

ב"ה

The Pardoning of Sins by Participation in the Circumcision Ceremony*

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Question ^Δ

What are the sources for the tradition that partaking in the circumcision ceremony pardons one's sins?

Response ^Δ

The idea that the circumcision ceremony pardons the sins of the participants is found in multiple rabbinic sources and has halachic ramifications regarding who can participate in the ceremony. Some Jewish communities have unique customs for a circumcision related to this concept. The principle that a person's sins can be forgiven at a circumcision raises theological questions about the nature of sin and forgiveness as well.

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