

VOLUME TWO

PRECIOUS  
BLOOD

THE TABLE OF THE LORD

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# Table of the Lord

## Volume 2

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# Do I Have to Repent to Get to Heaven?

I have an old dictionary with many definitions about the word repent. Defined theologically, it says, *“to feel such sorrow for sin....”* But that definition, however, makes me wonder where did we find Jesus asking anyone to feel sorrow for their sins? I want you to think about this. We have been so indoctrinated by the church world teaching the same definitions and explanations for hundreds of years, that we often take for granted that they knew what they were talking about. After all, they are behind a pulpit. This book here says, in theology, *“to feel such sorrow for sin as leads to amendment of one’s ways.”* That makes it sound like we have to do something, but the question is, do you, and if you do, what? Is it some works we must do? No, obviously you know the answer to that, if you have been with this ministry for a while. This definition is not only in this old dictionary. Look in other dictionaries, especially a theological one. So let us begin looking at what Jesus did say about repentance. First, go to John 3:16. Here, John writes,

***“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”***

Does that say repent? No, it says *“whosoever believeth.”* There the word is *pisteuo*, to have trust and confidence in Jesus Christ. Especially about what He was about ready to do, and what He already did, and when we look back, to have trust and confidence in that. Jesus is not calling for repentance there, is he? Go to John 6:40. It reads,

***“And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth [pisteo again] on him, may have everlasting life.”***

That verse does not read ‘that everyone which seeth the son, and repent may have everlasting life.’ No, it says *“and believeth [or trusts] in him may have everlasting life.”* So where does this repenting stuff come from?

First, you must know, salvation is not what we do for God. Salvation is not dependent on how remorseful we are. And, if we are really remorseful, it does not mean we have a greater salvation than some other person. Salvation is what God did for us, and it is nothing of ourselves. Our works do not enter into the contract. Ephesians 2:8 tells us,

***“For by grace are ye saved, through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God. Not of works, lest any man should boast.”***

The word works in that verse is *ergon*, and means ‘*the employment of something,*’ in our case, the Word of God. This verse is telling us that grace does not happen by any employment of

somebody's word about what we must do, including 'You must repent,' lest any man should boast about what they did because they were remorseful.

Let me read from a section of this book. I do not agree with some of the things in this book, but I will read some of what I do agree with. It begins,

***“Imagine you are about to buy a home. As you are about to sign the contract, you cross out the price and you insert a lower price. Will the seller of the home honor that contract? No, of course not. You have violated the terms of the contract. In the same way, a pastor who crosses out the terms of the contract and adds different terms to His contract, that contract is void. It will not stand.***

***What is free and available to all by grace through faith is hijacked by the addition of human efforts.***

***In no way can a person's good works and deeds be added to the contract. God will not honor such a contract, and if you die under the terms of your own works-based contract, which essentially makes you the 'savior' and not Christ, you will stand before Him at the Great White Throne Judgment.***

***One of the reason why [many other preachers and their] plan of salvation is not biblical [including what they ask you to pray when you come to the altar] is due to the misuse of the word 'repent.' The New Testament was written predominantly in the Greek language. The definition of the word 'repent' in the Greek language is different from how it is defined in the English language. [just as I read the most common definitions from a theological sense] When Christ told people to repent He was telling them to 'change their minds' [which would eventually change their hearts] about what they were currently believing in (works of the law) [for salvation] to get them into heaven and to instead trust in Him alone to get them into heaven. The Greek word for repent is 'metanoia' which means 'a change of mind' and has nothing at all to do with turning from sins. To consciously turn from your sins involves a great amount of self-effort and resolve.”***

Often Christians are told we must repent and turn from our sins or we will go to hell, and if we repent and turn from our sins we will go to heaven, but Jesus never said that, nor his apostles, not a single one of them. That is why there are so many professing Christians, instead of change of mind and change of heart Christians. This author goes on to say,

***“It takes effort to put down that bottle of alcohol. It takes effort to quit smoking cigarettes. [I am not saying you will go to hell if you smoke cigarettes, do not put words in my mouth.] It takes effort to quit a drug habit. It takes great effort to not get angry at someone who has wronged you, or to stop lusting, lying, cheating, or to keep the Ten Commandments, etc. That ... is 'works-based salvation' and goes against what Christ teaches, despite how wholesome and good it sounds [and what we hear in most churches]. The English word repent, according***

*to just about any English [or theological] dictionary, means to ‘turn from sin...’ or to ‘feel regret’ or to ‘feel sorrow’ [remorse, in other words]. So, why do so many pastors use the English definition of repent rather than using the Greek meaning? Specifically, why [do so many pastors] define repent as turning from sins when it, in fact, means to change your mind?”*

If you do not like the definition of repent, then change God’s word, because that is exactly what it says in God’s word. But, what are we changing our mind about? We are changing our mind about what was Christ said in John 3:16 and 6:20; about how we will get to heaven. The old methods do not work any longer once Christ came. When John was preaching repentance he was still living under the law.

*“...the word ‘metanoia’ should have been brought into the English language either as it is currently spelled and pronounced or by using a transliteration, such as the Greek word for baptize is ‘baptizo’ and was transliterated into English by removing the ‘o’ and adding an ‘e’ in its place. Ultimately, Satan is to blame for the misuse of the word repent. While the translators of the bible in the year 1611 failed to accurately define the word repent, the bible is still the infallible and inspired Word of God; however, to know the correct meanings of certain words, one must refer to a concordance that translates certain [Greek] words into their accurate English equivalents.”*

That is easier said than done because many different people, like Wescott and Hort in the 1880’s, decided to make their own definitions for Greek words. So to find the accurate definitions, we must dig a little deeper than that.

*“Although Satan is to blame ultimately for the misuse and continued propagation of this word, and although the translators of the bible bear some share of the blame, as well, the real problem today is the lack of discipline on each pastor’s part.”*

I have been saying for years that lazy pastors do not want to study to show themselves approved, not in the people’s eyes, but in God’s eyes. They are representing Him, and hopefully rightly dividing the word of God, if they are not, God help them.

*“Pastors today have failed to do the necessary work of rightly dividing God’s Word. To ‘rightly divide’ the bible, a pastor must know the original intent and meaning of certain Greek words, and every difficult verse in scripture must be interpreted in light of an easier one. For example, many cults and many mainstream Christian churches today claim that Acts 2:38 says we must repent of our sins and get water baptized in order to be saved....”*

If you have been a Christian more than a month you have probably heard somewhere, by someone, either in a church or from a Christian, that Acts 2:38 says that we must repent of our sins and get water baptized in order to be saved.

