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Buried With Christ & Victory!

Reading Colossians 2:11-15

In Ephesians and Colossians, there is this repeated phrase that carries great meaning: **“In Him.”** This is about one’s relationship with God through or in Jesus Christ. The penitent believer is baptized “into” Christ (see Gal. 3:27 and Rom. 6:1-4). Once in that relationship, the present and eternal benefits of God’s grace are enjoyed, unless one abandons Christ (2 Pet. 2:21,22).

Under consideration in Colossians 2:11, is repentance – depicted in Jewish terms – as “putting off the body of the flesh,” or “the circumcision of Christ.” Paul is reminding the saints in Colossae of a past act that should continue to have present influence in their behavior.

To the Jews, circumcision was an act of removal which brought the individual into the covenant. Likewise, figuratively speaking, when one repents and is baptized into Christ – in that activity of faith, ideally – **Sin is removed.**



Colossians:

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It is forgiven and it is given up by the forgiven person. Paul uses this Jewish imagery to emphasize the new life in Christ.

He wants Christians in Colossae to remember, they were “buried with Christ in baptism,” and raised with Him through faith, to a new life. This powerful **working of God** – they accepted when they obeyed the gospel.

Before their baptism, they were “dead” in “trespasses” and “the uncircumcision of their flesh.” Now, because of God’s grace and Christ’ death they embraced in repentance and baptism – the old debt was cancelled. “Having forgiven us all our trespasses.”

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The guilt of sin and the old law of Moses that so drove that guilt into their hearts – NAILED TO THE CROSS!

At the same time, the demonic forces of evil so dramatic in the life of Christ were *disarmed by the death of Christ*, and “put to open shame.”

This paragraph is about victory. The old fleshly rite of circumcision no longer held spiritual authority. What mattered now for the Colossians was – their repentance and baptism, with the new life that God intended.

That is exactly what matters for Christians today. When you repented and when you were buried with Christ in baptism – you entered into a new life. The Old Law of Moses was nailed to the cross; the demons were disarmed and we are free to live under the New Covenant of Jesus Christ. Every day!