

Complete in Christ

Colossians 2: 11 – 15

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Series: Living In Contentment

Colossians 2: 11 - 15

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. ¹³ When you were dead in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our transgressions, ¹⁴ having canceled out the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us, which was hostile to us; and He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. ¹⁵ When He had disarmed the rulers and authorities, He made a public display of them, having triumphed over them through Him.

Complete Salvation Vv. 11 – 12.

- Man will take God's law and corrupt it.
 - Circumcision becomes legalistic instead of spiritual.
 - Circumcision identified and separated God's chosen.
 - Circumcision was never just physical, but God called for the heart to be circumcised as well.
 - God was always concerned about the heart, not just the physical rite.
 - Baptism has become legalistic instead of spiritual.
 - When we were saved we were placed in Christ.
 - The rite of baptism points to the internal change.
 - Notice our salvation is the working of God.

Complete Forgiveness. Vv. 13 – 14.

- Our salvation is complete without any religious ritual.
 - Unbelievers live in a realm of spiritual death.
 - God initiates the salvation process.
- God's forgiveness is characterized by:
 - It is gracious.
 - It is complete.
 - It is eager.
 - It is certain.
 - It is unequalled.
 - It is motivating.

Complete Forgiveness. Vv. 13 – 14.

- We were guilty of sin with like a self autographed IOU.
 - This was a listing of decrees against us – we broke the law.
 - This list was hostile to us – we were guilty and it was enough to condemn us.
- All our guilt from sin has been canceled out.
 - Like a chalkboard having been erased.
 - Jesus was nailed to the cross making that payment for us, so there is no sin left to condemn us.

Complete Victory V. 15.

- Jesus made a public display of His defeat of all demonic powers and Satan.
 - Jesus stripped them of their power.
 - Jesus triumphed over them, picturing a Roman general parading his defeated enemies in a triumph in Rome.
 - Therefore it is foolish to worship angels or any celestial or human power.

Conclusion

- Our salvation is complete in Christ and we must not allow religious ritual to add to that salvation.
- Our Forgiveness is complete in Christ so we have been completely forgiven of all sin which has been wiped away and nailed to the cross.
- Our victory is complete in Christ for He is the victor over all powers in the universe, physical and spiritual.