

Colossians Chapter 2 Part 2

Col. 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**:

- You are a soul (Gen.2:7). It is the real you. But since Adams fall, your soul has found itself trapped in a sinful body (Rom.7:1–5, Php.3:21). We are no longer born in the image of God, but in the image of Adams (Gen.5:3). We are born dead in trespasses and sins (Eph. 2:1,5). Thus, we understand the following references regarding the soul's connection with the body, Ez.18:20, Lev.5:2.
- Before Adam fell, it is possible that his soul was disconnected from his flesh. Even if it had been joined to the flesh, it would have mattered little, for Adam's flesh was sinless until the fall. When Adam ate of the fruit his spirit died and he lost fellowship with God (Jn.3:6-7, Eph.2:18). Every lost man is being led by the spirit of this world (Eph.2:2).
- Upon salvation, the soul is put off from the body and is free to remarry (Rom. 7:1-6), for it is placed "in the Spirit" (Rom. 8:9–10). The Christian's spirit is now joined to Christ's Spirit (1 Cor. 6:17, Rom.8:9).
- This "operation" (vs. 12) is performed by the knife of God (Heb. 4:12) and is something no O.T. saint ever received.

Col. 2:12-13 Buried with him in baptism (not water), wherein also ye are risen with *him* through the faith of the **operation of God**, who hath raised him from the dead. **13** And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having **forgiven you all trespasses**;

"Buried with him in baptism" is clearly a reference to the baptism of the Holy Spirit (1Cor.12:13) which every believer receives upon salvation. Most religions (even Baptists) teach that this refers to water baptism and cite Eph.4:5 as proof of only one kind of baptism. That is ignorance and leads to heresy. **There Are No Less Than Seven Baptisms in Scripture**, (baptism unto Moses, of John, of suffering, of the Jews, of the Gentiles, of the Holy Ghost, and of fire). This spiritual "operation of God" provides forgiveness of "all trespasses" (redemption). God seals the believers soul (Eph.1:13, 4:30) with Holy Ghost baptism and the new believer is declared sinless (1Jn.3:9).

Col. 2:14-15 Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and **took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross**; **15** And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

Four great transactions accompanied the finished work of Jesus Christ on Calvary.

1. He **blotted out** "the handwriting of ordinances" (vs. 14). See also Acts 15:10–11 and Eph. 2:15.
2. He took "the handwriting...**out of the way**" (vs. 14). It has no hold on the Christian (Rom. 6:4–20, Gal. 4:1–6).
3. He **nailed** "it to his cross," (vs. 14) so it dies there with Him (Rom.6:6) and is a cancelled debt (Gal.2:20, 3:13).
4. He made a fool out of the Devil, and his angels, demons, and unclean spirits; and He did it publicly as on a stage before a packed house "triumphing over them in it" (vs.15, Eph.2:7). The crucifixion was an "arena of faith," and it witnessed the greatest combat ever fought on this earth (Mat.27:45, Psa.22). The outcome of this combat determined universal authority (Isa.14:13, 9:6) in the future, and the winner was given a name above "...every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come", Eph. 1:21.

Col. 2:16-23 Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath *days*...

These verses are a warning to all believers regarding what to avoid while seeking to live the Christian life. It exposes the legalistic practices of false religion and contains some key phrases which expose this approach to personal righteousness: **voluntary humility** (vs.18), **fleshly mind** (vs.18), **will worship** (vs.23). Fleshly efforts will rob you of your reward (vs.18). Man (religion) will always seek to judge (vs.16) and beguile (vs.18) his fellow man into legalistic religious practices in order to glory in their own goodness (Gal.6:12-13). Paul warned against this in **Gal.3:3**, "Are ye so foolish? having begun in the Spirit, are ye now made perfect by the flesh?"

Verse 17 reveals, however, that some O.T. ceremonies and ordinances will be observed again in the Millennium. They are "a shadow of things to come", "but the body is of Christ". A believer is to walk in the Spirit (Rom.8:12-13, Gal.5:16).