



Col 2:16 Circumcision and Law

The Protestant churches use Col 2:16 as one of their primary verses to abrogate the 7th Day Sabbath. The Roman Catholic church does not need this verse as they are very aware and know that Constantine changed the Sabbath from the 7th day to the 1st day. The Protestants use this and other various passages also to try to prove their 1st day worship is 'of the Bible' and not because they are following the Roman Catholic church. If any honest Protestant would do even a small amount of honest study, they would find the Protestant reformers did indeed tackle the issue of the 7th Day Sabbath and chose to keep the Catholic church's tradition of the 7th to 1st day change. Nothing has changed since the reformation, in the Catholic and the Protestant churches, the traditions of men always trump the Bible.

Just a little study will prove beyond any shadow of doubt that Col 2:16 is NOT speaking of the 7th Day Sabbath in any way.

In all of Paul's writings he holds the Law of YHWH [10 Cs] on the highest pedestal as holy, just and good. Yahusha says that if we would find life, we are to keep the commandments. The commandments were life giving and by which we are to live.

The Law of YHWH, spoken by YHWH and written with YHWH's very own finger, twice, to which he added no more, were never referred to as traditions of men, rudiments of the world or ordinances. Not once, ever, are the 10 Commandments reference or treated in such a way.

So why then does the Protestant choose to treat YHWH's holy, just and good law in such a manner when it comes to Col 2:16? It does boggle the mind does it not?

The whole of Col 2 is talking of our completion in Yahusha, as we are buried and risen with him through baptism and are no longer under the rudiments and ordinances of the world, the carnal things of this world that made one righteous in Moses. Col 2 does not even remotely refer to the Law of YHWH in any way. To take one-word **sabbath** and conjecture that one-word to refer to the Law of YHWH [10Cs] is a very fatal error. Peter warned us that folks were twisting Paul's word to their own destruction, let us not be one of those folks.

In Paul's writings he is very specific about the *works* of the law, circumcision, the clean and unclean, foods, etc. These are the *works* that will not save us, that cannot make us righteous, they are a show of wisdom in will worship, and humility, and neglecting of the body; not in any honor to the satisfying of the flesh only, they do not perfect the heart.

Gal 5:2 Behold, I Paul say unto you, **that if you get circumcised, the Messiah shall profit you nothing.**

Gal 5:6 **For in Yahusha the Messiah neither circumcision avails anything, nor uncircumcision; but faith which works by love.**

Gal 6:15 **For in the Messiah Yahusha neither circumcision avails anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creature.**

1Cor 7:19 **Circumcision is nothing, and uncircumcision is nothing, but the keeping of the commandments of YHWH.**

Col 2:16 **Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of a festival, or new moon, or sabbath:**

Col 2:17 Which are a **shadow of things** to come; but the body *[is]* of the Messiah.

Rom 2:29 But he *[is]* a Jew, which is one inwardly; and **circumcision *[is that]* of the heart, in the spirit**, *[and]* not in the letter; whose praise *[is]* not of men, but of YHWH.

Paul writes very specifically so no one can misunderstand, there were foods, drinks, festivals [unleavened bread, tabernacles], new moon, and [Levitical] sabbaths [first day of unleavened bread, day of atonement, etc.], the festival days and sabbath days of those festivals were different and had different requirements and so he separates them. His main theme is that we are to walk in Yahusha the Messiah who made us alive and not in those things that could not give life.

Conclusion

The Law of Moses was a law of the rudiments of this world and ordinances and circumcision of the flesh, all works of the hands to stand clean and righteous before YHWH, but none of that was perfect and could not remove the stain of transgression on the heart or give life. These rudiments of the world or ordinances of **food, or drink, or respect of a festival, or new moon, or [a Levitical] sabbath:** where of the Law of Moses which was a school master to lead us to the Messiah. It is a very grievous and fatal error to take the one-word **sabbath** out of context in Col 2 and reduce YHWH's holy, just and good law to the status of the traditions of men, rudiments of this world and mere ordinances.

