

POWER IN THE BLOOD

Int.

1. **Aim:** To show the great power in the blood of Jesus.
2. Heb. 9:22 - central message of the Bible - no remission without shedding of blood
3. Song "There is Power in the Blood" # 563
 - a. Chorus - There is power, wonder-working power in the blood of the lamb
 - b. Each verse declares the truth that there is power in the blood
4. There is a trail of blood from Eden to Calvary - enough to wash away the city of Jerusalem. There may have been enough animal blood shed to fill the Dead Sea. Some called this the slaughterhouse religion.
5. Blood is repulsive to many today
 - a. They like to hear about the cross - many sermons are preached about the Cross
 - b. The cross has been plated with gold - it has been glamorized.
 - c. There is no way to glamorize the blood -
6. But The blood of Christ is mentioned about 3 times as often as the cross of Christ
 - a. Greek word for blood is used 99 times in N.T. 50 times it refers to the blood of Christ.
 - b. 13 of the N.T. books use the word blood in reference to Christ.
 - c. The blood & the cross really go together. For it was on the cross that Christ shed his blood.
7. Why is the blood Necessary? Why does God require death in order to forgive? What is so special about Blood?
8. These questions will be answered as we discuss the POWER OF THE BLOOD.

Discussion

I. POWER TO PURCHASE HIS CHURCH

- A. Acts 20:28
 - 1. Church - the people — not a building
 - 2. The Lord adds the saved to the church - Acts 2:47
 - 3. The Church and the kingdom are the same - Col. 1:13-14
- B. We are saved by the blood and the blood is what purchased the church

II. POWER TO FORGIVE

- A. Man sinned against God
 - 1. When Adam & Eve sinned they separated themselves from God, and God sent them forth from the Garden - Genesis 3
 - 2. The Justice and Holiness of God required that there be punishment for man's sin.
 - 3. A hatred of unrighteousness and a will to punish it is as essential to God as his love of righteousness.
 - 4. God would cease to be holy if he did not hate sin and ceased to punish sin.
 - 5. God must punish sin. It is not an optional matter that sin be punished. God cannot wink at wickedness.
 - 6. God's justice could only be satisfied if the full penalty was paid for sin. The penalty was death.
 - 7. God devised a plan to extend mercy to man in offering him forgiveness but maintained his righteousness and his justice.

B. Blood was in this plan of atonement = at one with God, reconciliation.

1. Lev. 17:11 "For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul." Atonement = at one with God, reconciliation
2. Life is very closely connected with the blood which flows through the body.
3. If it runs out, the life of the body ebbs away.
4. Heb. 9:22 & 23 ". . .without shedding of blood is no remission."
5. No man has ever been pardoned of sins except through the blood shed for remission of sins.

C. Under the Law of Moses - Blood was required

1. The Day of Atonement - Lev. 16 - 7th month 10th day.
 - a. This was the main day of the Jewish year. This was the day for making provision of sin. Sin in every form had to be atoned for.
 - b. The word "atonement" is used 15 times and the word "blood" 10 times
 - c. There was no remission of sins without blood - Lev 17:11
2. All sins were atoned with "blood"
 - a. Blood of a kid goat taken into tabernacle
 - b. Taken into Holy of Holies by High Priest
 - c. Blood sprinkled by priest 7 times Eastward upon the mercy seat
 - d. Then he goes out into the Holy Place and puts blood on the horns of the altar of incense.
3. This blood atonement was done only 1 time each year on this special day - 7th month 10th day - the day of atonement.

D. Under the Law of Christ we learn of blood atonement

1. It was not possible that the blood of animals could forgive - Heb. 10:3-4
2. Therefore God sent his son as the perfect sacrifice for all mankind
 - a. He was Divine
 - b. But he took on the form of man
 - c. He was without sin - Heb. 4:15
3. Scripture declares that the blood of Christ was shed for our sins:
 - a. Heb. 9:12-14 - 22-28
 - b. Rom. 5:9-10
 - c. Eph. 1:7 "In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace; "
 - d. 1 Pet. 1:18-19
 - e. John 1:29 ". . .Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world."

