

Tattoos

Question:

What does God think of Tattoos? Are they allowed in the Church of God?

Answer:

Our bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit (1 Cor. 3:16) and, as such, God desires that we look after our bodies in the best way possible. He wants that we eat no unclean foods and do what we can to keep our bodies healthy from the inside. Similarly, God also wants us to keep our bodies on the outside, including avoiding unnecessary body piercings and tattoos. Leviticus 19:28 specifically tackles this question on tattoos: "You shall not make any cuttings (piercings) in your flesh for the dead, nor print any marks (tattoos) upon you: I am the Lord". This is clear instruction against marking the body with tattoos.

Some in the Church had tattoos done prior to conversion. Once conversion, repentance and baptism take place, our past sins are forgiven (1 Cor. 15:3).