

Covered By Jesus Christ's Atoning Blood Sacrifice— For Us

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For a person to truly understand the 'Salvation Message' that Jesus Christ brought for everyone on this earth (and, what the 'covering Blood' of His 'atonement sacrifice' really accomplished for us) ... is, the most important thing that any Christian could ever come to know during their lifetime. The work of atonement that Jesus Christ made in our behalf can be separated into parts (as to why He had to make that sacrifice, what He accomplished for us by doing so, and the benefits of one believing on the power of His atonement Blood).

We need to fully comprehend why Jesus came to this earth, and why He had to take our place on the cross. He came to shed His blood, to cleanse us of sin in our life, and to redeem our life from a 'penalty of death' because of our past sins, (since 'all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God')(Rom.3:22). We need to understand that Jesus gave His 'life-blood' for us (even before we had repented of our sins), and then we must embrace what He has done on the Cross to purchase 'Life' (eternal) for us, ..if we will accept that plan of His for our 'Salvation'. It is something we must choose to believe. Jesus Christ's sacrifice of atonement was eternal sacrifice to cover everything in a Christian's life, if we will make that choice to believe it.

God promised the gift of His Holy Spirit, and it is for anyone who chooses to sincerely believe on the power of His Son's atonement Blood sacrifice (that was made in our behalf).(Gal.3:2) "you received the Spirit because when you heard you believed."

Through the Holy Spirit's guidance, believers will be taught to trust on the power of Jesus' atonement Blood sacrifice for everything in life, and thus, become a child of 'God'. (John 1:12 says) "Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his Name,... he gave the right to become children of God."

Mankind was created in the Garden of Eden to be perfectly happy with everything provided pertaining to happiness (no strife, trouble, poverty, pains, aches, or anything else that could spoil their perfect happiness. The story of God's Creation can be encouraging and refreshing to read and (by the grace of God) to understand what those conditions of perfect happiness must have been like. It is something we can choose to enjoy, because God created us as free-moral agents who can choose our own path to follow in our life, (God's pathway that leads to Life eternal, or Satan's path that leads to destruction).

The 'free-will choice' that our creator gave us is the greatest gift that could be given to 'created beings'. God made us independent; to choose the path we want to take in everything. This wonderful gift places upon us, not only the responsibility of our life, welfare, and protection here, but full responsibility for our eternal destiny. To be enabled by God to understand this 'power of choice' that we were given (how it was used in a wrong way by Adam to bring all the trouble on the world), (and how this choice can be used to deliver us from that trouble), is a most valuable knowledge indeed! It solves every problem for us.

Satan has most professing Christians (and denominational Churches in the world) blaming God for serious things that happen in their life. Most preachers even place responsibility on God for someone is 'passing',... saying, that it "was God's will to take them". However, the Bible puts all blame on the devil, for causing one to use their 'power of choice' in a wrong way, and listening to Satan's lies and alternative plans (instead of relying on the power and benefits of the 'atonement work of Christ' for the fulfillment of God's 'promises').

It is the same concerning our eternal life. We (and every other human being) are responsible for where we spend eternity, and God provided a plan for us to get 'eternal Life'. He does not ask us to provide any 'light' or 'power'(of our own), but just a willingness to allow Him to prepare us. He has not only given us eternal Life, but He has taken it upon Himself to prepare us for

Eternal Life (through a sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit in our heart).

God has made ample provision for us by His Son's atonement sacrifice, and He is the perfect Teacher and master Workman to remove 'self' (which prepares our heart). We are only to surrender our life to God for self to be removed from us and believe to receive God's abundant mercy in this life (and in Eternity).

If we will choose to place ourselves in His hands (and hold steady in faith), He will perfect us in everything that pertains to this life and also prepare us for eternal Life. But if we refuse to listen to God, and instead, choose to listen to the devil and follow his plans, nothing can save us from the Lake of Fire (because, in reality, we would be rejecting the power of Christ's atonement work accomplished for us). (Matt. 10:33) *"But whoever disowns me before men I also will disown before my Father who is in Heaven."*

It is only by the merciful love of God the Father that His Son's blood was shed on the Cross for us, to pardon, cleanse, and pay for our forgiveness (the price to purchase our 'salvation'). That 'grace' extended (to all who are found to be trusting in the Son of God 'to the end of the age'), is, the vital part of the 'message of the Cross' that Jesus brought to us.

