

## **ROOTED IN CIRCUMCISION**

In order to understand Christianity, it helps to understand the history of circumcision.

*(Colossians 2:11-15) In Him you were also circumcised with a circumcision not done with hands, by putting off the body of flesh, in the circumcision of the Messiah. Having been buried with Him in baptism, you were also raised with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead. And when you were dead in trespasses and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive with Him and forgave us all our trespasses. He erased the certificate of debt, with its obligations, that was against us and opposed to us, and has taken it out of the way by nailing it to the cross. He disarmed the rulers and authorities and disgraced them publicly; He triumphed over them by Him.*

### **1. The OLD Circumcision**

- A. The “claim” to be a God-follower.
- B. Began with Abraham.

*(Genesis 17:11) “You must circumcise the flesh of your foreskin to serve as a sign of the covenant between Me and you.”*

- C. Evidenced by surgery
- D. Performed on babies.

*(Genesis 17:12) “Throughout your generations, every male among you at eight days old is to be circumcised.”*

- E. Only for men.
- F. Only BY men.
- G. Irreversible.

### **2. The NEW Circumcision**

- A. The “claim” to be a Christ-follower
- B. Began with Jesus.

*(Matthew 5:17) “Don’t assume that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill.”*

- C. Evidenced by Baptism.

*(Colossians 2:12) Having been buried with Him in baptism, you were also raised with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead.*

- D. Performed on adults.

*(Colossians 2:12) You were also raised with Him through FAITH in the working of God.*

- E. For ALL people.

*(Galatians 3:27) For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is no Jew or Greek, slave or free, male or female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you are Christ’s, then you are Abraham’s seed, heirs according to the promise.*

- F. Only by the Holy Spirit.
- G. Irreversible.

### **3. The CHRIST of Circumcision**

*(Colossians 2:13-14) And when you were dead in trespasses and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive with Him and forgave us all our trespasses. He erased the certificate of debt, with its obligations, that was against us and opposed to us, and has taken it out of the way by nailing it to the cross.*