
CIRCUMCISION

It's A Man's World

"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;" Colossians 2:11.

It's possible to see Bible Truth on this matter; but, we must stay away from those worldly gender traps of sexism and women's rights to get a full meaning. Circumcision is such a great subject, that it started after only 11 chapters in the Bible expired. It runs throughout Israel, finding its Spiritual fulfillment in the circumcision of Jesus; according to the verse quote of Colossians, above.

Circumcision has its culmination on the cross and also, its fulfillment. On Calvary, the sign of circumcision is "**filled up**" and guaranteed by the perfect offering of Jesus Christ. Now, all that was included in the promise made to Abraham, comes alive to all who believe in the finished work - the circumcision death of Jesus Christ.

This **Newsletter** wants to show some areas that are misunderstood; but, are clearly necessary in bringing the **Promise** to mankind. I have written seventeen pages on circumcision; which, in my "circumcised heart" way of thinking, are solid proofs on this subject. The writing covers areas that are ignored, misapplied or misunderstood by too many - even among our Baptist brethren.

If you email me, I'll gladly send the writing to you. It addresses: 1) "Covenant Idea;" 2) "Partial Cutting and Full Body;" 3) "Taken In Another;" 4) "Covenant: It's More Than Words;" 5) "Romans Four;" 6) "Passing Through;" and, 7) "Females and Circumcision."

This writing is about females in the Covenant of PROMISE. First off, females were not required to be circumcised. There's the obvious reason why males only were placed under this order of the **Covenant of Promise**. Then, there is the Bible reason; which, explains why this is so.

You'll find this article to show the position of males and females in the **Promise** made to Abraham, within the Old Covenant; as well as, what both genders experience in the fulfillment of the **Promise**, when arriving at the New Covenant.

The sub-title is "**It's A Man's World**", so we begin with Adam. Any Sunday School student can tell you that the first Adam brought sin into the world which

separated man from God. Therefore, male - not female, is guilty of passing death upon all men (Ro 5:12).

Next, we learn of circumcision, when God called Abraham to become the father of a great nation. "**And you shall be circumcised...and it shall be the SIGN of the COVENANT between you and Me,**" Genesis 17:11.

Noting that in the Old, Covenant circumcision was a sign. By this we are told that it wasn't the REAL circumcision; its true purpose pointed to a future event. As a type, Abraham's circumcision was only a partial removal of his body. But, when Jesus died on Calvary, circumcision was no longer a sign. It was the real act of the removal of the body - full payment for sin; and, the final act of circumcision that will be required by God. Thus, "In Him," all who believe are circumcised. The body of the flesh (our flesh) is removed in the circumcision of Christ. We must keep in mind that baptism is a "burial." We bury dead men; not those alive. Neither, do we kill sinners by water. Sinners die on the cross with Jesus. Further, sinners die, but once. Once saved, always.

Of course, we still have our fleshly bodies. But, in God's **declarative will**, we are beneficiaries of the New Covenant because our fleshly bodies died on the cross with Jesus. Here's what took place: The fleshly stronghold that held man in sin, was removed by Christ. Read and rejoice over this in Romans 7:6a: "**But now we have been released from the Law, having died to that by which we were bound.**" Upon payment for sin, our spirits are set free, flying into the New Covenant; not some day - by and by, but at first faith.

Relative to Christ and His work at Calvary, the Holy Spirit operates. And, His job is with man. When we died by His circumcision, the Holy Spirit enacted all New Covenant Laws on the behalf of every believer. **Yes**, not every saved person walks by faith; but, with the circumcision of Christ, New Covenant life is given to "whosoever will" (Ro 10:13). We must understand that no one can be saved without removal of Law. That was cited from Romans 7:6. Jesus, "**took it out of the way, nailing it to His cross:**" (Col 2:14).

Also note, people of the Old Covenant were saved by God's forbearance; His **holding back**, "**passing over the sins previously committed**" (Ro 3:25). Not until the Law was removed, could men be saved. But, first, it had to be fulfilled. Jesus did it all.

