

## THE BLOOD OF CHRIST

### I. WHY BLOOD MATTERS

#### A. **Leviticus 17:10-14**

1. When God forbade the consumption of blood, He did so on the basis that *"the life of the flesh is in the blood"* (11).
2. That being so, blood is a very important thing to God and deserves our attention in study.

#### B. **God has always demanded bloody sacrifices.**

##### 1. **Genesis 4:3-5**

- a. At the dawn of time, Abel presented to God an animal sacrifice and Cain made a fruit offering.
- b. The Lord respected and therefore accepted the sacrifice of blood, but rejected the other.

##### 2. **Exodus 12:1-13, 29-30**

- a. When God went through Egypt to avenge His people, the blood of lambs painted on their doorposts was their token of safety (7), because *"the blood shall be a sign"* (13).
- b. Though there was death in every Egyptian home that night (29-30), the children of Israel obeyed, so that not a single death was among them.

##### 3. **Exodus 24:1-8; Hebrews 9:18-22**

- a. The Law of Moses was ratified by the pouring out of blood.
- b. In fact, without bloodshed salvation is impossible.

### II. WHY CHRIST'S BLOOD MATTERS

#### A. **Hebrews 10:1-4**

1. The Law of Moses was one in which the blood of animals was shed in abundance, but not one drop could remove sin.

2. The purpose of animal sacrifice was to move the sins forward annually, thus they were offered *“continually year by year.”* When the effectiveness of one sacrificed bull or goat expired it became necessary to repeat the procedure for another year.
3. All who obeyed this command from God did so with the hope of a greater sacrifice which would finally remove the sins that had been rolled back yearly.
  - a. **Hebrews 9:6-15**

That hope was realized in Christ, whose blood redeemed sinful man *“once for all”* (12).
  - b. **Hebrews 9:23-28**
    - i. All the rituals in the offering of blood under the Mosaic Covenant were merely copies – representations of what would be fulfilled under the New Covenant.
    - ii. We, at the end of the ages, enjoy Christ’s single, ultimate sacrifice.

**B. His blood accomplishes so much.**

1. **Matthew 26:28**

It remits sin!
2. **Ephesians 2:11-13**

It reconciles man to God!
3. **Ephesians 1:7**

It redeems!
  - a. **1<sup>st</sup> Peter 1:17-19**

No perishable element could do that!
  - b. **Revelation 5:9**

It redeems universally!

**III. HOW CHRIST’S BLOOD WORKS**

**A. Does His Blood Automatically Save All People From Their Sins?**

**1. Hebrews 2:9**

Jesus shed His blood for all people.

**2. Matthew 7:13-14**

But not all people will be saved.

**3.** Therefore, we conclude that some action must be undertaken in order to make Christ's blood effective.

**B. Upon what conditions, then, does the blood of Christ cleanse from sin?**

**1. John 19:31-34**

Jesus' blood was shed in His death. So, one must come in contact with His death in order to reach the redeeming blood.

**a. Romans 6:3-4**

Only baptism can put one into contact with Christ's death.

**b. Colossians 2:11-14**

Only baptism can put one into contact with Christ's death.

**2. Acts 20:28**

The realm in which the blood effectively cleanses is the Lord's church, for His blood was shed in order to purchase it. So, one must be in the church in order to benefit from the blood that was used to purchase it.

**a. Ephesians 1:22-23**

The church is Christ's body.

**b. 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 12:13**

The body is entered into by baptism.

**3. 1<sup>st</sup> John 1:6-7**

Jesus' blood will continue to be effective for cleansing so long as we walk in the light, that is: so long as we remain faithful.

**a. Revelation 7:9-17**

Eventually, this will result in heavenly bliss (14).

**b. Hebrews 10:26-29**

But to walk contrary to God's will results in the opposite (29).

## CONCLUSION

**A. Matthew 26:28**

Do you believe that Jesus' blood was shed for the remission of sins?

**B. Acts 10:43**

Do you believe that faith is required in order to activate that blood to remit sins?

**C. Acts 2:38**

Do you believe that baptism is required, as well?