:20

Paul says he has been (past tense) crucified with Christ. All believers can say the same.

What's the *really great news* about being baptized with Christ? 2:12b; Eph.2:4-7

By faith in Him, we've been (past tense) raised with Him from the dead. Alive in Christ!

From 2:11 and 2:12, what was obviously part of the 'deceptive philosophy' at Colossae?

You need to be circumcised to be saved (Acts 15) and baptism is required to be saved.

And what is the clear doctrinal statement addressing all of this? 2:10

In Him you (believers) have been made complete. Nothing can be added. He is Lord!