*“...but when this verse is rightly divided using other, more clear verses, such as John 3:16 or John 6:40, and when the Greek word for repent is used correctly, we know that Peter was telling the audience that had just crucified Christ that in order for them to be born again they had to ‘change their minds’ about exactly who they just crucified, that He was, in fact, the Messiah, and that if they trusted in Him alone they would be baptized ‘in the Name’ of Jesus Christ, which meant that they would be ‘brought into His family’ and has nothing at all to do with being immersed into water. What many people, as well as many cults [and denominations too], fail to understand is that the bible speaks of 10 different baptisms. Specifically, the bible speaks of the baptism of John the Baptist, the baptism of death, the diverse baptisms of the Old Testament, the baptisms of believers, the baptism of the Holy Spirit, the baptism of Jesus Christ, the baptism of fire, the baptism of Moses... and the baptism in the Name.”*

This is very serious, but go to Mark 7:1, just to lighten the mood a little bit, to look at one of the baptisms. Start with the very first verse,

*“Then came together unto him the Pharisees, and certain of the scribes, which came from Jerusalem.  
And when they saw some of his disciples eat bread with defiled, that is to say, with unwashen, hands, they found fault.  
For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, except they wash their hands oft, eat not, holding the tradition of the elders.  
And when they come from the market, except they wash, they eat not.”*

The Greek word for ‘wash’ is the same word used for baptizing in the church world today, *baptizo*; it is the same word for immersing in water. This verse shows another baptism, the baptism of pots and pans.

*“And when they come from the market, except they baptizo, they eat not. And many other things there be, which they have received to hold, as the washing of cups, and pots, brasen vessels, and of tables.”*

Once a person wrote me a letter about four or more pages long upset and telling me why water baptism is necessary. And as I read page by page, their argument did not hold water (no pun intended) at all. It reminded me of people who just memorize verses then put them together to make their own particular doctrine saying it is because the scripture said so. They are really just taking the verses out of context without knowing the meaning of the words. So, the next time



someone tells you that you must be baptized or else you are a sinner, ask them which baptism. There are many of them, should you be baptized in pots and pans? Then read them Mark 7:4. It is important that you really understand *how* the words were used in the everyday language of the Greek. That was just a side bar, so let us continue with this author,

***“It is easy to misinterpret Acts 2:38 as being a ‘water baptism’ verse just as easily as it is to wrongly define repent using the English definition rather than the Greek definition; however, the unique thing about the Greek language is that virtually every word in the language is different and therefore each word is defined a little differently from every other word, however similar they might appear to be ... in virtually every case that Christ used the word repent, He was telling lost people to [metanoia] ‘to change their minds’ from their works to His grace. Grace is the absolute opposite of works. The two are as different as night and day according to Romans 11:6, which says, ‘And if by grace, then it is no more of works: otherwise grace is no more grace. But if it be works, then it is no more grace: otherwise work is no more work.’”***

It does not matter how much of a work you try to slip in, even just a sliver of a work, especially if it comes to salvation, then it is no more grace, and you are living under damnation because you are still living under the law, not under Christ.

***“While this is definitely a brain teaser of a verse, it is quite clear that if salvation is by grace, then it cannot be by works [or of works], otherwise the definitions of both grace and works would be false. You cannot have grace if you attempt to be saved by your works, otherwise, grace would not be grace. If you attempt to be saved by your works, you will stand before Christ at that Great White Throne Judgment and all of your works will never be enough to get you into Heaven. Why? Because nothing you could ever do in your lifetime would ever make you ‘as righteous as’ Christ. You see, we must all be ‘as righteous as’ God in order to enter into heaven. [That is why He imputes it in us, He knows what we need.] It is a place where there is no sin. The only thing that can ‘wash away’ our sins is the blood of Christ. [Actually, that washing away removes it, not covers it.] If you will think back with me to when God used Moses to issue the plagues against Pharaoh, everyone who applied the blood of a lamb upon their door posts were spared from having a ‘death angel’ kill the firstborn of their children. When the death angel saw the ‘blood’ he passed over their home; however, when the death angel saw a house that had no blood upon the door post, he killed the first-born child in that home. In a similar way, today, when Christ sees His blood covering the sins of a believer, there is not judgement.”***

This is where I again disagree. His blood is not covering us. When Christ removes the sins of the believer, there is no judgment. Romans 8 tells us there is no condemnation, because if we are in Christ Jesus our sins are removed; they have been vanished by Christ.

***“There is no condemnation... for the one who has ‘applied the blood’ of Christ to themselves. While figuratively speaking, we do not actually dip His blood onto a cloth and cover ourselves with it. Instead, His blood washes our sins away the instant that we trust Him as our savior. He shed His blood upon the cross over 2,000 years ago. Moses was saved by believing what Christ ‘would do’ for him in the future. Today, we are saved by believing what Christ ‘already did’ for us on the cross 2,000 years ago. And according to scriptures, His dead body was buried in a grave, and three days later He arose from that grave.”***

He did more than that. He sprinkled His blood on the heavenly mercy seat, saying there is no judgment for the ones that are righteous by My blood. God does not see sin; it cannot be found anywhere.

***“He laid His life down for our sins and He took it back up again. He did this for you and for me so that, upon believing in Him as our savior, as our only hope of heaven, He saves us in that instant....***

***Now, when a pastor uses the English version of repent rather than Christ’s version of repent which is based upon the meaning of the Greek translation, a form of ‘works’ enters into the equation that subsequently nullifies the free gift of salvation. God will not accept our ‘works’ when it comes to salvation. God only accepts the sacrifice of His Son as the payment for our sins and as the ‘ticket’ for entering into heaven. While we are born sinners, Christ was without sin. We cannot help our condition anymore than a cheetah can remove his spots. Our works, no matter how honest and genuine they are, are considered as ‘filthy rags’ in God’s eyes according to Isaiah 64:6, which says, ‘But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousness are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, has taken us away.’***

***If you think that works will help you, or if you think that ‘anything of self’ will aid you in getting into heaven, or if any combination of faith in Christ plus your good deeds will count in God’s eyes, I want you to look very closely at this particular verse: ‘And by him all that believe [really trust] are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses.’ (Acts 13:39). The ‘him’ this verse is referring to is none other than Jesus Christ. In both of the aforementioned verses, we are told outright by the Holy Spirit who wrote the bible using the ink and scrolls of people that, under no circumstances whatsoever can our good deeds and righteous works be used as a bargaining chip.”***

But what about being a disciple? Discipleship has nothing to do with salvation. A disciple means that you are a learner, and now that you are saved, you will learn God’s ways and God will give you opportunities to faith in Him, in all sorts of ways. Giving is one way, for which you will accrue rewards in heaven. That is why God says lay up your treasures in heaven, not down here where moth and rust will get to it and corrupt it all. We cannot take what we accumulate down here up there. God knew we need to be needed, so He will put us to use as a disciple to

accomplish what He wants. That has nothing to do with salvation, but it has to do with what he sees that we need, that is, a need to be needed. God gives us opportunity and if we are obedient, we accrue inexhaustible rewards throughout eternity. That is part of discipleship, but many preachers confuse that and include discipleship with salvation. Salvation comes by Christ and Christ alone when we trust and faith in what He did for us. We must faith that His blood was priceless, His blood was sinless, and His blood made it all the way up, to that heavenly mercy seat to remove all sin, if we faith in Him. Discipleship is totally different. Now back to this author,

