

THE BLOOD BRINGS PERFECT PEACE

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We need to understand what the Blood really means or stands for; because it is the great end of our salvation; it is the one essential thing we need to know that we may thoroughly understand God's plan. God's power begins to work the moment we understand, in any way, what the Blood stands for. It brings righteousness, it brings peace, it brings health and protection.

If we ever really understood what that Blood means, we would have perfect peace. Perfect victory will come to everyone who believes what that Blood stands for. It would pay to get a better understanding of our privileges and blessings provided through that Blood. Isaiah 53:1; "*Who hath believed our report? and to whom is the arm of the Lord revealed?*" Who hath believed what God has to say about the great sacrifice, or the shedding of the Blood, and the breaking of the body of His Son?

"And to whom is the arm of the Lord revealed?" The moment we really believe and accept the plain, matter-of-fact statement that God tells us about the Blood; that His Son died on the Cross for us, and just what that Blood means to us, then that very moment God's arm is moved in our behalf; God's power begins to work to give us the benefits of that work. We have the same statement in 1st 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.*" This means from the very moment that we accept the statements of His Word about the Cross, its true meaning and what it stands for--that moment the power of God sets us free; that power begins to work at once for us. Hebrews 10:14, "*For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified.*" God has made this provision and it has been completed for us; because Jesus Christ said on the Cross--"IT IS FINISHED".

The Book of Hebrews is the Book in which Isaiah's prophecy is brought out in greater detail, enlarged upon and magnified. It contains wonderful Truths to set people free in everything and in every way. Hebrews 10:10--"*we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.*" We have righteousness, peace, and free access to everything that God has. Hebrews 9:22, "*And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.*" Notice how the Blood sets us free from sin. The very moment we grasp that fact, that moment they drop off.

Genesis 4:4, *And Abel, he also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of the fat thereof. And the Lord had respect unto Abel and to his offering.* The Lord accepted that offering, it was all God required from Abel; the blood of a little lamb. Hebrews 11:4 we read what God had to say about that blood--"*By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh.*" Abel accepted that statement and received perfect righteousness and full deliverance from the guilt and power of sin. He offered blood as an offering, as a type of Jesus Christ on the Cross; and this is what brought the righteousness. He had testimony borne unto him that he was righteous.

If we accept that Word as our only hope, we have pardon and cleansing. If we think we have to work up a big faith, or do anything of ourselves to be made righteous, we are making a big mistake. We must base our hope of righteousness on the Blood of that Lamb, which is all that God requires; it is all we need for righteousness, just accept God's statement concerning the Blood of His Son, which says our sins are forgiven, when we ask--not because of anything we have done, or ever can do. Our hearts are cleansed because of that Blood.

We receive forgiveness, pardon, and cleansing, and the gift of righteousness because of the Blood of that great Passover Lamb alone--not for any other reason--nothing we have done, no prayer we have offered, but because we have based our hopes on the Blood of that Lamb.

This statement is brought out clearly in Hebrews 9:13-14, *"For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of a heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh; How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?"*

If Abel's lamb would bring pardon and cleansing, without merit or price on his part, how much more will the Blood of Jesus Christ do the same for us today? That is what Paul is trying to bring out by this Scripture.

This is also brought out in the teaching of Philip to the eunuch in Acts 8:32-33, The eunuch was reading from a roll in the 53rd chapter of Isaiah, where the prophet was speaking about the coming Messiah, *"He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and like a lamb dumb before his shearer, so opened he not his mouth. In his humiliation his judgment was taken away: and who shall declare his generation?"*

Philip joined the eunuch in the chariot and asked him if he understood what he read, to which he replied--*"How can I, except some man teach me?"* He was an educated man from Ethiopia, but very ignorant concerning the interpretation of the Scriptures. He held a high position worldly speaking, but Divinely speaking he didn't know anything; he did not know if the Prophet was speaking about himself or someone else.

