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THE SPIRITUAL CIRCUMCISION

Many things take place at the moment when a person receives Christ as his Saviour. Some of them are of great importance in the establishment of the new believer in his walk, like 'the spiritual circumcision'.

"And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power: in whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ:" (Colossians 2:10-11)

Let's work through these verses:
"And ye are complete in him,". This means exactly what it says. We are complete 'in Christ'. The apostle Paul reminds the Corinthians about this very thing when he says:
"But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption: that, according as it is written,

He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord." (1 Corinthians 1:30-31)

"which is the head of all principality and power:" Why did Paul add this phrase? To let us know that the head is Christ. He is in authority over all things. He is the issue and not we. We find our completeness in Him.

"in whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands," In Christ we participate in his circumcision. This circumcision is a spiritual one, it is made, performed, without hands, that is, God does it.

Notice what this circumcision accomplishes:
"in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh ..."

It is clear from this verse and others, that sin resides in our flesh. The spiritual circumcision puts off the flesh and the sin it contains. But puts it off from what?

We are made in the image of God, this is, we have three parts:

"And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ." (1 Thessalonians 5:23)

Before we were saved, we were in bondage to the old sin nature.

The spirit, soul and body are linked and the BODY is the dominate factor. It controls the spirit and the soul.

After 'spiritual circumcision' has taken place, the body of sin has been put off from the spirit and the soul. Believers are no longer under the bondage to and domination of the 'old sin nature'. They have been set free from the power of sin in their lives.

The natural question to ask at this point is "Why then do believers sin?". The answer is because they choose to do so. God has made us a part of a total victory program over sin. This topic is covered in Romans chapter 6-8:

"Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord." (Romans 6:11)

*"But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his. And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness."
(Romans 8:9,10)*

(Source:
www.floridagrace.com/biblestudy/060.htm)