Be not deceived, sin IS the transgression of the Law of YHWH.



Reference

Col 2:1 For I would that you knew what great conflict I have for you, and [for] them at Laodicea, and [for] as many as have not seen my face in the flesh;

Col 2:2 That their hearts might be comforted, being knit together in love, and unto all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the acknowledgement of the mystery of YHWH, and of the Father, and of the Messiah;

Col 2:3 In whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

Col 2:4 And this I say, unless any man should beguile you with enticing words.

Col 2:5 For though I be absent in the flesh, yet am I with you in the spirit, joying and beholding your order, and the steadfastness of your faith in the Messiah.

Col 2:6 As you have therefore received Messiah Yahusha the master, [so] walk in him:

Col 2:7 Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving.

Col 2:8 Beware unless any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after the Messiah.

Col 2:9 For in him dwells completeness of divinity bodily.

Col 2:10 And you are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power:

Col 2:11 **In whom also you are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands**, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of the Messiah:

Col 2:12 **Buried with him in baptism, wherein also you are risen** with [him] through the faith of the operation of YHWH, who has raised him from the dead.

Col 2:13 And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, has he made alive together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses;

Col 2:14 Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross;

Col 2:15 [And] having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a show of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

Col 2:16 **Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of a festival, or new moon, or sabbath:**

Col 2:17 Which are a shadow of things to come; but the body [is] of the Messiah.

Col 2:18 Let no man beguile you of your reward in a voluntary humility and worshipping of angels, intruding into those things which he has not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind,

Col 2:19 And not holding the Head, from which all the body by joints and bands having nourishment ministered, and knit together, increases with the increase of YHWH.

Col 2:20 **Wherefore if you are dead with the Messiah from the rudiments of the world, why, as though living in the world, are you subject to ordinances,**

Col 2:21 (Touch not; taste not; handle not;

Col 2:22 Which all are to perish with the using;) after the commandments and doctrines of men?

Col 2:23 Which things have indeed a show of wisdom in will worship, and humility, and neglecting of the body; not in any honor to the satisfying of the flesh.

Rom 2:25 For circumcision verily profits, if you keep the law: but if you be a breaker of the law, your circumcision is made uncircumcision.

Rom 2:26 Therefore if the uncircumcision keep the righteousness of the law, shall not his uncircumcision be counted for circumcision?

Rom 2:27 And shall not uncircumcision which is by nature, if it fulfil the law, judge you, who by the letter and circumcision do transgress the law?

Rom 2:28 For he is not a Jew, which is one outwardly; neither *[is that]* circumcision, which is outward in the flesh:

Rom 2:29 But he *[is]* a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision *[is that]* of the heart, in the spirit, *[and]* not in the letter; whose praise *[is]* not of men, but of YHWH.

Rom 3:27 Where *[is]* boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? of works? Nay: but by the law of faith.

Rom 3:28 Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law.

Rom 3:29 *[Is he]* YHWH of the Jews only? *[is he]* not also of the Gentiles? Yes, of the Gentiles also:

Rom 3:30 Seeing *[it is]* one YHWH, which shall justify the circumcision by faith, and uncircumcision through faith.

Rom 3:31 Do we then make void the law through faith? YHWH forbid: yea, we establish the law.

Rom 4:1 What shall we say then that Abraham our father, as pertaining to the flesh, has found?

Rom 4:2 For if Abraham were justified by works, he has *[whereof]* to glory; but not before YHWH.

Rom 4:3 For what says the scripture? **Abraham believed YHWH, and it was counted unto him for righteousness.**

Rom 4:4 Now to him that works is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt.

Rom 4:5 But to him that works not, but believes on him that justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness.



Rom 4:6 Even as David also describes the blessedness of the man, unto whom YHWH imputes righteousness without works,

Rom 4:7 [*Saying*], **Blessed [are] they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered.**

Rom 4:8 **Blessed [is] the man to whom YHWH will not impute sin.**

Rom 4:9 [*Comes*] this blessedness then upon the circumcision [*only*], or upon the uncircumcision also? for we say that faith was reckoned to Abraham for righteousness.

