

## Introduction.

Today we will look at the whole area that is very important for the days we are in. That is Circumcision. It had become a significant issue in the founding church, with many Jewish believers stating that Gentiles would need to be circumcised to become followers of Jesus.

It was battle that Apostle Paul fought over and which we read about in Acts and his epistles:

*And certain men came down from Judea and taught the brethren, "Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved." Therefore, when Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and dispute with them, they determined that Paul and Barnabas and certain others of them should go up to Jerusalem, to the apostles and elders, about this question.*

The irony is that today the problem seems to have gone full circle that many Jewish believers face, and those who want to believe in Yeshua, are considered "uncircumcised" by orthodox Jews.

Of course we know that Jesus was circumcised according to the Law:

**Luke 2:21** *And when eight days were completed for the circumcision of the Child, His name was called JESUS, the name given by the angel before He was conceived in the womb.*

So why is circumcision so important to the Lord, and what does it really mean?

Certainly Circumcision and the Sabbath have been two important anchors for the Jewish people in keeping them distinct and a nation before God for thousands of years, despite attempts to annihilate or assimilate them.

That being said it speaks of a deeper truth of the Lord having a people marked out for Himself, who would love and serve Him.

## Abraham, Moses and Joshua

As Jesus reminded the Pharisees, circumcision pre-dates the Law, and was at first required of Abraham as a sign of the Covenant with him:

*Gen 17:9-14: "And God said to Abraham: "As for you, you shall keep My covenant, you and your descendants after you throughout their generations. This is My covenant which you shall keep, between Me and you and your descendants after you: Every male child among you shall be circumcised; and you shall be circumcised in the flesh of your foreskins, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between Me and you. He who is eight days old among you shall be circumcised, every male child in your generations, he who is born in your house or bought with money from any foreigner who is not your descendant. He who is born in your house and he who is bought with your money must be circumcised, and My covenant shall be in your flesh for an everlasting covenant. And the uncircumcised male child, who is not circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin, that person shall be cut off from his people; he has broken My covenant.""*

In fact it was an issue so strong that Moses was nearly killed by the Lord for not having his son circumcised, even before he returned to Egypt:

*Ex 4:24-26: "And it came to pass on the way, at the encampment, that the LORD met him and sought to kill him. Then Zipporah took a sharp stone and cut off the foreskin of her son and cast it at Moses' feet, and said, "Surely you are a husband of blood to me!" So He let him go. Then she said, "You are a husband of blood!"—because of the circumcision."*

It was a requirement for Keeping Passover

*Ex 12:48: "And when a stranger dwells with you and wants to keep the Passover to the LORD, let all his males be circumcised, and then let him come near and keep it; and he shall be as a native of the land. For no uncircumcised person shall eat it."*

## CIRCUMCISION

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Joshua had to circumcise the men before they went to the Promised Land:

*Jos 5:2-10: "At that time the LORD said to Joshua, "Make flint knives for yourself, and circumcise the sons of Israel again the second time." So Joshua made flint knives for himself, and circumcised the sons of Israel at the hill of the foreskins. And this is the reason why Joshua circumcised them: All the people who came out of Egypt who were males, all the men of war, had died in the wilderness on the way, after they had come out of Egypt. For all the people who came out had been circumcised, but all the people born in the wilderness, on the way as they came out of Egypt, had not been circumcised. For the children of Israel walked forty years in the wilderness, till all the people who were men of war, who came out of Egypt, were consumed, because they did not obey the voice of the LORD—to whom the LORD swore that He would not show them the land which the LORD had sworn to their fathers that He would give us, "a land flowing with milk and honey." Then Joshua circumcised their sons whom He raised up in their place; for they were uncircumcised, because they had not been circumcised on the way. So it was, when they had finished circumcising all the people, that they stayed in their places in the camp till they were healed. Then the LORD said to Joshua, "This day I have rolled away the reproach of Egypt from you." Therefore the name of the place is called Gilgal to this day. Now the children of Israel camped in Gilgal, and kept the Passover on the fourteenth day of the month at twilight on the plains of Jericho."*

It seems that despite being in the wilderness, and even under the leadership of Moses, not all the commands of the Lord, including circumcision were being carried out!