E. There is power in the blood of Christ to Forgive

1. The blood of Christ is the ransom price that is paid for sin - Mt. 20:28 "...to give his life a ransom for many."
2. Blood represents life - Gen. 9:4 Lev. 17:11 - and the blood of Christ pays man's sin debt.
3. His blood flowed backward to all those who obeyed God's will for them and his blood flows forward for those who obey God's will today.

III. POWER TO KEEP ON CLEANSING

- A. After we become Christians we need to be forgiven of any future sins
 - 1. It is not the case that we can live a sinless life - 1 Cor. 10:12 & James 5:19
 - 2. What do we do about those sins after we obey the gospel?
 - 3. God does not just ignore them but he has provided a means of forgiveness and it involves the blood of Christ

- B. I Jn. 1:7 "But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin."
 - 1. Walk in the light - follow God's rules
 - 2. I Jn.1:8-10 - confess our sins
 - 3. I Jn: 2:1-2
 - a. If any man sin - there is a possibility
 - b. We have an advocate -
 - c. Propitiation for our sins
 - 4. "Propitiation"
 - a. "To appease, to Satisfy"
 - b. God is justified in offering forgiveness because Christ died - shed his blood.
 - c. God's requirement has been met - the blood of Christ
 - 5. His blood keeps on cleansing us of our sins - as we confess them -
 - 6. Acts 8: 22-24 Repent and pray
 - a. An example of a man who was a Christian but he sinned
 - b. Told to repent and pray
 - c. The blood of Christ keeps on cleansing

IV. HOW DO WE COME INTO CONTACT WITH THE BLOOD OF CHRIST?

- A. Salvation from sin means that the blood of Christ must be applied to sinners.
1. Rev. 1:5 "washed us from our sins in his own blood."
 2. I Pet. 1:18-19 says we are redeemed by the precious blood of Christ.
 3. A physical contact with the literal blood of Christ is not intended to be understood.
 4. There is some precise moment when the blood of Christ is applied to the soul of the alien sinner thus cleansing his sins, redeeming him, and reconciling him to God.
- B. Is it at:
1. Belief - NO! Although belief is a requirement (Jn.8:24), the Bible nowhere declares that one can believe into Christ and the merits of His blood.
 2. Repentance - NO! Although repentance is a requirement (Lk.13:3), the Bible nowhere declares that repentance is into Christ and the merits of His blood.
 3. Confession - NO! Although confession is a requirement (Mt. 10:32-33), the Bible nowhere declares that confession is into Christ and the merits of His blood.
- C. IT IS AT BAPTISM
1. Rm. 6:3-5 — Gal. 3:27
 2. We are baptized into Christ
 3. It is only after we have been raised from our watery grave, wherein we were buried with Christ, that we are able to walk in newness of life. - Rm. 6:4

4. Paul says that in baptism we are baptized into Jesus' death.
 - a. None of us can be transported back in time in order to die with Christ on the cross.
 - b. But each of us can die to sin and be buried in baptism with Christ into Christ's death.
 - c. Christ's blood was shed for the remission of sins [Mt.26:28] and he shed his blood in his death (Jn. 19:34)
 - d. We are baptized into his death - Rom. 6:3
 - e. It is only when the blood is applied to the soul of the sinner that cleansing takes place.
 - f. It is clear that such cleansing takes place when one is obedient to the truth and is baptized into the death of Christ -and not before.
 5. 1 Pet. 1:22a "Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth..."
 6. Mk. 16:16 - belief + baptism = Salvation
 7. 1 Pet. 3:21 - Baptism saves us - this is where we contact the blood
- D. The blood of Christ is contacted when we are baptized for the remission of our sins.

CONCLUSION

1. The Blood of Christ is the most powerful thing in the universe!
 - a. It Purchased the church
 - b. It can Forgive sins
 - c. It can keep on cleansing our sins

2. Christ's Blood shows two important things about God:
 - a. [1] How much he hates sin
 - b. [2] How much he loves man
 3. Christ was crucified not for his sins but for mine. Will you show your love to him by obeying his will?
 4. Belief, Repentance, Confession, Baptism = Salvation
 5. We are baptized, in water, into the benefits made possible by the shedding of the blood of Christ.
 6. Will you come to the cleansing Power of the Blood of Christ?
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