***“What is so deceptive in most all of today’s ministries is the... wrong usage of three of the most straight-forward verses in the bible concerning salvation: John 3:16 and Ephesians 2:8-9. [I already read John 3:16 to you.] Ephesians 2:8-9 states, ‘For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.’***

***...every pastor who uses these verses and then, at the end of their message, says you must repent of your sins, i.e, quit sinning, in order to be saved, is actually changing God’s contract by ‘adding works’ to the clear plan of salvation by faith alone in Christ alone that each of these verses allude to or state emphatically as the only means by which we are saved. [That is something you would say prior to Christ, but not after.] They will state with strong conviction that no amount of human works can enter into salvation, then quote Ephesians 2:8-9 and John 3:16 to strengthen their arguments, yet, they turn right back around and make it ‘mandatory’ that you must exert the self-efforts necessary to turn [away] from your sins (works) in order to go to heaven. Essentially, they are telling you to drive west when, in fact, you have asked them how to go east. They present salvation as a free gift and, when it comes time to ‘sign the contract’ they add unbiblical demands to it.***

***[Then there are some preachers who] asked members of [their] audience to stand up and to make their decision public as he led them in his version of the salvation prayer, implying that if they did not stand up in his service that Christ would be ashamed of them before His Father, yet, as oblivious as he and his followers are, this ‘act’ of standing up and making a public decision is yet making another ‘good work’ that cancels out God’s grace in terms of salvation because it is yet one more instance of ‘something of self’ that both Acts 13:39 and Ephesians 2:8-9 clearly state as being wrong.***

***When you look at John 3:16, the very words of Christ to Nicodemus who asked Him how to be born again, notice where Christ said ‘whosoever believeth in Him...’ and ask yourself why would Christ leave out ‘and repent of your sins’ or ‘make it public’ or any other combination of good works you can imagine. Did Christ lie to Nicodemus? Is Christ lying to us, today, through this verse? Of course not. When Christ said to someone that he or she had to ‘believe’ [pisteo, trust and faith] in Him, He was also referring to the fact that He was the one who would pay for the sins of the world through His death on the cross, that He would be buried for three days, and that He would rise from the dead. The Greek word for ‘believe’ is ‘pisteo’***

*which means 'to trust.' When we 'trust' that Christ paid for our sins by His death, burial and resurrection from the dead, He saves us. How? Because He knows all of our thoughts. He knows every single thing you are thinking at this very moment... He knows every star and planet in the universe by name. He knows every process of every molecule and atom in His creation. He knows every single thing about 'every single thing.' God knows the 'instant' that you trust in His Son, Jesus Christ, to save you, and when you do, He saves you. He 'knows' whether or not you have trusted Jesus as your savior. [Not pastor, not John Doe, not your neighbor, He does.]*

*Notice how I use 'God' and 'Christ' interchangeably. The reason... is because Jesus said that He and the Father are 'one' and that if you have seen Him you have also seen the Father. That throws a lot of people off. What I tell people to do is to think of God as they would think of an egg. An egg has three basic parts, essentially. An egg has 1) a shell, 2) a white, and 3) a yoke. Although it has three basic parts, it is still 'one egg.' Similarly, we have 1) God the Father, 2) God the Son, and 3) God the Holy Spirit. While they are three unique personalities, God is still 'one God.' When Jesus Christ took on human flesh, He was literally 'God in a body.' Christ 'is' God. That is why He was able to say to the disciple(s) that if they had seen Him (Christ) that they had also seen the 'Father.' They are not three different 'gods.' God is 'one God' who chooses to express Himself through three distinct 'persons' who perform different duties. For instance, the Holy Spirit convicts people of their need for salvation, and Christ makes intercession for us to the Father. Therefore, I use both God and Christ interchangeably when I speak of salvation because both are the same. Christ was, and is, literally God in a human body, according to the bible. The egg example is a good way to remember the fact that God is 'one' God and not three individual 'gods' comprising of some joint force.*

*'I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins' (John 8:24). Again and again, Christ makes the condition for a person's salvation dependent upon belief (trust) alone in Himself.*

*If [preachers] understood this simplicity of salvation that is found in Christ alone, and then taught Christ's way of salvation instead of man's way [the repent of your sins way] we would see an explosion of salvation the likes of which the world has never seen! But will satanic blindness of scripture or perhaps pride keep a pastor from being saved and then admitting to the world that he was wrong about salvation all along? Maybe. Or would the world embrace such a pastor and then believe on Christ alone? I tell you the truth, if any unbelieving pastor gets born again the way Jesus said to do, the pastor would be favored by God in so many wonderful ways that it would defy description; however, Satan is not about to allow that to happen. Although his power is limited, Satan will cause a pastor to be so concerned with his image and standing in society that even if an unbelieving pastor got born again, he may never admit this... for fear that he would lose his credibility, his salary, his position, and [anything that goes along with it]."*

Just as in Matthew 7 which talks about pastors and preachers who preach a different gospel, a different doctrine, and claim Jesus said that we must repent of our sins. Christ never said that; if he did, show me where. However, Christ did say that we must trust in him, and He said it repeatedly. Even after His death and resurrection, we trust in the saving power of His precious blood. It is what He did for us that saves us. We may have remorse once we recognize what we were like without Christ, but that has nothing to do with salvation, and it cannot save us. Remorsefulness cannot save us and regretting sin cannot save us, because we keep on sinning, so we will have a remorseful miserable life if we keep thinking that way. I sin, but I know that Christ, if I keep trusting and faithing in Him, removes my sin. He knows my needs; He knows how I need to be changed, He knows how to form what He wants me to be. He will mold me into the creature He wants me to be. He is the potter, and I am the clay just sitting on the wheel and along for the ride. I may tell God that I do not like it, but He knows me and He knows what He is doing, I just have to keep trusting in Him.

