

Are Tattoos OK For Christians?

Question) Is it okay for a Christian to get a tattoo?

Answer) No. The Bible is clear that is not a practice of a believer. Scripture says,

Leviticus 19:28 (KJS) Ye shall not make any cuttings in your flesh for the dead, nor print any marks upon you: I am the LORD.

Leviticus 19:28 `you shall not make any cuttings in your flesh for the dead, nor tattoo any marks on you: I am the Lord.

In The Old testament many people had tattoos made for religious or worldly purposes. Most people I know who have tattoos had them made before they were Christians (while they were drunk). The biggest emotion I hear from them is regret. There is no condemnation to those in Christ. Scars (and tattoos) are reminders of where you never want to go again.

As a new believer I was tempted to get a tattoo of a cross on me, thinking it would be a witness for the Lord and have meaning for me. I opted not to do this after someone pointed out the previous scriptures. Scripture also says to "glorify God in your body" (I Corinthians 6:20), not have Vinnie the tattoo artist carve a crucifix or butterfly on your posterior.

I love and accept people who have tattoos! I just don't encourage them to get any more. I have a cousin who is a tattoo artist with his own shop. He has over 70% of his body tattooed. He has probably been featured in a magazine. I love him, but would not be impressed on a job interview.

Our desire and response to popular opinions or fads should be to honor God's word.

1Thessalonians 5:23 Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Romans 12:1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.

2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.