Circumcision had been given to set the apart people to God. His own special people. But as in other observances it does not in itself change the heart. One of the big problems with the people of Israel was that so often they were circumcised in the flesh but not in their hearts to love the Lord:

*Jer 4:3-4: "For thus says the LORD to the men of Judah and Jerusalem: "Break up your fallow ground, And do not sow among thorns. Circumcise yourselves to the LORD, and take away the foreskins of your hearts, You men of Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem, Lest My fury come forth like fire, And burn so that no one can quench it, Because of the evil of your doings."*

*Jer 6:10: "To whom shall I speak and give warning, that they may hear? Indeed their ear is uncircumcised, and they cannot give heed. Behold, the word of the LORD is a reproach to them; they have no delight in it."*

*Jer 9:25-26: ""Behold, the days are coming," says the LORD, "that I will punish all who are circumcised with the uncircumcised— Egypt, Judah, Edom, the people of Ammon, Moab, and all who are in the farthest corners, who dwell in the wilderness. For all these nations are uncircumcised, and all the house of Israel are uncircumcised in the heart."*

Consider the "itching ears" in Timothy:

**2Ti 4:3-4** *For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.*

It was and still is the Lord's desire to bring His people to Him as truly His people:

*De 30:1-6: ""Now it shall come to pass, when all these things come upon you, the blessing and the curse which I have set before you, and you call them to mind among all the nations where the LORD your God drives you, and you return to the LORD your God and obey His voice, according to all that I command you today, you and your children, with all your heart and with all your soul, that the LORD your God will bring you back from captivity, and have compassion on you, and gather you again from all the nations where the LORD your God has scattered you. If any of you are driven out to the farthest parts under heaven, from there the LORD your God will gather you, and from there He will bring you. Then the LORD your God will bring you to the land which your fathers possessed and you shall possess it. He will prosper you and multiply you more than your fathers. And the LORD your God will circumcise your heart and the heart of your descendants, to love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, that you may live."*

## THE HEART OF THE MATTER

**1Sam 16:7** *But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look at his appearance or at his physical stature, because I have refused him. For the LORD does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart."*

*Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Psalm 51v10*

*Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it come the issues of life. Prov 4v23*

We know that the Lord does not look upon the outward appearance, but on the heart. This is part of the problem with legalism, in that we can be seen to be doing all the right things, but full of corruption inside, as in the harsh words of Jesus to the some of the Pharisees.

In terms of true repentance we hear *Rend your heart and not your garments (Joel 2v13)*

The teachings of Jesus place emphasis on what is happening in the heart and not outward appearance:

*But those things which proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and they defile a man. For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies. These are the things which defile a man, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile a man. Matt 15 v 18-20*

So the real issue of circumcision is what is in the heart of man, which is a key part of the New Covenant!

Jesus said that our righteousness must exceed that of the Pharisees. This is because it comes from a renewed heart and a different attitude. To walk in God's love is to fulfill the Law.

**John 4:23-24** *But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."*

**Deut 5v29** *O that there were such an heart in them, that they would fear me, and keep all my commandments always, that it might be well with them, and with their children forever!*

**Isa 29:13** *Therefore the Lord said: "Inasmuch as these people draw near with their mouths and honour Me with their lips, but have removed their hearts far from Me, and their fear toward Me is taught by the commandment of men*

We can go through all the outward appearances and religious observances and yet live as "uncircumcised in heart and ear". So the circumcision we need today, whether Jew or Gentile, is the one of the Heart and Ear.

Just as in Yom Kippur it is good to check how are in our faith:

- ➔ Are we living to know and please Him, or just going through the motions?  
Have we heart and passion for Him to do His will or do we seek our own?
- ➔ Do I want to hear what I want to hear or hear what He through the Spirit is saying?
- ➔ Do I have a love for the Truth, the Word of God or my own ways?
- ➔ Is my heart full of Grace or legalism? Beware the Pharisee spirit is very active today!