That is the message He and His disciples taught to everyone else who will 'listen' to His teaching, and 'follow' Him in real 'obedient faith', depending on the power of His shed Blood on the Cross, (which supports every promise given us in Scripture). They are the people whom the Holy Spirit will enlighten to understand His Word, and inspire them to obey and follow it, because the Holy Spirit is for 'believers'..not for unbelievers.

Jesus explained that the Holy Spirit would be sent to the obedient in the faith (meaning 'believers', who will grow through the Spirit) (John 14:15-16) *"If you love me, you will obey my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Advocate to be forever with you—the 'Spirit' of Truth."*

However, that Spirit was not sent for unbelievers, as Jesus explained (vs.17), *"That Spirit, the 'world' (unbelievers) cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him. You know Him, because He remains by your side and is in you."*

Jesus had already given the instructions (John 14:1), *"Trust in God: trust in Me also."* Now

He is assuring all 'believers' of His Father's blessing of the Holy Spirit, "Who" would help them learn to 'trust' in Him (and on God, His Father)." The human heart always wants to trust in some seen thing, rather than on the Word and 'Promises' of the unseen God.

Many people have sought (and received) advice from the Scriptures, but they refused to accept it and went their own way. They eventually came to grief because they used their power of choice to follow the devil's way (instead of choosing God's way of depending on the power of Jesus' atonement Blood sacrifice, and the benefits that it provided for everyone to claim and receive by faith. They were wholly responsible for any sad results (due to their wrong choices), instead of them relying on the power of Jesus' Blood.

For anyone who will give God the opportunity, He will bring them to His plan and the fulfillment of His Promises confirmed by His Son's atonement work (2 Cor.1:20) *"For all the promises of God, (whatever their number), have their confirmation in Him; and for this reason through Him also, our "Amen" acknowledges their truth and promotes the glory of God through our faith."*

God will make each one victorious through His provisional plan for all who will trust on Him. It will not only make them victorious, but it will reach to their family. The righteousness of a wife will reach to her husband, or a husband's righteousness to his wife. It will reach their children (and even grandchildren) if the grandparents live within God's plan to be fully trusting on what the atonement Blood of Christ provided. (Psalm 103:17-18) *"But the mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting On those who fear Him, And His righteousness to children's children, To such as keep His covenant, And to those who remember His commandments to do them."*

Just as importantly, we must realize that as we repent and give up efforts of the self-life (and things we have gotten via the self-life), it is God who will then enable us to also 'come to Him' with a truly repentant heart, and to "remember His commandments to do them."

Jesus set an example for living a 'sinless life' (even though He was tempted just as we are all tempted"). By living a life of 'faith and trust' in His Father, He set an example by which we also (in faith and trust) are to follow Him. (Heb.12:2-4) *"Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and*

perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart. In your struggle against sin, you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood."

The plan given in God's 'Salvation Message' covers every-thing in a Christian's life, including our spiritual development and growth ("growth in holiness" apart from which no one will see the Lord." (Heb.12:14). "*Persistently strive for that growth.*"

God's plan (founded on the power of the Atonement) delivers us from sin and Satan's power, and provides for the healing of our body, the peace in our home, personal peace within ourselves, and for everything else that concerns us. His plan is simplicity in itself. All that it is, is for us to learn under God's teaching (and in the strength and guidance that He provides), to get us rid of all the things we have been trusting in for the health of our bodies, for our home life, our financial affairs, and for our friends and everything else. God wants us to come to Him (to trust in Him) like little children. Jesus said (Matt.18:3), "*I tell you the truth, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the Kingdom of Heaven.*" We are to simply turn to God's plan of trusting on Him (instead of turning away and trusting on plans of 'self' or someone else). God's plan is very easy to follow.

We should learn to trust God to find Christian friends for us, and then to control their attitude toward us (and ours toward them). Any person who has heard God's Truth (and will trust God in this way instead of using human efforts), will enjoy happiness in their home. Anyone who will take a Scriptural stand to trust on God to provide a lifetime companion, He will bring a perfect mate for them. Trusting God in this very important matter is the only safe way. For those who were married before they came to know the Truth, God can take the worst husband (or wife) and change their attitude, so they will not do anything to disturb the other's peace (with human efforts put aside and God alone trusted on to restore peace).