Another reason we present circumcision with the idea that it is a man's world, is to emphasize man's God given authority. Man is responsible for everything, including the order of all things. Adam named every animal. And so, when man is correct, all under him are blessed. One day, when Jesus reigns the earth, the creation will groan, no longer. But, thank God, Jesus does reign over the spiritual

realm of man; that's what the New Covenant is about and, that's why we must be faithful to His work. Otherwise, we shall be **persona non grata** (unacceptable).

The order of God's house has man in charge; especially, when we get to the New Covenant. Here, Jesus is Head and, therefore, in charge. In the **Promise Covenant**, we see an **economy** or house that controls the people of God. It is a dispensation; an orderly arrangement. In the Old Covenant, Israel was God's house. Everyone living in the house was relative to the head of the house. When God blessed the male, He blessed all those in his house, as well.

And, it remains a man's world, even now that we are in the New Covenant. The Head of all things is Christ. While, it is hard not to mention the Lord's body, His church, when speaking about authority; we have to remember that the **church is feminine**. She will marry Christ soon, but, until then, Christ is in control of Her and Her actions. Of course, Her actions are of the New Covenant and carry the authority given to the church by Christ. Thus, we consider the church to be what His house, actually is; that is, as a representation of His work, as long as She walks in the Spirit, honoring Her Head in the body, while carrying out His commission of, "Go, into all the world," Mt 28:19-20.

Looking again at the Covenant between God and Abraham, we see that the sign of circumcision covered Sara and Isaac. They were covenant benefactors, with full rights and privileges, the same as the head, Abraham. In the **Promise Covenant**, God was, and is, forming a people for His own name. All descendants of Abraham would use the covenant sign to keep themselves pure, and all males were circumcised. But, all males did not inherit. Of course, circumcision carries a morality that God's people must live by; and, that's what embodies faithfulness - **morality**.

Just one more point; an important point, however; that is, the **AUTHORITY** to bless, within the Covenant. Again, the male was given the authority to administer the sign of the Covenant. And, with the authority, came the right to bless the offspring. God, certainly, used Sarah and Rebekah to ensure the blessing went to the proper child; but, it was the male that did the actual blessing. When the blessing came, it came by laying on of the hands by the head of the house, the male. Abraham passed it to Isaac; Isaac to Jacob and, so on; until, it came to the Son of Joseph and Mary. Today, that Covenant which God made with Abraham is passed on to the Person of Christ Jesus. Nothing comes to us unless it comes through Jesus.

Females play a very important part in passing the blessing of the **Promise Covenant**. Sara "**received ability to conceive**" (Hebrews 11:11) and, she represents the New Jerusalem, today. Her children are of the promise which Abraham looked

toward in faith. It was "a city, whose builder and maker is God," (Heb 11:10). Then, notice that Rebekah dressed up Jacob to persuade Isaac that he was passing the BIRTHRIGHT on to the proper child. And, because Esau, like many today, sold his BIRTHRIGHT, God was behind Rebekah's wishes, all the way. We see then, that there is more to inheriting than being a child of the Promise. The promise must be precious to our hearts; you know, in a CIRCUMCISED way.

Finally, the church. She is feminine. She will marry Christ, as noted. But, in Matthew 25:1-13, we see that waiting for the Bridegroom, even having lamps, isn't the same as WATCHING and being on the alert (v13). Five virgins were foolish in that they did not take oil with them. Oil, almost always symbolic of the Holy Spirit, must be always available; at our reach and, at the time we need Him. There's no "going out" time when the Bridegroom comes. In the words of Jesus, "for you do not know the day nor the hour."

It all began with Abraham's Promise. It all ended in the **Seed** of Abraham, the man, **Christ Jesus**. We become Christ's when we have the fleshly body removed, according to Colossians 2:11. Christ took care of the sinful body in **His Circumcision**. He was cursed for us, "in order that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles...through faith," Galatians 3:14.