A New Covenant heart is one that will genuinely love the Lord, His Word and His Ways. To be His own special people not by command, but by love and thankfulness:

**Jer 31:33-34** *But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. No more shall every man teach his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for they all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them, says the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more."*

As grafted in people this is us too!

**Rom 11:17b** *....and you, although a wild olive shoot, were grafted in among the others and now share in the nourishing root of the olive tree*

## A True Jew

If we ask the question today "Who is a Jew" we will get many answers depending upon who we ask.

For example an Orthodox Jew would say that a Jew must either be born of a Jewish mother, or be a full convert as recognized by the correct Rabbinical Court. To them a Jew who is born a Jew is always a Jew even if they abandon Judaism.

However in Romans Paul lifts this to a higher distinction based on faith and a new heart. He does not diminish the importance of being a Jew "after the flesh" but now that Messiah has come and ushered in the New Covenant we also need to look at things from a different perspective.

### **THE TRUE CIRCUMCISION**

*For circumcision is indeed profitable if you keep the law; but if you are a breaker of the law, your circumcision has become uncircumcision. Therefore, if an uncircumcised man keeps the righteous requirements of the law, will not his uncircumcision be counted as circumcision? And will not the physically uncircumcised, if he fulfills the law, judge you who, even with your written code and circumcision, are a transgressor of the law?*

*For he is not a Jew who is one outwardly, nor is circumcision that which is outward in the flesh; but he is a Jew who is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the Spirit, not in the letter; whose praise is not from men but from God. (ROM 2v25-29)*

*In Him you were also circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the sins of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, Col 2v11*

Paul's teaching here is not as radical as it may at first appear, since at least the concept of this appears in Jewish writings beforehand. Paul also quoting OT and rabbinical sources:

*"that whosoever denies idolatry, "is called a Jew":" (Babylonian Talmud)*

According to these writings the term "Jew" need not be confined to pure ancestry, but belongs to all such who truly fear and worship God. These writings also relate that Pharaoh's daughter was called, "a Jewess", because she denied idolatry and washed herself from the idols of her father's house.

It was also written elsewhere that:

*"faith does not depend upon circumcision, but upon the heart: he that believes not as he should, circumcision does not make him a Jew; and he that believes as he ought, he indeed is a Jew, though he is not circumcised."*

Philo, a Jewish writer who was a contemporary of Paul wrote about circumcision as being:

*A symbol of two things particularly; the one is the cutting off of pleasures, and the other is the removal of arrogance, that grievous disease of the soul. Philo also wrote that purity, or chastity is the 'circumcision of circumcision'.*

Most importantly this is of course something very much established in the Old Testament, and is in many ways the essence of the New Covenant, where His Torah is in our hearts and it is from the heart that His chosen walk with Him.

### **Praise from God**

When Paul says "*whose praise is not from men but from God*" it could be a play on Judah (Praise) from which Jew is derived. In any event he is making the statement that this circumcision has to come from the Lord, by the Spirit. This is echoed also in the Gospel of John:

*..as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name, who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. John 1v12-13.*

Consider the OT saints, especially those listed in the Gallery of Faith in Hebrews 11. Abraham, Jacob, David and others were all flawed, but in all that had a heart to seek after God. For us as well it is not about being technically perfect but about our hearts that ache for and follow after Him. He will always bring in the correction and discipline of Love for those who Love Him. Abraham was chosen because he would prove faithful, and David as "a man after God's heart".

