

**Introduction:** “you have been filled in him” What more do you need? What is your purpose? 1 Cor 10:31

**1. We have been transformed in Christ- 11,12**

*11 In him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, 12 having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead.*

**A. We have received a Spiritual Circumcision – from Christ**

**- The Old sign of God setting apart His people**

For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. Gal. 6:15 And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules. – Ezek 36:26,27

For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything, but only faith working through love. – Gal. 5:6

**B. Baptized into Christ**

*13 And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him,*

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. Rom. 6:3-4

New creatures in Christ

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come

**2. Our Debt has been Cancelled – 13b, 14**

*having forgiven us all our trespasses. 14 by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross.*

A. Handwriting of requirements (the law) that stood against us has been erased, symbolizing the removal of legalistic condemnation.

B. Nailed to the Cross: This debt was taken out of the way by being nailed to the cross, signifying Christ's atoning sacrifice.

Illustration: Record Book of sin

**3. Christ's victory: Disarming Spiritual powers – 15**

*He disarmed the rulers and authorities<sup>[b]</sup> and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.<sup>[c]</sup>*

1. The spiritual battle is visible in our struggle with the trials, struggles and temptations that are manifested by this battle.

**Conclusion:** We have a complete transformation in Christ, which is emphasized by a spiritual circumcision, resurrection, forgiveness, and victory over legalism and spiritual powers.

As new creatures...

### **Living letters**

*You yourselves* are our letter of recommendation, written on our hearts, to be known and read by all. And you show that you are a letter from Christ delivered by us, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts.

### **Salt and Light**

*You are* the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet. "*You are* the light of the world

"*You are* the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

### **Aroma of Christ**

But thanks be to God, who in Christ always leads us in triumphal procession, and through us spreads the fragrance of the knowledge of him everywhere. *For we* are the aroma of Christ to God among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing, to one a fragrance from death to death, to the other a fragrance from life to life. Who is sufficient for these things?

### **Ambassadors of Christ**

Therefore, *we are* ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak.