

# Romans Series

## Lesson #27

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Dean Bible Ministries

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# The Epistle to the ROMANS



**Rom. 2:17, “Indeed you are called a Jew, and rest on the law, and make your boast in God,”**

**Rom. 2:17, “Indeed you are called a Jew, and rest on the law, and make your boast in God,”**

- 1. Rests, relax, repose in the Law**
- 2. Boasts in God**
- 3. And you know His will**
- 4. And approve the things that are excellent because you have been instructed out of the law**
- 5. And are confident that you are a guide to the blind, a light to those in darkness [an instructor of the foolish] because you have in the Law**

**Rom. 2:25, “For circumcision is indeed profitable if you keep the law; but if you are a breaker of the law, your circumcision has become uncircumcision.”**

**1. Circumcision is the removal of the foreskin of the male's genital organ.**

**מול (mûl) II, circumcise, let oneself be circumcised, be cut off**

**Gen. 17:10, “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;**

**Gen. 17:11, “and you shall be circumcised in the flesh of your foreskins, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between Me and you.”**

**Gen. 17:12, “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.**

**Gen. 17:13, “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.**

**Gen. 17:14, “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.”**



**Ezek. 16:6, “And when I passed by you and saw you struggling in your own blood, I said to you in your blood, ‘Live!’ Yes, I said to you in your blood, ‘Live!’ ”**

**Rabbi Matia ben Cheresh used by say, “Behold, it says, ‘I passed by you and looked at you and saw it was a time of love’ (Ezek. 16:8). This means the time had arrived for God’s vow to Abraham to be fulfilled, namely, that He would save his children. But as yet they had no commandments to perform, by virtue of which they might merit redemption... As it says, ‘Your breasts were fashioned and your hair had grown, but you were naked’ (Ezek. 16:8), meaning that they were naked of all commandments. God therefore assigned them two commandments: the sacrifice of the paschal lamb, and circumcision, which they were to perform so as to merit being saved, as it says: ‘I passed by you and saw you wallowing in your blood, and I said, “By your blood live... By your blood live” ’ (Ezek. 16:6)... One cannot obtain reward except by deeds.”**

*Mekhilta Bo, Chap. 5*

**“As the Ezekiel exegesis demonstrates, the central symbol of the circumcision ritual was its blood. Regularly, therefore, we find reference not only to the salvific nature of the rite in general, but more specifically, to the saving merit of circumcision blood. Nowadays, a blessing accompanies the symbolic placing of wine on the lips of the baby boy just after the circumcision wound has been cauterized.”**

**~Jacob Neusner, *Encyclopedia of Judaism***

**“At any rate, the symbolic value of circumcision as an act of salvation is evident throughout our second-century sources. It is the sign of the covenant that saves. The blood drawn in the act is equivalent to the blood of the paschal lamb that Israelites smeared on their doorposts to warn off the angel of death on the night the firstborn Egyptians were slaughtered (Exod. 12:22–23). It is the paradigmatic salvific example of a good work, practiced in every generation from Abraham onward. As such, it has commanded the universal allegiance of Jews throughout history.”**

**“Again in our time, the issue has been addressed, this time on different but related grounds. Nineteenth-century opposition was rooted in evolutionism, the assumption that a mature Judaism could safely pare away the dysfunctional ritual of its youth.”**

**“For many, therefore, circumcision now is hardly the central act of faith that it once was. Almost no one is aware any more of the salvific symbolism it once contained: the blood that saves, the parallelism between circumcision blood and blood of the paschal lamb, the very real hopes once invested in the child as potential messiah, or the cultic symbolism of sacrifice that dominated centuries of Rabbinic thought.”**

**Ex. 12:44, “But every man’s servant who is bought for money, when you have circumcised him, then he may eat it.**

**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.”**

**Lev. 12:2, “Speak to the children of Israel, saying: ‘If a woman has conceived, and borne a male child, then she shall be unclean seven days; as in the days of her customary impurity she shall be unclean.**

**Lev. 12:3, “ ‘And on the eighth day the flesh of his foreskin shall be circumcised.’ ”**



**Lev. 26:41, “and that I also have walked contrary to them and have brought them into the land of their enemies; if their uncircumcised hearts are humbled, and they accept their guilt—”**

**Deut. 10:16, “Therefore circumcise the foreskin of your heart, and be stiff-necked no longer.”**

**Deut. 30:6, “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.”**

**Ezek. 36:25, “Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols.**

**Ezek. 36:26, “I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.**

**Ezek. 36:27, “I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them.**

**Ezek. 36:28, “Then you shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; you shall be My people, and I will be your God.”**

**Jer. 9:24, “ ‘But let him who glories glory in this, that he understands and knows Me, that I am the LORD, exercising lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness in the earth. For in these I delight,’ says the LORD.**

**Jer. 9:25, “ ‘Behold, the days are coming,’ says the LORD, ‘that I will punish all who are circumcised with the uncircumcised—’ ”**

**Compare Acts 7:51**