

# COLLINSVILLE-TROY CHURCH OF CHRIST

1400 Troy Road, Collinsville, Illinois 62234

Focus on God's Word Find the Truth Follow the Lord



Sunday Worship Assembly 9:30 AM  
Sunday Bible Classes (All Ages) 11:00 AM  
Wednesday Adult Bible Class 1:30 PM  
Wednesday Bible Classes (All Ages) 7:00 PM



Vol. 53 No. 33

## *The Correspondent*

August 17, 2025

### The Powerful Working of God

-Renn Ferguson

As Paul wrote to the church at Colosse he warned them, “see to it that no one take you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ.” (2:8, ESV) The Christians to whom Paul wrote and Christians today should heed this warning for multiple reasons.

First, Christ is God and possess all authority. “For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, and you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority” (v. 9-10). Seeing that Jesus hold such a position we should not turn to or listen to anything other than Him and His word.

Second, in Him we have put off the old man. “In him also you were circumcised with circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of flesh, by the circumcision of Christ.” (v. 11). Here Paul plays off the Old Testament practice and law of circumcision. However, the circumcision of which he speaks here is not literal, but spiritual. A circumcision made without hands. This, he further defines as the putting off the body of flesh. All who are outside of Christ were living after the flesh and were displeasing to God (Romans 8:5-8). Yet, in Jesus this old man, the flesh is done away and we become new (2 Corinthians 5:17, Romans 6:4). Since we have been made new it would be foolish to allow ourselves to abandon the one who made us so.

What is the circumcision spoken of here? Is it just a change of heart? Or is it something more? Paul continues in verse 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.” So how is it that we have been circumcised with the circumcision of Christ? How is it that the body of flesh has been taken away? It is by baptism. Notice also this is done “in the powerful working of God”. Though we must respond and obey the command of baptism, God is the one who removes the old man and makes us new.

Since Christ, our Lord and Savior, is God in the flesh, and since through baptism we have been made new, let us not be lead astray by philosophy or empty deceit according to human tradition and the elemental spirits of the world.

#### Connect

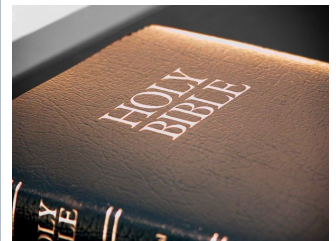
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Lads to Leaders  
Bible Bowl James 2  
August 20, 5:30 PM



The St. Louis Area-Wide  
Lectureship  
September 18-20, 2025  
Arnold church of Christ



*For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth. 1 Thessalonians 1:8*

## What Nation Is There?

Deuteronomy 4:7-8

That Has a God So Near

- We are a great nation- 1 Peter 2:9, Romans 9:25-26, 7-8, Galatians 3:29
- He is in and among us- 1 Peter 2:5, Ephesians 2:22, 3:17, 2 Corinthians 6:16
- He is near to all- Acts 17:26-27, 2 Chronicles 15:1-2

Whenever We Call on Him

- He always listens- 1 Peter 3:12, 1 John 5:14-15
- He always answers- Isaiah 65:24, Daniel 9:20-21, James 4:3
- He wants us to call on Him- Matthew 6:8, Luke 18:1-8

That Has Righteous Laws

- We are called to a higher standard of love- Mark 12:29-31, Matthew 5:43-48, 1 Corinthians 13:1-7
- We are called to a higher standard of conduct- Hosea 4:14, Colossians 3:5-17
- We are called to be different- Romans 12:1-2, 2 Corinthians 6:17, Philippians 2:14-15

## Worship Service

### Announcements

Song: 528 Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

Song: 647 The Love of God (Vs. 1, 2, 4)

### Prayer

Song: 482 O Listen to Our Wondrous Story

### Lord's Supper and Contribution

Song: 527 Paradise Valley

**Scripture Reading:** Deuteronomy 4:7-8

### Sermon

Song: 368 Jesus Paid It All

Song: 785 Wonderful City of God (Vs. 1)

### Prayer

## Deuteronomy 4:7-8

M	E	J	C	L	U	T	S	U	W	E	L	A	N
A	E	E	U	T	H	O	E	A	M	A	T	T	B
Y	L	H	H	D	R	A	L	E	U	D	R	G	E
Y	O	S	I	F	G	I	G	L	U	Y	O	U	F
E	R	A	M	U	S	E	G	A	D	D	J	E	O
R	D	Y	H	E	P	T	M	H	T	A	E	S	R
T	A	E	R	G	U	O	A	E	T	N	Y	E	E
L	L	A	C	R	N	I	N	T	N	E	N	T	N
S	E	A	R	E	G	O	N	T	U	T	O	H	Y
H	O	A	T	A	O	R	A	A	L	T	S	U	G
U	E	T	H	S	T	D	G	G	T	N	E	U	S
N	I	U	E	O	S	I	H	T	T	I	E	S	T
T	T	R	R	N	O	H	L	E	O	H	O	S	Y
G	Y	A	E	M	T	A	H	W	R	J	Y	N	H

DAY  
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NATION  
JUDGEMENTS  
NEAR  
BEFORE  
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MAY  
WHAT  
LORD  
REASON  
GREAT  
RIGHTEOUS  
GOD

7 "For what great nation *is there* that has God so near to it, as the LORD our God *is* to us, for whatever *reason* we may call upon Him?

8 And what great nation *is there* that has *such* statutes and righteous judgments as are in all this law which I set before you this day?

### Why Worship?

*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. John 4:23*