But what will these other pastors say when the time comes for them to give accountability? Matthew 7:21-23 tells us:

***“Not everyone that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? and then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.”***

That is you who employed what you thought was my word, but in essence it was really iniquity. Then this author continues,

***“But it doesn’t have to be this way! Look what Jesus says to us, ‘Verily, verily, I say unto you he that believeth on Me hath everlasting life” (John 6:47). Christ is very, very clear about his trust-alone requirement. Christ cannot lie. He will never hide truth from you, and He will never deceive you [or me]. Christ says ‘no works.’ ... Even though I sin, daily, and so do you, when we trust Christ alone as our savior we are seen positionally as sons and daughters of Christ... but we are only His children if we trust Jesus as our savior. When saved, we are seen by Him as sinless even though we still sin. The Holy Spirit helps us overcome sins in our lives, but we will never be fully sin-free in this life because we inhabit sinful bodies that were born with sinful natures. Although believers have God’s new nature in them, we still possess that old, sinful nature that we received at birth. Because we are what we are- sinners- we cannot ‘change’ what we are by any amount of good works we can do. That’s precisely why we need a ‘savior.’ We cannot, cannot, cannot save ourselves. We are helpless. Christ knew this, and He died for us and rose again from the grave to secure a place for you and for me in heaven if we trust Him. Christ credited me with His righteousness and I, just like all believers, am seen by***

***God as His own. Once Christ credits your account with His righteousness, He no longer sees you as a dead sinner bound for the lake of fire.”***

How true that is. In Revelation 20:11, we read,

***“And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them.  
And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.”***

As I have said before, the Greek work for ‘works’ is *ergon*, meaning they were judged according to what came out of their mouths that produced whatever people believed to be the truth. God help us, that for centuries we have believed in something not found in scriptures and not something Jesus or the disciples said. The next time someone tells you to repent of your sins or you will go to hell, tell them you will go to heaven because I have had a change of mind, *metanoia*. It is not because we repent, but because of a change of mind about who can get me there, how, and why, and it is none of our own doing.

I came from a catholic background that pounds remorse and guilt into you. They think for some reason that if you suffer enough and if you are remorseful enough for your sins, you will make it in. No you will not. There is one criteria, and one criteria alone, and that is Christ. Christ alone is the criteria. That is why He said ***“Do this in remembrance of me.”*** We are to keep our minds on Christ, and what He has done for us. If your mind is in a constant state of ‘already been changed’ then it will not focus on the opposite, which is everything else we hear that says we must do this to be a Christian, or we must do that to be in heaven. That is damnable heresy doctrine. Keep your mind on Christ, because that is our instruction and is the whole purpose of this message, so block out all this other nonsense. Go to just about any church around world, and you will probably hear that we must repent of our sins. If you are in a church like that, know that you will be accountable for sitting under a leadership that puts all this criteria on your actions to get to heaven and takes the focus off of Christ and what He did for you.

Christ said, ***“Do this in remembrance of me, as oft as you eat and drink.”*** He does not want us to take our minds off of Him, it is Christ alone. We sin daily, but thank God He removes them if we have a change of mind, and our mind is on Him daily. He will take care of the things that we need worked on in our life, and I will testify to the fact that He will work you over. That Potter is no lightweight, believe me. He is the potter of all potters, and he does not make bad vessels. He makes finished products, and He knows what needs to be done to what is on that wheel.

So let us remember every day to keep our minds on Christ, and remember what He has done for us. A change of mind will have a change of heart, because He saved us and not because of anything that we did. Tell Him, 'Thank you Jesus for saving me' and take the elements now as we go to the Table of the Lord.

# More on Change of Mind

In the last chapter I began teaching about the word ‘repent.’ Some were aggravated by that, and others saw the truth when I said Jesus and the apostles never said we are to repent of our sins. What is taught today, including repentance of sins, is nothing more than ‘Christian Science Fiction,’ not based on anything in God’s word, just creative ideas man creates to fit the story. Even though the Scriptures never teach repentance of sins, it does give us good news and my goal is for you to understand the change of mind that Jesus asked for, instead of the repentance of sins. In this chapter I will show you three words that will have very different meanings probably for some of you, it did with me. This really is good news, because no matter how many of you think that Jesus paid the price, or how many places actually teach this across the world, works are still added or you have to do certain things before you even think about repenting in the first place. That is really legalized doctrine straight from the pit of hell that somehow stuck, just like the other ‘Christian Science Fiction’ doctrines about prophecy that has brainwashed and misrepresented what the true Good News is. Scriptures never teach ‘repentance’ of sins. It does teach that Jesus said we need ‘a change of mind’ regarding Christ as our savior. Our individual personal sins are not an issue, because they were all paid for by Jesus Christ Himself on that cross, and His blood is on that heavenly mercy seat reminding the universe of what He did for us.

Here are three Greek words: *metanoia*, *metanoeo*, and *metamelomai*.

The Greek word in the New Testament for what people call *repentance* is the noun *metanoia*. What it means is ‘a change of mind,’ period! Nothing can be added to it. The next word is a verb, *metanoeo*. It means ‘a change of mind towards something.’ *Metanoia* is found 24 times in the Greek New Testament, and *metanoeo* is found 35 times. *Metanoeo* is a compound verb in the Greek and is composed of two Greek words, the first is *meta*, meaning ‘change,’ and the second is *noeo*, meaning ‘mind.’ So the correct meaning of that word when used is ‘to change one’s mind about something.’ As you can see, both those words have absolutely nothing to do with feeling sorry for sins, or our emotions, but that is not preached. There is another word in the Greek New Testament, however, which carries an emotional definition, and that is the verb *metamelomai*, which means ‘to feel sorry, to regret, to feel sorrow.’ *Metamelomai* is found six times in the New Testament and the distinction between the two verbs, *metanoeo* and *metamelomai* is obvious in the Greek. *Metamelomai* expresses merely an emotional change, with *metanoeo* expressing a change of choice. That is a big difference, and yet so confused by so many preachers.

Now that we see the difference between these words, we will read some scriptures as examples. Keep in mind that *metamelomai* signifies nothing but regret resulting in feeling sorry for



whatever you are feeling sorry for, while *metanoeo* deals with a change of mental attitude and has nothing to do with emotions.

Also remember, *metanoia* is found in scripture 24 times in the New Testament, where *metamelomai*, the word that deals with emotions, sorrow, and regret, is only found six times, but that is what Christians like to hang on to because we have been beat over the head that you must be down, feel sorry, regret, and remorse. Of course we will experience some of those feelings, we are all humans and we hate to displease our master, but they have nothing to do with salvation. Those emotions are not in scripture, even though it is preached as scripture, and I am on a campaign to correct that. This may aggravate a lot of people, especially the Pharisees of today's world, because it goes against tradition, but we must get this right. It is the starting point and why there are three failures and only one success in the Parable of the Sower. It is because the starting point is not taught correctly, even by evangelists.

*Metanoia* is the primary word of the three. I have my own definition that refers to the thinking of people who thought one thing, or made one decision, and then based on further evidence, or input, changed their minds. So the basic definition of *metanoia* is 'a change of mind' and that definition is used not only in the New Testament, but also outside the New Testament, that is 'a change of mind that leads to a different course of action.' In scripture, that course of action must be determined by the context that deals with forgiveness of sin or receiving eternal life as a gift from God. The course of action is a change of trust, because one now sees Jesus as the only means of our salvation. As an example, John used the word *metanoia* in Matthew 3:1,

***“In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea, And saying, Repent ye [actually, metanoeo, ‘change your mind’] for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”***

Ask yourself what were John's listeners supposed to change their mind about? Another example is in the Gospel of Mark 1:14,

***“Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand [Jesus Christ was in their midst]: repent ye, believe the gospel.”***

Repent in that verse is again *metanoeo*; change your mind about Jesus. However, if John the Baptist is saying 'Repent, because the Kingdom of God is at hand,' those listeners would race right back to the Law and try to fulfill every part of it because of their repenting heart. But that is not what John was telling them. He was saying, ***“The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: metanoeo*** [change your mind] ***and believe [pisteo***, have trust, confidence, or faith

about Christ for salvation] *the gospel.*” Romans 1:16 says **“for it is the power of God for salvation to every one that believeth,”** really everyone who faithes, who trusts and has confidence in Jesus Christ.

