

**Series "Jesus Is First"**  
**"The Fullness in Christ"**  
**Colossians 2:11-15**  
**Part-8**

**We now change from "Who Christ is" (all sufficient), to "What Christ has done!"**

**Identification With Him: Colossians 2:11-12**

**Together With Him: Colossians 2:13**

**Thought Of Our Passage:** "The Believer's Salvation Is Received Apart From Ritual, Forgiveness Apart From Human Work, A Complete All-Inclusive Salvation."

**1. Verse 11 – We Are Sanctified In Him**

**2. Verse 12 – We Are Risen With Him**

**3. Verses 13-15 – We Have Life In Him**

**1. Verse 11 – We Are Sanctified In Him:**

Colossians 2:11

"and" – This word takes us back to the previous verses that gives us the context of "Who Christ is." Paul stated that Jesus Christ is fully God, Colossians 2:9-10.

"in Him you were also circumcised" – God gave to Abraham covenant nation, Genesis 17:9-14. It was the cutting away of a small portion of flesh. It symbolized the cutting away of the old life, with its desires, old sinful life.

Sanctification - "to make holy; set apart as sacred; consecrate, to purify or free from sin;" Salvation!

Notice what he says here! – "with a circumcision made without hands," – It is spiritual, it is of the heart. (Total break with the old position and condition, not a reform but a revolution of man's standing and state)

Jewish boys were circumcised on the eighth day after birth – Leviticus 12:2-3.

It was a sign that they belonged to a covenant nation. Genesis 17:10-14

1. Circumcision Alone Brought Salvation.

Romans 2:25; Romans 2:28-29; Romans 9:6

## 2. Circumcision was an outward demonstration that Man Was Born Sinful and Needed Cleansing.

The illustration of circumcision – “Cutting away of the skin of male reproductive organ showed that man needed cleansing at the deepest level. It was at the level that produces life, and all that is produced is sinful.”

Deuteronomy 10:16; Deuteronomy 30:6; Jeremiah 4:4

“in the removal of the body of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ;” – here it is, the whole body of flesh by Jesus Christ on the cross. (Crucifixion)

Philippians 3:3

Romans 6:6 – “done away with” – destroyed; “to be render useless, destroy, vanish away, make void.”

Paul tells us in Romans that this old nature wants to take control and we have a new nature, Romans 7:23-24.

## **2. Verse 12 – We Are Risen With Him:**

Colossians 2:12 – “having been buried with Him in baptism,” – the believer being identified with the death, burial and resurrection; The Gospel Message, 1 Corinthians 15:3-4.

“baptism” – The literal meaning is “to dip, to immerse.” The figurative meaning is “to be identified with,” 1 Corinthians 10:1-2.

1 Corinthians 12:13 – “For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body,”

“in which you were also raised up with Him” – This is not future, it is now!

Ephesians 2:6 – “and raised us up with Him,”

Romans 6:8-11

“consider” – “to set to our account, to compute.” We are to consider two things:

1. We are dead to sin.
2. We are alive to God in Christ Jesus.

“through faith” – This all took place in our account when we placed our faith in Jesus Christ. Not a ritual or rite! Faith in what Jesus Christ did!

"in the working of God," – The Greek word "Energiea" we get our English word "energy." That same power that raised Jesus is at work in us.

"who raised Him from the dead." – Verses say Jesus, The Father, The Holy Spirit!

### **3. Verses 13-15 – We Have Life In Him:**

Colossians 2:13

We Were Spiritually Dead: "When you were dead" – This is describing these believers prior to faith. We are born spiritually dead.

Ephesians 2:1-2; 1 Corinthians 2:14

"in your transgressions" – literally, "side-slip," lapse or deviation, unintentional error or willful.

"and the uncircumcision of your flesh," – speaks of the old nature, unregenerate. How sad if the story ended here!

Given New Life: "He made you alive together with Him," – God is the one that must make us alive; Regeneration, New Birth. Forgiveness is apart from human work.

Forgiveness Of Our Sins: "having forgiven us all our transgressions," – This is what brings great joy to the heart, is knowing that we have been forgiven!

Spiritual life apart from forgiveness is inconceivable! It's impossible.

Psalms 32:1-2

This forgiveness is available to all! Acts 10:43

Acts 13:39

We are free from the power of sin, then forgiven of our sins, now free from the Law.

Colossians 2:14

God Canceled The Debt: "having canceled out the certificate of debt"

"consisting of decrees against us" – We all have a debt against ourselves because we have violated the laws of God.

“and which was hostile to us;” – It was enough to condemn us to hell.

Galatians 3:10

God Removed The Bill: “and He has taken it out of the way,” – means to “wipe off,” to erase a blackboard. Bill paid by blotting out.

The Bill Perished Along With Christ: “having nailed it to the cross.”

Verse 15 – Complete Victory

Colossians 2:15 – “When He had disarmed the rulers and authorities,” – This speaks of demonic powers arrayed against Christ and His Church; Removal of power!

“disarmed” – literally, “stripping him.”

“rulers and authorities” – fallen angels.

Hebrews 2:14

“having triumphed over them through Him.” – Through the death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus Christ, He has demonstrated His victory over sin.

**Application:** What we need to Know, Believe, and Present –

1. To Know - Romans 6:6 – “knowing this, that our old self was crucified with Him, that our body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin;”
2. Believe – Romans 6:11 – “Even so consider yourselves to be dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus.”
3. Present – Romans 6:13 – “but present yourselves to God as those alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God.”