

Should I Tatoo?

**“Do not cut your bodies for the dead
or put tattoo marks on yourselves.
I am the Lord.”**

Leviticus 19:4

This Old Testament scripture verifies God’s disapproval of this practice. Many will use the argument that this scripture only applies to Old Testament times.

Does that mean that bestiality was only forbidden for Old Testament times in Leviticus 18:23 and Leviticus 20:15-16?

Does that mean that prostituting your daughter was only forbidden for Old Testament times in Leviticus 19:29?

Does that mean that sacrificing your child through the fire to Molech was only forbidden for Old Testament times in Leviticus 18:21?

Yes, you are correct to say that tattooing is a very popular, common and accepted practice in our society today. Note that God’s standard and society’s standard vary. Today would be a good day to choose which you will follow.

Roots and Fruits

This activity should be examined as to the roots, the historical origin and also the fruits, or the outcome of the activity.

**“And they cried aloud,
and cut themselves after their manner with knives and lancets, till the blood gushed
out upon them.”
1 Kings 18:28**

This witchcraft ritual was done in the spirit of mourning in remembrance of their dead. Tattoos have their roots in witchcraft.

As many young people have verified, a tattoo is a representation of something the individual strongly values as sacred or precious in his/her moral/spiritual foundation. Often we see tattoos that are representative of the following influences in our young people’s lives: evil videos; evil music; violent electronic games; wicked movies, etc.

Some present a tattoo with a biblical precept; however, the scripture clearly states, “Do not.....or put tattoo marks on yourselves.”

Scripture in Context

**“Ye shall not eat any thing with the blood; neither shall ye use enchantment,
nor observe times.**

**Ye shall not round
the corners of your heads,
neither shalt thou mar
the corners of thy beard.**

**Ye shall not make any cuttings in your flesh for the dead, nor print any marks upon
you:**

**I am the Lord.”
Leviticus 19:26-28**

“Rounding the corners of your head,” or “mar the corners of thy beard” was forbidden as it was referring to a common pagan practice that Herodotus refers to the cutting of the hair as worship and honor of the hosts of heaven.....a tonsure. This practice was done so that the head might resemble the celestial globe....giving respect to one of the pagan gods of their religious cult which honored the gods of astrology.

Pagan tribes this very day, continue to use witchcraft and heathen practices, spiritual and cultural rites entwined with the practices of tattooing, piercing and scarification to the body. These idolatrous practices are scripturally forbidden.

Historical Examples: Idolatrous Tattoos

***Alpine Iceman: Frozen mummy with numerous tattoos on his body: a cross on the inside of left knee; 6 straight lines 15 cm long above the kidneys; numerous parallel lines on the ankles. Tattoos done by a shaman to invoke the gods to rid the body of pain from chronic degeneration of bone and cartilage and arthritic wear.**

***Hathor, Egyptian priestess with tattoos: parallel lines on arms and thighs; elliptical design below her naval – sexual connotations linked to fertility.**

***Maori and South American Headhunters with tattoos to appease the gods before the headhunt to commemorate their success.**

***Hawaiians actually consult their tattoo gods before doing a tattoo.**

***The Chinese and Japanese use tattoos to ward off evil spirits and to appease different gods.**

***The Romans brand their criminals with tattoos.**

***Babylonian, Canaanite and Hebrew shrine prostitutes tattooed themselves as part of their worship.**

Your Body: A Temple

**“What?
Know ye not
that your body is the temple
of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God,
and ye are not your own?
For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your
spirit,
which are God’s.”
1 Corinthians 6:19-20**

Many Christians have a Biblical word or sign tattooed on their body as a witness. This is an act of presumption. God forbid this action; thus, in our rebellion we presume that we know better than God.

God is far more interested in your actions which testify of His character and salvation, than any slogan or symbol you could wear on your body.

If in ignorance you received a tattoo, pray against and denounce any witchcraft influence. Jesus simply said, “If you love me, you will obey what I command.” John 14:15