

"What's the Deal with Circumcision?"

Romans 4:9-15

How many times is the word circumcision in the Bible? 218

Three things you must do to convert to Judaism:

1. Be baptized
2. Offer a sacrifice
3. Be circumcised

Why did God initiate circumcision for His chosen people?

1. Circumcision left a permanent mark on the body.
2. Circumcision served as a private reminder to the man.
3. Circumcision continually reminded the man of his spiritual obligations.

Is circumcision necessary for salvation? (v. 10) No

Which came first, salvation or circumcision? Salvation came first.

When was Abraham saved? Genesis 15:6

When was Abraham circumcised? Genesis 17:22-24

What was the point of circumcision?

1. Circumcision is a sign. (v.11a) A sign is something that points to something else.
2. Circumcision is a seal. (v.11a) A seal authenticates the truth or reality of something else.

NOTE: Circumcision had value so long as the outward sign was accompanied by the inward surrender of the heart to God.

Can Gentiles call Abraham "father"? (v. 11b) Yes, if they have the same faith as Abraham.

Can the Jews call Abraham "father"? (v.12) Yes if they have the same faith as Abraham.

Was Abraham saved by keeping the Law or by keeping the Ten Commandments?

No

Why did God give us the Law? (v.13-15)

God gave us the Ten Commandments not to suggest we can be saved by keeping them; He gave us the Ten Commandments to make our disobedience obvious - to demonstrate how our fallen, sinful nature runs contrary to His.