

THE BLOOD OF CHRIST

David C F Wright DD

Precious, precious blood of Jesus
Shed on Calvary.
Shed for rebels, shed for sinners
Shed for me

Hebrews 9.22 Without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.

The blood of Christ is the expression of the sacrificial death and atoning work of Christ on our behalf.

He literally bled on the Cross.

He bled and died for sinners.

We have redemption through His blood (Ephesians 1. 7). He bled for us, not for Himself. In Him was no sin (1 John 3.5).

The blood has the power to atone for the infinite number of sins committed throughout the ages by countless people. The slaying of animals as a sacrifice first appears in Genesis 3.21 to make skin coverings for Adam and Eve to hide the shame of their nakedness.

There are many animal lovers who object to the sacrifice of animals. Some Pentecostals explain it away by saying it was God's alternative to human sacrifice practised by heathen people. This is one of the many erroneous beliefs of some Pentecostals. A friend has made a point that some people set animals above men and women having a different set of values. Suppose your precious daughter fell into the fast flowing river as did a loveable dog who would you chose to save as you could only save one of them?

God has ordained the Old Testament sacrifices and who are we to object or question Him?

Blood sacrifices has a strong emphasis in Mosaic law. At the first Passover in Exodus 12, blood was shed and put on the door of each Israelite household and the Lord said, "When I see the blood I will pass over." The firstborn in all the homes of the Egyptians were slain. But, as we have seen, the first blood sacrifice was for Adam and Eve.

Leviticus 17.11 states, The life is in the blood. For the life in the flesh is in the blood.

In the resultant history of the Israelites, there was the yearly atonement for the sins of the nation on the Day of Atonement and many other daily sacrifices for individuals and families because of their sins. Such sacrifices were repeated since sin is repeated.

The new covenant is through the blood of Christ. He is the once for all sacrifice. From the Cross, He said, "It is finished." The entire work of redemption is complete. For all believers it redeems us from sin, death, hell and judgement and gives us eternal life. The blood cleanseth us from all sin (1 John 1. 7). Jesus Christ has washed us from our sins in His blood (Rev 1 v5). We must not forget His anguish before the cross. And being in an agony His sweat was as great drops of blood falling down to the ground (Luke 22,44). He was obedient unto death and how much He loved us and obeyed His Heavenly Father.

As the hymn says, It passeth knowledge that dear love of Thine.

Another hymn starts like this:

The blood has always precious been,
It's precious now to me,
Through it alone my soul has rest
From fear and doubt set free.

God made the Lord Jesus sin for us who knew no sin.

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