

INSIDE OUT

Romans 2:25-29

Gen 17:9-14; Lev 12:3

Eph 2:11–12 - 11 Therefore remember that formerly you, the Gentiles in the flesh, who are called "Uncircumcision" by the so-called "Circumcision," which is performed in the flesh by human hands-- 12 remember that you were at that time separate from Christ, excluded from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world.

Two perspectives...

I. THE PROBLEM WITH RITUALS

1 Sam 15:22 - ... Has the LORD as much delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed than the fat of rams.

Rom 2:25 For indeed circumcision is of value if you practice the Law; but if you are a transgressor of the Law, your circumcision has become uncircumcision.

Two perspectives...

I. THE PROBLEM WITH RITUALS

Gal 5:2–4 - 2 Behold I, Paul, say to you that if you receive circumcision, Christ will be of no benefit to you. 3 And I testify again to every man who receives circumcision, that he is under obligation to keep the whole Law. 4 You have been severed from Christ, you who are seeking to be justified by law; you have fallen from grace.

Two perspectives...

I. THE PROBLEM WITH RITUALS

26 So if the uncircumcised man keeps the requirements of the Law, will not his uncircumcision be regarded as circumcision?

Two perspectives...

I. THE PROBLEM WITH RITUALS

27 And he who is physically uncircumcised, if he keeps the Law, will he not judge you who though having the letter of the Law and circumcision are a transgressor of the Law?

Two perspectives...

I. THE PROBLEM WITH RITUALS

Matt 12:41-42 – 41 The men of Nineveh will stand up with this generation at the judgment, and will condemn it because they repented at the preaching of Jonah; and behold, something greater than Jonah is here. 42 “The Queen of the South will rise up with this generation at the judgment and will condemn it, because she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and behold, something greater than Solomon is here.

I. THE PROBLEM WITH RITUALS

27 And he who is physically uncircumcised, if he keeps the Law, will he not judge you who though having the letter of the Law and circumcision are a transgressor of the Law?

Rom 7:6 - But now we have been released from the Law...so that we serve in newness of the Spirit and not in oldness of the letter.

2 Cor 3:6 – (we are) servants of a new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life...

Two perspectives...

I. THE PROBLEM WITH RITUALS

II. THE PRIORITY OF REGENERATION

28 For he is not a Jew who is one outwardly, nor is circumcision that which is outward in the flesh. 29 But he is a Jew who is one inwardly; and circumcision is that which is of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the letter...

II. THE PRIORITY OF REGENERATION

Deut 10:16 - So circumcise your heart...

Deut 30:6 - ...the LORD your God will circumcise your heart ... to love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul...

Jer 4:4 - Circumcise yourselves to the LORD And remove the foreskins of your heart ... Or else My wrath will go forth like fire And burn with none to quench it, Because of the evil of your deeds.

II. THE PRIORITY OF REGENERATION

29 But he is a Jew who is one inwardly; and circumcision is that which is of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the letter...

Eph 2:1 - And you were dead in your trespasses and sins...

Eph 2:5 even when we were dead in our transgressions, (God) made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved)...

II. THE PRIORITY OF REGENERATION

Isa 44:3 - ... I will pour out My Spirit on your offspring...

*Eze 36:26–27 - 26 "Moreover, I will give you a new heart...
27 "I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in
My statutes, and you will be careful to observe My
ordinances.*

*Jer 31:33 - "But this is the covenant which I will make with
the house of Israel after those days," declares the LORD, "I
will put My law within them and on their heart I will write
it; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.*

II. THE PRIORITY OF REGENERATION

Phil 3:3 - for we are the true circumcision, who worship in the Spirit of God and glory in Christ Jesus and put no confidence in the flesh,

John 3:3 - Jesus answered and said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God."

John 3:10 - Jesus ... said to him, "Are you the teacher of Israel and do not understand these things?"

II. THE PRIORITY OF REGENERATION

29 ... and his praise is not from men, but from God.

John 5:44 - ... you receive glory from one another and you do not seek the glory that is from the one and only God...

*Eph 2:14–16, 18 - 14 For He Himself is our peace, who made both groups into one and broke down the barrier of the dividing wall, 15 by abolishing in His flesh the enmity, which is the Law of commandments contained in ordinances, so that in Himself He might make the two into **one new man**, thus establishing peace, 16 and might reconcile them **both in one body** to God through the cross, by it having put to death the enmity...18 for through Him we **both** have our access in one Spirit to the Father.*

Gal 3:28 - There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

Phil 3:4–5 - 4 ... If anyone else has a mind to put confidence in the flesh, I far more: 5 circumcised the eighth day...

1 Sam 16:7 - ... God sees not as man sees, for man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.

*Psa 139:1-4 – 1 You have searched me and known me...4
... O Lord, You know it all...*

*Heb 4:13 - And there is no creature hidden from His
sight, but all things are open and laid bare to the eyes of
Him with whom we have to do.*