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Throughout Scripture there was a price to pay to atone for sins. Constant sacrifices were made that could only cover sins. Hebrews 10:4 tells us, "*It is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins.*" We needed a perfect sacrifice. Verse 9 tells us, Jesus said "*Lo, I come to do thy will, O God, He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second.*"

He came to do away with the animal sacrifices and to be the Perfect Sacrifice. The only One who could pay the full price for our sins and take them all away for us. Verse 10 "By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all."

We are set free by the one provision that God has made for us, for every desire and need in this life and then with Eternal Life included—the shed Blood of His Son. It was an offering for the world. Jesus paid for our cleansing, healing, and righteousness. His Blood pardoned us from everything we ever said or did against God. Romans 5:18, "*Therefore as by the offence of one (Adam) judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of One (Jesus Christ) the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life.*"

Acquitted of past sins means no punishment for them—we have been released from any penalty for those mistakes and transgressions; acquitted from torments of the devil; and exempted from illness, aches, pains, or weakness. We have been set free from any poverty, financial difficulties; family troubles, and delivered from problems in any other area.

Before this Blood provision by the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, we had to accept all the punishment for our sins, but now we are exempted from any payment—the price has been 'Paid in Full'. We are now in a position to receive all those things that were paid for by the sacrifice on the Cross—all for our use and enjoyment.

To be acquitted from guilt means something was purchased for our benefit and we now have an Atonement right to enjoy it. Now that it has been purchased for us, we are legally free, and are entitled to every blessing we could need or desire from God. Out of His great love for us, He sent His only Son to pay the full price for us that we could be free from all sin.

If God could change His mind, He still would not withhold these blessings from us because they have already been paid for and purchased for us, and God accepted the payment by the Blood by His Son on the Cross. If we base our blessings, victories, and healing on the merit of that Blood, we would then receive them when we claim them by faith.

It is all too easy to think that the answer is based on something other than the Blood. Satan would like to make us think we deserve it on the fine way we pray, or because of fasting; how sincere we are; or the number of people praying with us. He will try to make us think that our willingness to do anything to receive our victory is why we should receive the healing—but all such thoughts are from Satan and have no merit in it to pay the price. It is not the prayer or anything we do or say, it is all in the Blood that grants the victory.

When we depend on the value of the Blood, the answer has already been given. 1 Corinthians 1:18, *"For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God."* Those on the road to God's kingdom are trusting in faith on the Blood of God's Son. Whatever we do or decide, "Let everything be done in dependence on the Lord Jesus, giving thanks in his Name to God the Father" Colossians 3:17. Every answer to prayer takes us back to the Atonement of Christ—issues at work; interacting with coworkers; in the home with children; or concerning a spouse—we have a Blood-purchased right to have them all act as they should.

It is not our commitment to God that pays the price; nor our sincerity, or number of people praying with us that gives the answer, but it is the shed Blood that pays for, and guarantees, the victory, the blessing, or the healing.

We need to be sure to give our life to God; and to confess our sins to Him; God's Word instructs us to do both, but the only reason God forgives our sins is because the Blood has paid for us to be forgiven, not because we confess them.

If we don't take advantage of that great provision made for us to give us victory over sin, we can be held in bondage for years—that quick temper; coveting things; having wrong desires; resentment, unscriptural attitudes, or pride of heart—the only thing that takes care of them is the Blood of Christ. We can overcome in faith because Jesus defeated the devil, He forgave our sins, and made us righteous before the Father. Romans 6:11 "*Reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord.*"

With any oppression, illness, or weakness, we can have many praying with us, and we can plead for God's mercy, but if we try to claim the victory apart from the Blood of Jesus, we have no merit for the answer. The Blood of Jesus is the only merit, the price paid that gives us our full right to be delivered.

We are free from infirmity, and not because of the amount of faith that we may have or because of the way we pray; and not because of many praying for us, but it is all because Jesus shed His Blood for us. All illness was borne on the cross, and all our victories and healings were paid for by Atonement. In full dependence upon the merit of the Blood.

Romans 6:11 "Reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord."

Many Bible victories were given without a prayer being offered. A woman suffered many things of many physicians for twelve years, but when she touched the garment of the Lord, she was delivered, made a daughter of the Father, and sent forth in peace.