In Luke 15:7, Jesus makes an interesting comment concerning the person who changed their mind about Christ and began trusting him as Savior. He said, **“I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth [or *metanoeo*, the sinner who changes their mind about Christ, and trusts Him as Savior], more than over ninety and nine just persons, which needed no repentance.”**

The word *just* in that verse is *dikaios* and could be used in reference to believers, or non-believers. It is someone who has rules given by God or society that they follow and who believes they are a good person because of the structure of the rules established and followed according to the world’s viewpoint. But that is not important to God. In God’s word, all the rule followers who are not trusting in Jesus Christ as their savior, for whatever reason fall short. So to read this verse again, Jesus said, **“I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that *metanoeo* [that changes their mind about Christ], more than over ninety nine who think they have it right about whatever philosophy or doctrine they follow, which need no repentance.”**

How many people think that because they have their own belief system, but still do good, help the needy, give to charity, help the little old lady across the street, do not drink too much, do not smoke too much, will get into heaven, if there is a God to start with. And, if there is no God, at least they are a contributing member of society that has not caused society additional problems. Jesus is not impressed by them either. Neither are any angels in heaven or anyone that can look upon down on this planet and say whatever they want to say. They are not impressed about performance, but they are about that one sinner who trusted Jesus Christ as his Savior. A few verses later in Luke 15 verse 10 tells us,

**“Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth [No, over one who *metanoeo*, who changed their mind about Christ, trusting in Him for salvation.]”**

Matthew 27:1 has another example of this when Jesus was brought before Pilot,

**“When the morning was come, all the chief priests and elders of the people took council against Jesus to put him to death:**

**And when they had bound, him they led him away, and delivered him to Pontius Pilot, the governor.**

**Then Judas, which had betrayed him, when he saw that he was condemned, repented himself,**

*and brought again the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders, Saying, I have sinned in that I have betrayed innocent blood. And they said, 'What is that to us? see thou to that.*

*And he cast down the pieces of silver in the temple, and departed, and went and hanged himself."*

Now, in verse 3, we read ***"Then Judas, which had betrayed him, when he saw that he was condemned, repented himself..."*** If Judas repented himself, he would then be saved according to the way that word is preached, but that is not what happened, because that is not what it means. However, the third word, *metamelomai*, which means 'to feel sorry', is what happened in this verse. Judas felt sorry for his sin, but that does not mean he put his trust back in Jesus Christ. We know that he went to hell, or wherever he is at right now, because the Lord Jesus Christ said so Himself. Next, go to John 17:12, where we read Jesus' prayer,

***"While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name: those that thou gavest me I have kept, and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition; that the scripture might be fulfilled."***

What is noteworthy is that Judas felt sorry for his sin. There is no question about that. He felt *metamelomai* for betraying the Son of God, yet he was not saved; *metamelomai* does not save anyone. He was not saved because of his emotions. Emotions will not save a single soul, ever, even if someone gets emotional when repenting. When we know what God expects through His word, rightly divided, we can have an even better experience, because we have a better understanding of what the Good News really means. Emotions do not save, even if you fall in the floor, faint, go in a crazy dance, or do back flips: it does not save a single soul. Repentance requires a change of mind.

As an example, in Matthew 26:75, the Apostle Peter denied Christ three times, and he also felt sorry and wept. It reads,

***"And Peter remembered the word of Jesus, which said unto him, Before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice. And he went out, and wept bitterly."***

Both men, Judas and Peter, felt sorry for their sins, yet only one was saved, and the other was not. Each, no matter how you look at it, committed a terrible sin. Each had denied Jesus Christ. One was saved the other was not. Emotion could not save Judas. Yes, Peter wept bitterly, yet his tears did not save him, but rather his faith in Christ saved him. There is only one way to salvation and it eliminates and excludes human works and emotions, and that is to believe or trust, *pisteo*, on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you shall be saved.

That is what Acts chapter 16:31 tells us. In verse 23, Paul and Silas are in prison. Then in verse 26, the prison doors were opened, and every band were loosed. Verse 27 continues,

***“And the keeper of the prison awakening out of his sleep, and seeing the prison doors open, he drew out his sword and would have killed himself [because he thought the prisoners had escaped]...***

***Then he called for a light, and sprang in ... trembling, and fell down before Paul and Silas, And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved?”***

Paul and Silas did not say to repent, confess their sins! They did not say to do what I did for at least 13 years of my life, that is, confess to a priest. I was so out of ideas about the sins I did commit, so I made up sins so I at least would be kneeling there in front of the priest, behind that mesh screen wall, telling him all kind of sins so he would think that I was a sinner. And of course he told me how many “Our Fathers” and how many “Hail Mary’s” to say. Do you see how backwards that is? You know the story, I have told it before.

Paul and Silas did not say “Repent, confess me your sins.” In verse 31, it is recorded,

***“And they said, Believe [pisteo, have trust and confidence] on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.”***

That kind of trust requires action that changes our mind about who can save us.

Ministries and churches today want to hear our whole confession; they want us to feel sorry that Jesus went to the cross for us. Yes, I was born into sin and you were born into sin. Christ knew that from the beginning, but He does not want our sorrow; He wants our trust. I repeat He does not want our sorrow. He knew already what we were born into, and that is why He came in the first place, to rescue us from this miserable life of sin. He does not want our sorrow, regrets, or remorse. He wants our trust!

John 3:16 has been so abused and misused, but it will have new meaning for you now. It states,

***“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth [No! trust!] in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”***

Read verse 36, the same chapter:

***“He that believeth [trusts and has confidence] on the Son [Jesus Christ] hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.”***

Judas could have trusted the Lord Jesus Christ even after he sinned, but he chose not to. All he

chose to do instead was *metamelomai*, to be sorrowful and have regret for his sin. Peter, on the other hand, started trusting on the Lord Jesus Christ. The word *metamelomai* also occurs in 2 Corinthians 7:9, but this verse can be a little confusing. It reads,

***“Now I rejoice, not that ye were made sorry, but that ye sorrowed to repentance: for ye were made sorry after a godly manner, that ye might receive damage by us in nothing.”***

A different translation says this,

***“For though I caused you sorrow by my letter, I do not regret it [metamelomai]; though I did regret it [metamelomai] -- for I see that letter caused you sorrow, though only for a while— I now rejoice, not that you were made sorrowful, but that you were made sorrowful to the point of repentance [metanoia, a change of mind]; for you were made sorrowful according to the will of God, so that you might not suffer loss in anything through us. For the sorrow that is according to the will of God produces a repentance [metanoia] without regret [metamelomai], leading to salvation, but the sorrow produces death.”***

Here Paul was writing about the confession of sin and was talking to people who were already believers at the Church in Corinth. It was a troublesome church that Paul had all kinds of problems with, but they already believed in Christ and were saved. They already had a *metanoia* experience and the *metanoeo*. The repentance that Paul was talking about here in these verses is the confession of sin and their recovery from that sin, which takes them out of the fellowship because of that sin, yet does not cost them their salvation. It is important to know the differences between the Greek words when reading through these verses so the words can be put in their proper context otherwise it is not what God’s word says.

