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BE CIRCUMCISED

God commanded all Jewish males to be circumcised. Although this cutting away of the fleshly sheath of the penis marked them as one of God's chosen people, it had another purpose that was health related. Foreskin retained could harbor germs hidden in the folds. Removing the foreskin made for cleanliness.

Every believer is also commanded to be circumcised. God spoke it to Moses, and it applied to all believers of both the Old and New Testaments. Really? Omigosh! How can that be so for both male and female? Deuteronomy 10:16 tells it to us. God said, ***"Circumcise therefore the foreskin of your heart, and be no more stiffnecked."*** Yes, it is the "circumcision of the heart."

Those who are "stiffnecked" are stubborn in their own ways, thoughts, words, and actions. The heart is not entirely "tuned in" to God. It may be that they have secret sin, or they do not follow God's Word, or they live primarily by what pleases the flesh.

This circumcision of the heart means to sacrifice the fleshly desires of the body to be sanctified and holy unto God. Romans 12:1 says (NKJV), ***"...present your bodies (your flesh) a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service."*** Yes, you sacrifice your fleshly desires because (I Corinthians 6:19), ***"...your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you...you are not your own."*** God owns you. He expects you to take good care of your temple. In order to do that you need to have your heart right.

When we "circumcise the heart," we determine in our spirit (heart) that we will shed all desires that do not line up with god's desire for us. If we fail to circumcise the heart, God will "try us" in judgment. We must establish a just and righteous spirit (heart) before the Lord.

We are told this in Psalm 7:9 as it says, ***"establish the just, for the righteous God trieth the hearts..."*** (KJV).

If your heart is circumcised, then there is no place for sin (germs) to hide. God will see you as righteous through Christ.

You do not wish to stand before God in the judgment of the believers with an uncircumcised heart. Although you are saved, you may suffer some loss in reward as you will be exposed before the throne at the "Bema Seat" judgment where believer's "works" are tried as by fire.

Circumcise the foreskin (flesh) of your heart and let your heart's desire be totally "sold out" to our holy God and Savior.