Rom 4:10 How was it then reckoned? when he was in circumcision, or in uncircumcision? Not in circumcision, but in uncircumcision.

Rom 4:11 And he received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness of the faith which [*he had yet*] being uncircumcised: that he might be the father of all them that believe, though they be not circumcised; that righteousness might be imputed unto them also:

Rom 4:12 And the father of circumcision to them who are not of the circumcision only, but who also walk in the steps of that faith of our father Abraham, which [*he had*] being [*yet*] uncircumcised.

Rom 4:13 For the promise, that he should be the heir of the world, [*was*] not to Abraham, or to his seed, through the law, but through the righteousness of faith.

Rom 4:14 For if they which are of the law [*be*] heirs, faith is made void, and the promise made of none effect:

Rom 4:15 Because the law works wrath: for where no law is, [*there is*] no transgression.

Rom 4:16 Therefore [*it is*] of faith, that [*it might be*] by grace; to the end the promise might be sure to all the seed; not to that only which is of the law, but to that also which is of the faith of Abraham; who is the father of us all,

Rom 4:17 (As it is written, **I have made you a father of many nations,**) before him whom he believed, [*even*] YHWH, who quickens the dead, and calls those things which be not as though they were.

1Cor 7:16 For what know you, O wife, whether you shall save [*your*] husband? or how know you, O man, whether you shall save [*your*] wife?

1Cor 7:17 But as YHWH has distributed to every man, as YHWH has called every one, so let him walk. And so ordain I in all churches.

1Cor 7:18 Is any man called being circumcised? let him not become uncircumcised. Is any called in uncircumcision? let him not be circumcised.

1Cor 7:19 **Circumcision is nothing, and uncircumcision is nothing, but the keeping of the commandments of YHWH.**

1Cor 7:20 Let every man abide in the same calling wherein he was called.

Gal 5:1 Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith the Messiah has made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.

Gal 5:2 Behold, I Paul say unto you, **that if you be circumcised, the Messiah shall profit you nothing.**

Gal 5:3 For I testify again to every man that is circumcised, that he is a debtor to do the whole law.

Gal 5:4 the Messiah is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; you are fallen from grace.

Gal 5:5 For we through the Spirit wait for the hope of righteousness by faith.

Gal 5:6 For in Yahusha the Messiah **neither circumcision avails anything, nor uncircumcision; but faith which works by love.**

Gal 6:12 As many as desire to make a fair show in the flesh, they constrain you to be circumcised; only unless they should suffer persecution for the cross of the Messiah.

Gal 6:13 For neither they themselves who are circumcised keep the law; but desire to have you circumcised, that they may glory in your flesh.

Gal 6:14 But YHWH forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Adonai Yahusha the Messiah, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world.

Gal 6:15 **For in the Messiah Yahusha neither circumcision avails anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creature.**

Gal 6:16 And as many as walk according to this rule, peace [be] on them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of YHWH.

Lev 26:41 And [that] I also have walked contrary unto them, and have brought them into the land of their enemies; **if then their uncircumcised hearts be humbled**, and they then accept of the punishment of their iniquity:

Deut 10:16 **Circumcise therefore the foreskin of your heart**, and be no more stiff-necked.

Deut 30:6 And **YHWH your Elohaym will circumcise your heart, and the heart of your seed**, to love YHWH your Elohaym with all your heart, and with all your soul, that you may live.

2Pet 3:14 Therefore, beloved, since you are waiting for these, be diligent to be found by him without spot or blemish, and at peace.

2Pet 3:15 And count the patience of our Adonai as salvation, just as our beloved brother Paul also wrote to you according to the wisdom given him,

2Pet 3:16 as he does in all his letters when he speaks in them of these matters. **There are some things in them that are hard to understand, which the ignorant and unstable twist to their own destruction, as they do the other Scriptures.**