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## Daily Rice 2023 November 27

YouTube Prayer Link

The difference between circumcision and justification by faith

The Book of Joshua (chapter 5).

5:2 And Yahweh said unto Joshua, Make flint knives, and circumcise the Israelites a second time.

Circumcision is a traditional religious ritual that is usually performed after the birth of a baby boy. In some religions, such as Judaism and Islam, circumcision is the surgical removal of the foreskin of a male baby's penis, a ritual that has its religious and cultural importance.

In Judaism, circumcision is called "Brit milah" and is a ritual circumcision of a male baby that represents the Jewish covenant with God. This ritual is usually performed on the eighth day of the birth of a baby boy and is performed by a specially trained religious leader (Mamu).

There is a similar ritual in Islam called Sunna, which is a tradition of the Prophet Muhammad. Muslims practice circumcision as obedience to Allah's commands and is a religious ritual.

Despite its religious and cultural significance, circumcision is also a highly controversial topic. Some consider it a necessary religious ritual, while others believe that it violates individual rights, arguing that individual choices should be respected. In many places, circumcision is also restricted by law, ensuring that it is performed under proper medical conditions and that the individual's choice is respected.

Circumcision does not represent Jesus' eternal life

John 14:6

New Testament for Everyone

6 “I am the way,” replied Jesus, “and the truth and the life! Nobody comes to the father except through me.

For Christians, circumcision differs somewhat from the teachings of Jesus. The Christian faith does not emphasize circumcision as a necessary condition for eternal life or a covenant with God.

In Christianity, Jesus is seen as the Son of God, and his life teachings and sacrifices are thought to be for the salvation and eternal life of mankind. Whereas, in the New Testament, a new covenant is emphasized, which is salvation through faith in Jesus Christ, rather than following rituals such as circumcision as prescribed in the Old Testament.

Therefore, circumcision is not seen in Christianity as a necessary means of obtaining eternal life or entering into a covenant with God. The core beliefs of Christianity lie in the individual's relationship with God, belief in Jesus and following His teachings, not salvation or eternal life through the observance of Old Testament rituals.

What is the gospel of the apostle Paul

The Gospel of the Apostle Paul is the message and teaching of Jesus Christ in Christianity, preached and promoted by Paul, an important apostle of the early Christian church. Paul's gospel is mainly recorded in the New Testament, especially Romans, 1 Corinthians, 2 Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, 1 Thessalonians, and 1 Timothy.

Paul's gospel highlights some core concepts:

**Salvation and Grace:** Paul taught people to believe in the salvation and grace of Jesus Christ as the only way for humanity to be saved. He believed that people were not saved by their good works or by keeping the law, but through faith and grace in Jesus Christ.

**The Importance of Faith:** Paul emphasized the importance of faith, believing in Jesus Christ as the key to salvation. He emphasized the power of this faith and explained how faith can be combined with Christ's redemptive work.

**Law and Freedom:** Paul's understanding of the Law also has an important place in Christianity. He believed that the coming of Christ transcended the law, freed believers from the bondage of the law and pursued a new life based on faith and the Holy Spirit.

**Church and Community Life:** In addition to the importance of personal faith, Paul also emphasized the community life and importance of the church. He encouraged believers to care for each other, unite with each other, and build Christian churches together.

These concepts and ideas constitute Paul's gospel, provide an important foundation for the formation and development of the Christian faith, and have had a profound impact on the history and teachings of Christianity.

Let's pray together:

Dear Heavenly Father,

Thank you for this wonderful moment to reunite us in front of you. Thank you for bringing us the salvation and grace of Jesus Christ. Your kindness and generosity allow us to experience your endless kindness and forgiveness.

We are incredibly grateful today that you are always with us when we need hope and strength. Thank you for all that you have done for us, and thank you for your love that transcends our faults and sins.

May we have a deeper appreciation of your love, and may your grace soothe our hearts. Please help us to open our hearts to your teaching and guidance, guided by the path you have set for us.

Please give us the wisdom and strength to share your love and kindness, and to show your mercy through our actions. May we be witnesses to your grace and spread your love and peace in this world.

Finally, thank you again for your grace and we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

## Joshua chapter 5

Jo. 5:1 Now when all the Amorite kings west of the Jordan and all the Canaanite kings along the coast heard how the LORD had dried up the Jordan before the Israelites until we had crossed over, their hearts sank and they no longer had the courage to face the Israelites.

Jo. 5:2 At that time the LORD said to Joshua, "Make flint knives and circumcise the Israelites again."

Jo. 5:3 So Joshua made flint knives and circumcised the Israelites at Gibeath Haaraloth.

Jo. 5:4 Now this is why he did so: All those who came out of Egypt — all the men of military age — died in the desert on the way after leaving Egypt.

Jo. 5:5 All the people that came out had been circumcised, but all the people born in the desert during the journey from Egypt had not.

Jo. 5:6 The Israelites had moved about in the desert forty years until all the men who were of military age when they left Egypt had died, since they had not obeyed the LORD. For the LORD had sworn to them that they would not see the land that he had solemnly promised their fathers to give us, a land flowing with milk and honey.

Jo. 5:7 So he raised up their sons in their place, and these were the ones Joshua circumcised. They were still uncircumcised because they had not been circumcised on the way.

Jo. 5:8 And after the whole nation had been circumcised, they remained where they were in camp until they were healed. Jo. 5:9 Then the LORD said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away the reproach of Egypt from you." So the place has been called Gilgal to this day.

Jo. 5:10 On the evening of the fourteenth day of the month, while camped at Gilgal on the plains of Jericho, the Israelites celebrated the Passover.

Jo. 5:11 The day after the Passover, that very day, they ate some of the produce of the land:

unleavened bread and roasted grain. Jo. 5:12 The manna stopped the day after they ate this food

from the land; there was no longer any manna for the Israelites, but that year they ate of the produce of Canaan.

Jo. 5:13 Now when Joshua was near Jericho, he looked up and saw a man standing in front of him with a drawn sword in his hand. Joshua went up to him and asked, "Are you for us or for our enemies?"

Jo. 5:14 "Neither," he replied, "but as commander of the army of the LORD I have now come." Then Joshua fell face down to the ground in reverence, and asked him, "What message does my Lord have for his servant?"

Jo. 5:15 The commander of the LORD's army replied, "Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy." And Joshua did so.

Chapter 5 begins with the Israelites at Gilgal, where they set up the twelve stones as a memorial to God's faithfulness in parting the Jordan River for them. While they are there, all the men who were born in the wilderness are circumcised, as they had not been circumcised during their forty years of wandering.

After the circumcision, the Israelites celebrate the Passover, which had not been observed since leaving Egypt. The chapter emphasizes that the manna, which had sustained the Israelites in the wilderness, ceased to appear after they had eaten the produce of the land of Canaan.

During the celebration of the Passover, Joshua encounters the commander of the army of the Lord, who tells him to take off his sandals because he is standing on holy ground. The commander then assures Joshua that he is on the side of the Israelites in their conquest of the land.

Chapter 5 shows the Israelites' commitment to obeying God's laws, including circumcision and the observance of the Passover. It also emphasizes the importance of recognizing and respecting the holiness of God, as demonstrated by Joshua's encounter with the commander of the army of the Lord.

Joshua chapter 5 contains several important verses in the Christian Bible. Here are a few examples:

1. "Now when all the Amorite kings west of the Jordan and all the Canaanite kings along the coast heard how the Lord had dried up the Jordan before the Israelites until they had crossed over, their hearts melted in fear and they no longer had the courage to face the Israelites."

(Joshua 5:1)

2. "At that time the Lord said to Joshua, 'Make flint knives and circumcise the Israelites again.'"

(Joshua 5:2)

3. "So Joshua made flint knives and circumcised the Israelites at Gibeath Haaraloth."

(Joshua 5:3)

4. "And the Lord said to Joshua, 'Today I have rolled away the reproach of Egypt from you.'"

(Joshua 5:9)

5. "The manna stopped the day after they ate this food from the land; there was no longer any manna for the Israelites, but that year they ate the produce of Canaan."

(Joshua 5:12)

These verses highlight the importance of obedience to God's commands, even when they may be difficult or uncomfortable. The circumcision of the Israelites was a sign of their covenant

relationship with God and a symbol of their separation from the surrounding pagan nations. The stopping of the manna and the beginning of the Israelites eating the produce of the land signify a new chapter in their history and God's faithfulness to provide for them in a new way. The fear of the surrounding nations demonstrates the power of God's miracles to inspire reverence and awe.

In Joshua chapter 5, we encounter a significant moment in the Israelites' journey as they prepare to enter and conquer the Promised Land. This chapter focuses on the renewal of the covenant between God and the Israelites through the circumcision and the observance of the Passover.

One of the central themes in this chapter is the importance of consecration and preparation before embarking on a new phase of life or a significant endeavor. The Israelites had crossed the Jordan River, symbolizing their transition from the wilderness to the Promised Land. Before proceeding, God instructs Joshua to circumcise all the males who had been born during their time in the wilderness. Circumcision was a sign of the covenant between God and His people, representing their commitment and separation unto Him. This act of consecration demonstrated the Israelites' readiness to fully devote themselves to God and His purposes.

Additionally, the chapter emphasizes the observance of the Passover. After the circumcision, the Israelites celebrate the Passover feast, commemorating the deliverance from slavery in Egypt and God's faithfulness in bringing them to the Promised Land. The Passover served as a reminder of their redemption and liberation, as well as a time of gratitude for God's provision and guidance.

Another important aspect of this chapter is the transition from manna to the produce of the land. As the Israelites enter the Promised Land, the manna, which had sustained them throughout their wilderness journey, ceases to appear. Instead, they eat the produce of the land, signifying the fulfillment of God's promise and their transition to a season of abundance and provision.

In reflection, Joshua chapter 5 teaches us several valuable lessons. It reminds us of the significance of consecration and preparation before embarking on new seasons or significant endeavors in our lives. Just as the Israelites underwent circumcision as a symbol of their commitment, we are called to consecrate ourselves to God and His purposes, setting ourselves apart from worldly influences.

Furthermore, the chapter highlights the importance of remembrance and gratitude. The observance of the Passover serves as a reminder of God's faithfulness in delivering and providing for His people. It prompts us to reflect on our own deliverance and redemption through Jesus Christ and to express gratitude for God's provision and guidance in our lives.

Additionally, the transition from manna to the produce of the land reminds us of God's faithfulness in fulfilling His promises. It signifies the shift from a season of dependence and provision in the wilderness to a season of abundance and provision in the Promised Land. It encourages us to trust in God's provision and embrace the new seasons He brings into our lives.

Overall, Joshua chapter 5 invites us to consecrate ourselves to God, to remember His faithfulness, and to trust in His provision as we transition into new phases of life. It emphasizes the importance of gratitude and the remembrance of God's deliverance. By reflecting on these lessons, we can find inspiration and guidance in our own spiritual journey.