Philip began to teach him from the Scriptures, stating that the Prophet Isaiah was teaching about Jesus Christ, God's Son, the Messiah, Who came to this earth and spent three and a half years, hung on a Cross and slain, in order to pardon our sins, cleanse our hearts, fill us with God's righteousness; and that whosoever believed that He died there for them would receive deliverance from their sins. As they went on their way, they came to a stream of water and the eunuch asked if he could be baptized. Philip answered, *"If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest."* He answered and said, *I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God."*

Philip really meant to say--*"If you really believe, with all your heart, that Jesus Christ died for your sins, and you accept Him and His Blood as your only hope, you may."* He was baptized at that place and went home a delivered man, He did not get down and coax and plead with God to forgive him. He had a right to ask for forgiveness. We are to BELIEVE that through that Blood there is remission of sins. Peter stood up before those hard-hearted Jews and preached in Acts 2:38, *"Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost."*

Acts 10:43, *"To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins."* Whosoever believes what the Blood stands for, what it was shed for, will be justified. All we have to do is to believe God's testimony concerning the Blood.

In the 10th chapter of Acts. Cornelius was ready to do anything, but he was not called upon to do anything but only believe God's testimony about the Blood of His Son. Peter came and spoke to him about Jesus hanging on the Cross and if he was willing to BELIEVE the facts concerning the Blood and would repent, he could be delivered. That is the reason we are justified through faith, because unbelief is the foundation of all sin. Repentance, and believing are the foundation of righteousness. The greatest repentance you can do is to believe the statements of God's Word, which is the foundation of repentance--to be willing to believe the plain statements of God's Word.

When you have settled it to BELIEVE God's statements concerning the Blood, you are FREE because that Blood has cut the cords which bound you to sin and the power of Satan. That is the best repentance you can do, to be willing to believe God's Word as it is written.

After God spoke to Saul of Tarsus in Acts 9:8, he said--"*Lord, what wilt thou have me do?*" God only asked him to BELIEVE. "*Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do.*"

Ananias came and laid his hands on Saul's head and his eyesight was restored, through the Blood of Jesus Christ, his heart cleansed and he was filled with the Holy Spirit. It was the same in the case of Cornelius. He sat there, with his family, listening to Peter's message. He did not coax or plead for his pardon and cleansing; he did not do any weeping and agonizing. Peter presented to him the story of the Cross and of his sins, which caused Jesus Christ to hang there, telling him that if he believed the statement concerning the shedding of that Blood, he would be freed from every sin and receive full deliverance. Cornelius did not say one word, neither was he doing anything but listening to Peter's message; and while Peter was speaking, he accepted the statements concerning that Blood.

So many of us think we must do something of ourselves in order to receive our full deliverance from sin. We take the place of Cain, instead of accepting what God has done. The Blood of Jesus Christ has set us free and grants us pardon and cleansing, without merit on our part, without any works of our own. Ephesians 2:10, "*For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.*"

The very moment we accept the statements, concerning the Blood, at their face value, it is plainly stated in Matthew 8:16-17 how this works out. "*When the even was come, they brought unto him many that were possessed with devils: and he cast out the spirits with his word and healed all that were sick. That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses,*"

Satan had to flee; everyone was healed; all diseases fled at His Word. This means that we also are exempted, the moment we accept God's statement concerning the Blood; it means perfect health and protection, and nothing short of it.

We are to have the same love and power to live and walk as He did. The same power, which raised Him from the dead and caused Him to sit at God's right hand, is at our side and disposal. "Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.'

God begins to work as soon as we believe the testimony concerning the Blood. The Blood is also very important in reference to our health and protection. The very moment we accept that Atonement work of Jesus Christ for the healing of our body, we are granted perfect health; but in no other way, no works of man of any kind are to be added. If we add the works of men, it puts us in the class with Cain.

The Blood is all that God requires, not the way we pray, not what we say about the Blood, none of these things bring pardon and cleansing. The testimony of the Blood of Jesus Christ is just as emphatic, as it is written.

Isaiah 53:4,5, "*Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.*"