## New Covenant Circumcision

So, thankfully, as Gentile believers we do not need to be circumcised in our flesh, but as we heard previously there is a circumcision that is made by God and without hands

*Rom 4:9-12 Does this blessedness then come upon the circumcised only, or upon the uncircumcised also? For we say that faith was accounted to Abraham for righteousness. How then was it accounted? While he was circumcised, or uncircumcised? Not while circumcised, but while uncircumcised. And he received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness of the faith which he had while still uncircumcised, that he might be the father of all those who believe, though they are uncircumcised, that righteousness might be imputed to them also, and the father of circumcision to those who not only are of the circumcision, but who also walk in the steps of the faith which our father Abraham had while still uncircumcised.*

So what does this actually mean?

- The message of the Cross  
*Gal 6v14-15 But God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but a new creation.*
- Circumcised in Christ, Baptised, Alive in Him  
*Col 12 12-14 In Him you were also circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the sins of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead. And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses, having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us.*
- Love not or be friends with the world *James 4v4, 1 John 2v15*
- Being set apart for Jesus. A kingdom of priests and Sons *1 Peter 2v9, Rev 1v6; 5v10; 1 John 3v1*
- A pure devotion to Messiah. The Bride. *2 Cor 11v2-3; Eph 5v24-32*
- The seal of the Holy Spirit. *Eph 1v13-14; Eph 4v30*
- The law written in our hearts. *Jer 31v31-33; Heb 8v6-12; 10v15-17*
- Love of God shed abroad in our hearts. *Rom 5v5-11; 1 John 3v1*
- Walking in Newness of Life as Sons of God. *Romans 6; Romans 7v6, Romans 12v1-2; Rom 8v12-17*

And others too that talk of a new living relationship with the Lord !

## I Never knew you

Warning from Jesus:

*Mat 7:2-23 "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'*

Again it is not just what we do or achieve but whether He know us! It is a need for relationship and a heart seeking after Him.

This was also said in the context of warning against false prophets and "wolves in sheep's clothing". We need to humbly ask for discernment (though not the gift of criticism) and that by His Grace he will keep us in the Truth and walking with Him.

*Psa 51:10-12 Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me away from Your presence, And do not take Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, And uphold me by Your generous Spirit.*

## The callous that grows

**Act 7:51** "You stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears! You always resist the Holy Spirit; as your fathers did, so do you.

**2Co 11:2-3 ESV** For I feel a divine jealousy for you, since I betrothed you to one husband, to present you as a pure virgin to Christ. But I am afraid that as the serpent deceived Eve by his cunning, your thoughts will be led astray from a sincere and pure devotion to Christ.

### Pray, encourage one another:

- Beware "creeping religion", legalism, the form of religion but not its power
- Not to lose the first love and keep a pure devotion to Christ
- Do not let Your love for him grow cold ("The love of the many grow cold")
- Nor become lukewarm
- Overcome Self and pride, and confidence in the flesh
- Do not love the world or be tempted by its ways. Taking heed lest you fall [1Cor10v12]
- Gain and maintain humility and fear of the Lord
- To keep a love for the Truth. Do not compromise on the Word.
- Beware the Pharisee spirit in you, in your church  
Especially the Publican and the Pharisee ... "we are not like other churches"
- Replacing Living Waters with broken cisterns .. Jeremiah
- Remember Samson , who did not know the Spirit had departed from Him. **Do not grieve the Holy Spirit.**
- Warnings to the 7 churches

**Php 3:1-11** Finally, my brethren, rejoice in the Lord. For me to write the same things to you is not tedious, but for you it is safe. Beware of dogs, beware of evil workers, beware of the mutilation! **For we are the circumcision, who worship God in the Spirit, rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh, though I also might have confidence in the flesh.** If anyone else thinks he may have confidence in the flesh, I more so: circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of the Hebrews; concerning the law, a Pharisee; concerning zeal, persecuting the church; concerning the righteousness which is in the law, blameless. But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ.

Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith; that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death, if, by any means, I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.

**Col 2:6-15** As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving. **Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ.** For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power. **In Him you were also circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the sins of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead. And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him,** having forgiven you all trespasses, having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it.