To conclude, you must know sin is never an issue of repentance as seen in these scriptures:

Psalms 103:10, ***“He [God] has not dealt with us [you and I] according to our sins, Nor rewarded us according to our iniquities.”***

John 1:29, ***“... Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!”***

Romans 5:12, ***“Therefore just as through one man [Adam] sin [its nature] entered into the world, and death [spiritual] through sin [the nature of], and so death [spiritual] spread to all men [because we all have sinner’s blood], because all have sinned [the Greek says ‘when Adam sinned’].”***

1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 15:3, ***“For I [Paul] delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures.”***

Galatians 1:3-4, ***“Grace be to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, Who [the Lord Jesus Christ] gave Himself for our sins, that He might deliver us from this present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father....”***

Hebrews 8:12, ***“For I will be merciful to their iniquities, and I will remember their sins no more.”***

Hebrews 10:17, ***“And their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more.”***

1<sup>st</sup> Peter 2:24, ***“and He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, so that we might die to sin [the sin nature] and live to righteousness [the righteousness God imputes in us, not self-made righteousness]; for by His wounds you were healed.”***

And of course this verse has been taken out of context as well. We are healed from our sinful nature, so God does not perceive it any longer because of what his Son did, even though we still sin.

1<sup>st</sup> Peter 3:18, ***“For Christ also died for our sins once for all, [not] just for the unjust [which means for you and me], so that He might bring us to God, having been put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit....”***

1<sup>st</sup> John 2:2, ***“And he is the propitiation [or satisfaction] for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.”***

1<sup>st</sup> John 3:5, ***“... He [the Lord Jesus Christ] appeared in order to take away sins....”***

Revelation 1:4-5, ***“John to the seven churches in Asia: Grace to you and peace, from Him [the Lord Jesus Christ] who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven Spirits who are before His throne; And from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the first born of the dead [first to be resurrected], and the ruler of kings of the earth. To Him [the Lord Jesus Christ] who loves us and released us from our sins by His blood.”***

All these scriptures are telling us that the sins of the entire world- past, present, future- were paid by Christ at the cross. Several of those scriptures tell us those sins are no longer remembered. They are removed, not just covered. Covering sins is the Old Testament way of doing things that only required animal's blood. Christ did more than that. Not only did He cover our sins, but when the cover is lifted, the sins are removed never to be found again. Christ paid for these sins with his voluntary substitutionary spiritual death.

Therefore, repentance has nothing to do with our sins, but rather our change of mind and attitude toward Jesus Christ. The issue in repentance, if you still want to use the word, is simply will you change your mind about Jesus Christ, and start trusting Him as Lord and Savior? That is the question that needs to be asked and each person must to decide for themselves. I cannot decide that for you, but I can tell you this, salvation is through faith alone, through trust and confidence in what Christ did alone nothing more and nothing less!

That is why Christ said “Do this in remembrance of me,” in remembrance of what I did for you, and what I have asked you to do. Christ does not want us to feel sorry for ourselves or for Him. Instead, start trusting; *metanoia* and *metanoeo*, not *metamelomai*. Have a change of mind, which will change our hearts concerning Christ. He wiped away all our sins. They are removed from the past, present, and forever. That is the Good News; that is true salvation. What comes after that is a journey of discipleship. Only man made doctrines have confused what repentance is.

Someone told me the other day that they had nothing to faithe about. However, your life could be going as great as you could possibly think, on any particular day, but you will always have something to faithe and trust in Christ for. Every day, without even consciously knowing, we sin. I cannot remember a day I have not sinned. What a wonderful opportunity to say, “I am trusting Jesus Christ, because He says if I do, He has already removed my sins.” I have my up and downs, but I will keep trusting in Jesus Christ. That is why He wants us to remember Him.

So take the elements and say “Thank you Jesus, for what you provided; it truly is good news, and I will trust in you.”

# Should I Partake?

Open your Bibles to Matthew 13. We are going to the Table of the Lord, so hopefully you already have your elements ready at home.

The communion, or the Lord's Supper, is practiced by just about every church commemorating the new covenant that we have in His blood. They also remember, and have their congregations remember, that the communion is a reminder of His death, His burial, His resurrection, and that He will come again to receive us unto Himself. I think that is wonderful.

Unfortunately, there are two myths around the Table of the Lord that have come into existence and have circulated for quite a while. These two myths are actual practices by many churches, especially fundamental Churches, and Christians. And of course these two myths are based on wrong interpretations of God's word, God's word not cut straight or rightly divided. Now if you have not gone to other churches or you do not know much about this, this might be all new to you, it might even be strange, but believe me it is practiced.

***“Myth #1- Partaking of the [elements at the Table of the Lord] the Communion Service is for believers only. [That is damnable heresy in my opinion. It is false doctrine with no truth to it.] Myth #2- Failure to partake of [the elements of] the Communion in a worthy manner will result in DEATH of the partaker.”***

Now there are other things also, but those are the two main myths, and, I repeat, unfortunately too many churches practice these principles established, laid down, and passed on to their congregants so they believe that you must be a believer only and you must partake in a worthy manner or else it will result in death of the partaker. This chapter will focus on myth #1, that partaking of the elements, going to the Table of the Lord, is for believers only. In my opinion, that is far worse than myth #2. Often it is the Pastor who conducts the Lord's Supper or the Communion Service portion. And at the beginning of what should be a celebration, a remembrance of what Christ did for us, and a reminder that He is still coming back, instead they turn it into something that is sickening. That is the only way to describe it. Before the Communion service starts, they usually make a request. I've written it down here, because even minister's manuals put forth this garbage of what should be done prior to going to the Table of the Lord. Just listen to the following paragraph practiced by many, many churches just before going to the Table. Usually the one conducting the service, usually the Minister or Pastor of the church, says:

***“The Lord's Supper ... is an ordinance commanded by our Lord Jesus Christ and commemorates the new covenant made effective by His death upon the cross. This supper is for 'believers only' and those who are not 'believers' should not partake.***



