

# The sign of circumcision

## 1. sexual organ of reproduction

A sign of God's covenant to make Israel's seed to be fruitful (many children) and that the covenant is for oneself and one's seed (children).

## 2. in relation to sexual acts

A reminder to be faithful to God by avoiding intermarriage with idolaters & idolatrous fertility cults.

## 3. cutting off of flesh

The symbolic oath in covenant-making. In other words, if I break this covenant may I be cut off from God's people just as my foreskin is cut off my person.

## 4. removal of foreskin

**Symbolic significance** - The removal of foreskin symbolically indicated the removal of uncleanness. Also the removal of a barrier (closing/covering) to fruitfulness/responsiveness.

"uncircumcised fruit"	Leviticus 19:23
"uncircumcised lips"	Exodus 6:12,30
"uncircumcised ears"	Jeremiah 6:10
"uncircumcised hearts"	Leviticus 26:41

Note: Something uncircumcised is "closed in". Thus uncircumcised ears hear imperfectly, uncircumcised lips open and speak with difficulty and uncircumcised hearts are closed so as to be unable to understand.