



**Calvary Chapel South Bay  
Men's Ministry 2018 – 19**

**“Putting Christ First”**

**Session 8**

**December 4, 2018**

**“The circumcision of Christ”**

Paul has a passionate care for the church. His desire is that they won't be deceived and cheated by false teachers of all that is theirs in Christ. In this passage, he is speaking against the legalists who would add the requirements of the law to God's grace. But the cross of Christ has done what the law could not do; it has brought us from death to life. Through the cross Christ has **“put off”** our sins, **“wiped out”** the requirement of meeting the law for salvation, and **“disarmed”** our accuser; Satan. What we could never do by our own works has been accomplished by the **“working of God.”**

Are you still striving to “earn” salvation or God's love by your own works? Allow this passage to remind you that God has done all the work for you through the cross of Jesus Christ.

**Passage:** Colossians 2:11-15

**Personal Study Time Questions:**

**Scripture: Colossians 2:11**

Paul speaks of a different kind of circumcision in this verse. How does he describe this circumcision that is different from the one Israel would know about?

**Scripture: Colossians 2:12**

What does the **“circumcision of Christ”** involve? In your own words, what is this verse describing?

**Scripture: Colossians 2:13**

In the next three verses, Paul tells us what the **“working of God”** has achieved that all our works of the law could not (*note the common word **“having”** in each of the next three verses*). What is the first thing God has done in taking us from death to life?

**Scripture: Colossians 2:14**

The **“handwriting of requirements”** is talking about the Law. What does verse 14 say about the Law and what God has done with it?

**Scripture: Colossians 2:15; Romans 8:37**

Finally, what has the cross done with Satan, our accuser? As we are now joined to Christ, His victory is ours. How does Romans 8:37 put it?

**Personal meditation time with Jesus:**

It is an ongoing battle to not fall back into a works-oriented relationship with Jesus, especially since we are called to ministry. **Read Romans 7:1-6** and meditate on how it describes our changed relationship to the Law. What does Paul compare that relationship to? How can Paul’s reference to death in verses 4 and 6 help you to not fall into, or help you get out of, a works-based way of relating to God? What is the way we are now meant to relate to and **“serve”** God according to Romans 7:6?

**Hide God’s Word in your heart (Ps. 119:11):**

“But now we have been delivered from the law, having died to what we were held by, so that we should serve in the newness of the Spirit and not in the oldness of the letter.”

Romans 7:6