Jesus Christ's work on the Cross at Calvary restored every-thing that Adam's sin took from us. It is already ours through the Blood of

Christ (as much as it was Adam's in the Garden of Eden before he disobeyed God. We are to get it back by reversing the plan that the devil used to mislead Adam, as we believe God's Word (and reject the devil's lies). Adam's mistake (a serious one), was to believe the devil and to doubt God's Word.

There is no other way to have perfect conditions of the Garden of Eden restored in our life, other than to accept and believe the Word of God, which is the Truth founded on fact. If Adam could believe the lies of the devil, surely, by God's grace, anyone should believe the Word of a truthful God (who is always present to give us the spiritual grace to believe and to receive our victory). Jesus said (Rev.3:18) "*Therefore I counsel you to buy of Me, gold refined in the fire, that you may become rich, and white robes to put on*", (that means deliverance from sin and the devil, and be clothed with God's righteousness), "*so as to hide your shameful nakedness, and eye-salve to anoint your eyes with, so that you may be able to see.*" (That means to enable believers to see in faith "the things that are so freely given us of God") (1 Cor. 2:12), (meaning, that 'Jesus Christ's work on the Cross at Calvary', restored everything that Adam took from us.

(2 Cor.4:3-4 reminds true believers) "*And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the 'light of the gospel' of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.*" (We must believe God's Word that Jesus Christ's atonement work not only cleansed us from sin, but that it also restored everything that Adam's sin took away from us.)

Any one of these parts of the Atonement that we have been considering would bring perfect victory, fulness of blessing and deliverance. First, that Christ already bore for us, the burden of every sin, sorrow, disease, home problem, and everything else. (Isaiah 53:4-5 Moffatt's) "*And yet ours was the pain He bore, the sorrow He endured! We thought Him suffering from a stroke at God's hand; yet He was wounded because we had sinned, twas our misdeeds that crushed Him; twas for our welfare that He was chastised, the blows that fell to Him have brought us HEALING.*"

Secondly, the aspect of having everything paid for by the Blood of Christ and "freely given

us of God", would include God, Himself, Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit, (and everything else that we could need for our spiritual life), our home life, peace within and without, our health, and our financial needs and supplies).

A third (and a most important aspect) is, the change of heart that the Atonement work of Christ had made in us, as we believe that it did an effective work, to change our entire life. For one To truly believe that Jesus Christ changed our character and nature by His atonement sacrifice, is the most direct and the only positive way of 'having Christ to live within our heart' and have us 'receive the benefits' of His great Atonement.

When Adam believed the devil and doubted God, his character changed to be opposite to what it was, and opposite to what God had intended. By Adam using his 'power of choice' in a wrong way, he became controlled by Satan (and lost all knowledge of God).

Adam's Son, Abel, made an offering of a slain lamb (a poor type of Jesus Christ blood sacrifice). Abel had no merit of himself to appease God, "But Abel brought fat portions from some of the firstborn of his flock. The LORD looked with favor on Abel and his offering," (says Gen.4:4). Abel's character (attitude) was changed. Instead of having the evil nature and being under the control of Satan, he had the righteousness of God restored in him (which his father and mother had in the Garden of Eden, before Eve was deceived by Satan and fell to sin).

Jesus Christ (through His great work on the Cross) restored the nature of God for us. We must believe that He made us 'Christ-like', gave us the image of God, and took from us the guilt and power of sin and Satan. Everyone has that privilege, of taking the attitude of seeing ourselves restored (as God's Word says), regardless of anything in us, or what we have done or could do, because there is no merit in us, and no merit in anything that we could do!!

It is all because of what Jesus Christ did for us. (Isaiah 53:5) "*twas for our welfare that He was chastised, the blows that fell to Him have brought us HEALING.*" (That includes spiritual and physical 'healing' and 'blessing' more-so than anything else, because God's blessing of a spiritual nature can only come from a 'life of faith' on the work accomplished on the Cross) (as we see ourselves (in faith) at the feet of Jesus Christ).

The Bible clearly tells us how we are to see ourselves when we believe on the atonement sacrifice that Jesus Christ made for us. (Gal. 2:20), "*I have been crucified with Christ, and it is no longer I that live, but Christ that lives in me; and the life which I now live in the body I live through faith in the Son of God who loved me and gave Himself up to death on my behalf.*"

The atoning 'Blood sacrifice' of Jesus Christ, changes our spiritual nature and character and attitude,... if we base our hope on that alone; because everything in the true Christian life is 'covered by the Atonement'!!

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