## Living in your circumcision

### Jewish Roots

Quite rightly we hear a lot about the need to return to our Jewish roots, but this must never be confused with a return to Judaism. This is the very battle that Paul was involved with and that the Council of Jerusalem aimed to resolve as far as the Gentiles are concerned.

Paul was taking the Gentiles away from the legalism of Judaism, and bringing us to the true root which is the faith (obedience) of Abraham and the covenant(s) of promise!

*But it is not that the word of God has taken no effect. For they are not all Israel who are of Israel, nor are they all children because they are the seed of Abraham; but, "In Isaac your seed shall be called." That is, those who are the children of the flesh, these are not the children of God; but the children of the promise are counted as the seed. Romans 9v6-8*

Also our root is in Yeshua and the life that comes from Him.

The importance for us all is to divest ourselves of the Gentile traditions and teaching that have covered over a true understanding of the core biblical Christianity based upon:

- The character of God, and especially the God of Covenant
- Hebraic principles and teaching
- Knowing the true nature and teaching of Messiah,
- The New Covenant
- Prophecy and the Heart of God concerning the Commonwealth of Israel.

This is like restoring an original painting that over the years has been touched up, distorting the original image, allowed to fade and also covered with the dust and grime that has been accumulated through misuse and lack of cleaning.

That said we are never to return to a bondage to the Law:

**1Co 7:18-19** *Was anyone called while circumcised? Let him not become uncircumcised. Was anyone called while uncircumcised? Let him not be circumcised. Circumcision is nothing and uncircumcision is nothing, but keeping the commandments of God is what matters.*

**Gal 5:1:-7** *Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage. Indeed I, Paul, say to you that if you become circumcised, Christ will profit you nothing. And I testify again to every man who becomes circumcised that he is a debtor to keep the whole law. You have become estranged from Christ, you who attempt to be justified by law; you have fallen from grace. For we through the Spirit eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness by faith. For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but faith working through love. You ran well. Who hindered you from obeying the truth?*

### In Summary

- Follow Jesus .... a true disciple
- Love and encourage one another. Body ministry
- Be filled with the Spirit continually
- Speaking to yourselves .....
- Pray and stay humble .... Deliver us from temptation and evil
- Do not judge others ... Remember the story of the Pharisee and the publican praying
- The fountain of Living Waters not our own cisterns

## Finally:

**1Pe 2:9-10** But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvellous light; who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy.

**Php 3:12-21** Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me. Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. Therefore let us, as many as are mature, have this mind; and if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal even this to you. Nevertheless, to the degree that we have already attained, let us walk by the same rule, let us be of the same mind. Brethren, join in following my example, and note those who so walk, as you have us for a pattern. For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ: whose end is destruction, whose god is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame—who set their mind on earthly things. For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.

**Eph 2:1-22** Therefore remember that you, once Gentiles in the flesh—who are called Uncircumcision by what is called the Circumcision made in the flesh by hands—that at that time you were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace, and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity. And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near.

For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father. Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

**Jude 1:17-25** But you, beloved, remember the words which were spoken before by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ: how they told you that there would be mockers in the last time who would walk according to their own ungodly lusts. These are sensual persons, who cause divisions, not having the Spirit. But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life. And on some have compassion, making a distinction; but others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire, hating even the garment defiled by the flesh. Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, and to present you faultless Before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy, to God our Saviour, Who alone is wise, Be glory and majesty, Dominion and power, Both now and forever. Amen.

**Deut 10 v12-17** And now, O Israel, what does the LORD your God ask of you but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to observe the LORD's commands and decrees that I am giving you today for your own good?

To the LORD your God belong the heavens, even the highest heavens, the earth and everything in it.

Yet the LORD set his affection on your forefathers and loved them, and he chose you, their descendants, above all the nations, as it is today. Circumcise therefore the foreskin of your heart, and be no more stiffnecked, for the LORD your God is God of gods, and Lord of lords, a great God, a mighty, and a terrible, who shows no partiality nor takes a bribe.

**Micah 6v8** He has showed you, O man, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.