***Therefore, it is to you that we ask that you please abstain from partaking of the bread and wine (or grape juice)."***

And often it is grape juice because they are too self-righteous. That statement is damnable doctrine made up by man. It is a myth not found in the scriptures unless they twist the scriptures. What does that statement do to the person who may be visiting that church for the first time? Yes, they were greeted by the greeters, 'Happy for you to be here, it's good to see you, you're going to find this place to be your new home...' and all the blah-blah-blah salesmanship and nonsense of trying to get a new convert or a new member to their church. But this first timer to a church may be perhaps an unbeliever who is searching because something is drawing them to hear more about Jesus. That statement has rejected what He commanded. Did Christ command just believers to partake? Show me chapter and verse, because telling someone that will only leave them feeling very uncomfortable and very isolated. They may have felt good entering the church because they did not know what to expect. There is a friendly greeting that made them feel emotionally accepted because everyone was so nice. And now they hear, "Sorry, you're not part of us, you cannot partake." Now they only feel isolated and singled out. If I was that person, I would feel like I was an outcast. What a wrong impression to give someone seeking Jesus and wanting to find out more about Jesus. What would that person think of the friendly church greeters now? I think that statement, which is a common statement made prior to going to the Lord's Table, is just flat out rude.

However, just like everything else, our guide must be scripture; the rightly divided Word of God, because the request that I read to you, which is common practice in many churches, is unscriptural, improper, and rude. Matthew 13:24-30, concerns the wheat and tares, then verse 37 reads:

***"He answered and said unto them, He that soweth the good seed is the Son of man; The field is the world; the good seed are the children of the kingdom; but the tares are the children of the wicked one...."***

So what does He say about the wheat and the tares? Go back to verse 30 in that same chapter. He states there, '***Let both grow together....***' Jesus is giving instruction to his disciples here, and I am sure His disciples wanted to root out the tares from among the wheat. But Jesus tells them: '***Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of the harvest I [Christ, not someone in your church, not your pastor, not anyone] will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn.***' Do you see the connection between what Christ said here and what is told to those in many churches about The Lord's Supper? Here is it again; I want you to understand.

***"The Lord's Supper... is an ordinance commanded by our Lord Jesus Christ and***

***commemorates the new covenant made effective by His death upon the cross. This supper is for 'believers only' and those who are not 'believers' should not partake. Therefore, it is to you that we ask that you please abstain from partaking of the bread and wine (or grape juice)."***

Let us go back to the visitor, one seeking the truth, the way, the life. The Spirit might be drawing that person, but by that statement, he has been asked to identify himself as a tare, not as part of the wheat because he is an unbeliever. Think about it, these pastors are just as guilty as these disciples, who probably wanted to separate the wheat and tares, but Jesus said ***"No, let both grow together."*** However, this visitor has been asked to identify himself, whether they realize it or not, to the congregation because as the elements are passed out, and most churches are not that large, it will be noticeable if someone does not take the elements. I can hear the self-righteous one now saying, 'He's a tare. Make sure he doesn't get anything. He can't partake with us because we are believers and he's not.'

According to them, each person, whatever church they are in, including the Pastor, Associated Pastors and so forth, is either a wheat or a tare; and they have identified it. But who makes them the identifier? Who died and made them God? When is the identification and separation part of the Word of God? That is Jesus' concern just as He said; ***"Let both grow until the harvest..."*** and then Christ will do the sorting out! I am sure these are well meaning Pastors and Christians in these churches participating in the Table of the Lord portion of the service, but to me, they are insensitive discriminators. Read again what is said:

***"The Lord's Supper... is an ordinance commanded by our Lord Jesus Christ and commemorates the new covenant made effective by His death upon the cross. This supper is for 'believers only' and those who are not 'believers' should not partake."***

At the Last Supper, when He was giving His disciples instructions about how to remember Him, and He took the bread and wine, ask yourself, did He exclude anyone? Read it in the Gospel record. Christ knew He would be betrayed, but who sat at that table? Judas Iscariot was a tare not wheat, yet Jesus did not exclude him. Judas sat with Jesus, and partook of the elements; the bread and wine, the symbols that would eventually be His body and His blood. Not his physical body and physical blood, but symbolically. That is why I say that we can participate in this any time we eat anything as a wonderful opportunity to tell the Lord that we remember Him and what His precious blood did for us. We remember He sacrificed His body for our sake, and we also remember that He is coming back. We are not to keep that to ourselves, but proclaim it in the way and the capacity we have been called.

Do not forget that Jesus was sitting at the same table with somebody who would betray Him shortly after partaking along with every other disciple. Judas was actually a tare, but Jesus did

not exclude him. Instead, Jesus took the bread and broke it, and gave it to everyone there, including Judas Iscariot. This is the man who would betray Jesus, turn him over to the temple authorities, and when Jesus said that someone sitting at that table would betray Him, it was Judas Iscariot who rose up and asked, 'Is it I?' Jesus did not exclude him, but He knew what Judas was and He knew what Judas would do. Jesus knew Judas was the son of the Devil from the beginning. However, if we use today's understanding about the Table of the Lord, Jesus should have said, 'You know what, it is Judas. Let me point to him just in case you forgot who he is. He is the one to betray me, so leave him out.' That is what modern day Christians and Pastors would do in their churches, but did Jesus? Jesus violated Myth #1. Jesus took the cup and said ***"This cup is the new covenant in my blood [Jesus's Blood],"*** and He said ***"this do ye, as often as ye drink it, in remembrance of me."***

Jesus allowed Judas, but most of us would not, that is just the way we are, and unfortunately there is too much of that. That is why we look deep into the Word of God and find out what the real truth is about any topic or subject, including this Table of the Lord nonsense that we cannot participate or partake in if we are a non-believer or if we are not worthy. I repeat, Jesus allowed Judas to partake along with the other disciples. Just as Jesus said, ***"Let both grow together until the harvest,"*** then Jesus will sort it out. Jesus intentionally let a man who would betray Him partake, that is amazing.

So why would we not want to invite someone labeled as a non-believer to partake in the bread and the drinking of the cup? Churches who exclude distort its purpose and meaning by their self-righteous actions. Look at Jesus' example; the visitor to the church should have felt welcome and invited to the very special remembrance and celebration that the rest of the church was about to enjoy. That would be a profound influence and maybe the turning point for the person seeking Jesus, but this scenario of exclusion has happened many times over. Even James in chapter 2, verse 1, speaks to these high minded individuals. He writes,

***"My brethren, do not hold the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory with partiality. For if there should come unto your assembly a man with gold rings and fine apparel, and there should also come in a poor man in filthy clothes; and you pay attention to the one wearing the fine clothes and say to him, 'You sit here in a good place,' and say to the poor man, 'You stand there, or sit here at my footstool,' have ye not shown partiality among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts?"***

I can apply that to you and to myself. ***"...have ye not shown partiality among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts?"*** Like it or not, it is an evil thought to consider yourself a believer and to instruct non-believers to not participate in communion; the Table of the Lord. And of course the self-righteous attitude will say it is because of concern for the non-believer, but where is the chapter and verse that says that? Some may claim myth #2; that they do not

want to create a situation that might lead them to a spiritual death, or possibly a physical death as some believe. However, if they take a man that is not worthy, they miss the whole concept of what Paul was saying to the Corinthian Church in their coming together and leaving some out, which they were champions at doing, and only the elitist and the more wealthy individuals could participate in that remembrance and celebration of what Christ has done.