Cain depended on the merit value of his works, and Abel depended upon the blood of a lamb. Abel overcame sin by a blood sacrifice, but his brother was overcome by sin and became a murderer. If there is anything that gives Satan an advantage over our life, our home, or anything else, it is when we depend on something besides the Blood for victory.

The Bible tells of a woman who was brutally assaulted in Gibeah—and she died the next day. Her husband sent parts to the twelve tribes. It was a horrible crime committed by the tribe of Benjamin, so the eleven other tribes assembled and demanded Benjamin to release the ones guilty of the crime. Benjamin would not do so and fought against the Israelites.

Judges 20:18 "And the children of Israel arose, and went up to the house of God, and asked counsel of God, and said, Which of us shall go up first to the battle against the children of Benjamin? And the LORD said, Judah shall go up first." It is our privilege to be sure to ask God for spiritual guidance in every situation; James 1:5 "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally."

Judges 20:19-21 "The children of Israel rose up in the morning and encamped against Gibeah. And the men of Israel went out to battle against Benjamin; and the men of Israel put themselves in array to fight against them at Gibeah. And the children of Benjamin came forth out of Gibeah, and destroyed down to the ground of the Israelites that day twenty and two thousand men." A small tribe of Benjamin defeated a powerful army of Judah. Judges 20:23 "(And the children of Israel went up and wept before the LORD until even, and asked counsel of the LORD, saying, Shall I go up again to battle against the children of Benjamin my brother? And the LORD said, Go up against him.)"

It was the proper thing to ask counsel again, but the cause of defeat was still not known. Judges 20:25 "*This time, when the Benjamites came out from Gibeah to oppose them, they cut down another eighteen thousand Israelites, all of them armed with swords.*" Forty-thousand men lost their lives unnecessarily. They had asked counsel of God but were still unable to win the battle.

If we are not getting the victory in our spiritual life, we are probably where Israel was with Benjamin—when an insignificant company routed a powerful force of Israelites. We often suffer many hardships for the same reason they suffered the loss of many lives.

Judges 20:26 "Then all the Israelites went up to Bethel and wept in the presence of the LORD and fasted until evening. They also brought burnt offerings and peace offerings to the LORD." They could have prayed, fasted, and wept for days, but this time they put the blood before the Lord, they made their burnt offerings and peace offerings; representing the Atonement work of Jesus' great work on the Cross. The offerings paid the cost and made all the difference.

It was the price paid for the victory Judges 20:27-28, "And the children of Israel enquired of the LORD, (for the ark of the covenant of God was there in those days, And Phinehas, the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron, stood before it in those days,) saying, Shall I yet again go out to battle against the children of Benjamin my brother, or shall I cease? And the LORD said, Go up; for to-morrow I will deliver them into thine hand."

When the blood was shed, which represented the Blood of Christ on the Cross, victory came, and

the battle was won. The enemy was defeated when a blood sacrifice was offered. We can have the same victory when we present the Blood of Christ in our battles, as the only merit, against sin and the enemy that cometh against us—battles in the home, oppressions of the body, financial obligations, and all the devil's tricks and snares.

There is only one reason why the devil's power is broken over an oppression; an attitude of a loved one; our finances, problems in the workplace, or in any other matter. It is not how we pray or who is praying with us; it is not the amount of our faith or any sincerity or good intentions on our part, but only because Jesus shed His Blood to pay the cost of our sin.

When our plea is based on the sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the Cross, the devil's power is broken, and our deliverance is ready to be given. We will have the same results that Judah had when blood sacrifices were offered. They won a decisive victory simply because of those blood offerings unto the Lord—they represented the Blood of the Lamb.

We have been under the precious Blood of Christ from the day of our birth; and we will be until the day of our death. If we place this Blood on the door, we can claim and receive freedom from sin, deliverance over the enemy, and have every blessing Bible believers received.

We can claim healing of the body; protection from harm; and deliverance from Satan and his agents—who try to disturb our peace; bring conflict in our home; withhold finances from us; and try to hinder many other blessings God wants to give us. We can be as Romans 8:37 tells us, "*more than conquerors through Him who loved us*," when we depend only on what paid the price for the victory the precious Blood of Jesus Christ.

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