

Colossians 2:11-15 - “A Heart Freed by Christ” Study Guide

Passage Outline

A Heart Freed by Christ is...

1.

Is a heart freed from the principle of sin 11-12

1.

Through Circumcision – the central problem in regeneration 11

1.

This circumcision is “Not made by hands”

2.

This circumcision is more literally “the putting off of the body of flesh”

3.

This is a circumcision performed “By Christ”

4.

Through Baptism – the broader effects of regeneration
12

1.

Buried with Him

2.

Raised to life with Him

1.

Through faith

2.

In the working of God who raised Him from the
dead

3.

Is a heart freed from the guilt of sin 13b-14

1.

“Trespases”

2.

“Record of debt with its legal demands”

3.

“Set aside”

4.

Is a heart freed from the power of sin
13a, 15

1.

Dead...made alive 13a

2.

Disarmed...shame...triumphing over 15

1.

Christ has freed us from the spiritual
power of temptations, accusations, misery,
death, hell, control!

For Discussion

1.

What is the meaning of a circumcision made “ **without hands**?” See Deut. 10:16, 30:6, Jer. 9:25-26, Rom. 2:28-29.

2.

What does the “**flesh**” mean in Paul’s terminology? See Gal. 6:16-24, Rom. 7:20-23.

3.

Do circumcision and baptism save? In what way were believers “**buried with Him in baptism**?”

4.

What are regeneration, justification, and sanctification? In each one, is a person active or

passive?

5.

How are circumcision and baptism similar? How are they different?

6.

What is the central problem that regeneration solves?

7.

What are the broader effects of regeneration?

8.

Does regeneration cause faith?
Or does faith cause regeneration?

9.

Is forgiveness all we need in justification? Or do we also need Christ's positive righteousness imputed to our account?

10.

Luther spoke of our three great enemies as “the world, the flesh, and the Devil.” Does this passage show Christ’s victory over each one? How?