The Church is full of stupid traditions and doctrine that does not come from the Word of God. Many churches have made themselves God and have elected to be the 'Sorter' between the wheat and tares, but it is not our job! Often the church asks about somebody who comes in who is destructive to the church and the body of Christ. There are other scriptures to deal with that which gives instruction on how to handle those types of situations; the Table is not to be used for that purpose. I do not care who you are, what your past is like, or if you are a believer or a non-believer as long as you come to this Table with your focus on Christ. Christ where our focus should be, and to put it on anything else besides Jesus is to find ourselves in a position of not being worthy. Christ is our focus at this Table; He is the only thing that is worthy; anything else, including everything that has happened in our life is secondary. He deals with that on a personal level, and He has given plenty of instruction on how we overcome and strengthen ourselves. There is even instruction how we conduct ourselves, as long as we do not establish some righteous attitude that develops into our own personal tradition about how things are done. But at this Table He is the only focus, and He is our only concern, period, nothing else.

We are to focus in on Him only; on what His shed blood and His broken body did for us. That is the ultimate rescue plan of all time. We are given a fresh start when we become born again in Christ. We now have His spiritual DNA in us, not the DNA of the first Adam who screwed things up for all of us. We are born into Adam's sin, which becomes our sin, but when we become truly born again, our composition changes, believe it or not, and now we have His spiritual DNA in us. What an amazing rescue plan that only He could provide, and which was promised millenniums prior to His first coming. That is why at this table we also remember that He is coming again to wrap things up in our eternal life without Satan and his minions, and evil wicked spirits who are constantly trying to bring us down. They will no longer be a factor, and we will also receive all the inexhaustible rewards that He so desires to give to us. He has a great desire to reward us.

Why would we not want to focus on Jesus? Have you got anything better than that? I sure cannot think of anything better. Do not let these wheat, or proclaimed wheat, keep you from focusing on Jesus. This Table and these elements remind us of what He has done for us. What a way to truly witness to someone by going to the Table and participating in the Table of the Lord, the communion service. What a wonderful opportunity to be a grand witness of Jesus Christ.

If you go to a church that practices keeping people away from the Table of the Lord because

someone might be a non-believer, I would run out of that church as fast as I could and never look back. Face that and draw that line in your own life, even if there are things about that church that you like. If the church gets this wrong, there is nothing else to like about that church, period. It begins and ends with Christ's life, death, burial, resurrection, return, and the gracious gift that He has given us: a new start to be born again with His DNA.

Nothing else can be said, so with that, say with me, "Thank you Jesus for what you have done for me." Let us always keep our focus in on Him, remembering what He did for us.

Now take the elements.

# Incorruptible Blood

Open your Bibles to Acts 17:24-26. Here we read:

*“God that made the world and all the things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands; neither is worshipped with men’s hands, as though he needed any thing, seeing he giveth to all life, and breath, and all things; And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth....”*

About this, one author states;

*“Paul says that God ‘hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth.’ The one thing which relates all men to each other is the blood that flows in their veins. Every other part of man’s body can differ but little from the body and the flesh of animals but the blood is distinct and separate from that of all other creatures. ALL MEN OF ONE BLOOD and that ONE BLOOD was the blood of Father Adam, the first man ... of the whole human race.*

*It is not Eve’s blood which flows in the veins of mankind but ADAM’s. That is why it is ADAM’s sin and not Eve’s which all men inherit. Sin is in the blood, and transmitted in the blood of man and in the flesh. Since the LIFE is in the blood according to the Scriptures, and the wages of sin was death, sin affected the blood of Adam and called him to die. Because sin is a disease of the blood, it can be cured by the application of sinless blood, for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul. As the first Adam’s sin corrupted the blood of the entire human family, so the pure sinless blood of the last Adam makes atonement for the sin of the world. ‘For without shedding of blood is no remission ...’ ‘It is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul.’ It was not Eve’s sin which affect us although Eve sinned before Adam did. It was the SIN of ADAM, which brought death upon the whole race because it is ADAM’s blood that transmits original sin and it is for this reason we are not called the SEED OF THE WOMAN but we are ADAM’S SEED. ONLY Jesus is called the Seed of the woman, because He was born of a woman without one drop of human blood in His veins, and thereby could avoid the sin of Adam which is only transmitted through the blood which the male contributes to his offspring. Jesus could have a human body, but one drop of Adam’s blood would have made Him a sinner just as you and I. There was then only one remedy for SIN and that was sinless blood and only one could supply this, even the sinless Son of God.”*

Could Jesus have made choice to sin at any time? Yes, and then His blood would become sinner’s blood, just like Adam’s. But He chose to be obedient, Adam did not. Adam chose not be in obedience with God. Jesus was tempted with everything, much more than Adam could ever

possibly be tempted with, but Jesus remained sinless because His blood started as sinless blood, and it stayed that way all the way to Calvary.

***“From Genesis to Revelation we have this message of the atoning blood. In the Old Testament, we have in the type of the blood of the lambs and the goats which were slain in the bloody ritual of Israel. Long, long before the perfect Lamb of God Himself came, the Lord was preparing the world for Him by the multitudinous types in the Old Testament. Without blood there could be no atonement, and until the blood was presented the holy law of God demanded justice and death upon the sinner. That is why, when God gave the two tables of law to Moses upon Mount Sinai, the law which called for justice and not mercy, the law which said, ‘The soul that sinneth it shall die,’ the law, which demanded PERFECTION or death, when God gave the perfect Holy Law He also gave to Moses in the same Mount the pattern for the Tabernacle which was indeed built on blood, and its whole ritual was bathed in blood. God knew when He gave to Israel the law that they could not keep it perfectly and MUST die and so in mercy He gave the Tabernacle and the alter and the blood so that a sinning people condemned by the Law might have life through the sheltering blood.***

***So in the fullness of time God sent forth His Son into the world to be born of a woman, and at the end of His life He shed His precious eternal blood ONCE and for all. After that there was no more sacrifice. The blood of the sacrificial animals of the Old Testament was corruptible and decayed and was soon gone, but the blood shed on Calvary was imperishable blood. It is called incorruptible. Peter says,***

***‘Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, such as silver and gold... [we are not redeemed by any material things accumulated down here] but with the precious blood of Christ....’***

***The blood of the Lord Jesus is sinless blood, and since it is sinless, it is incorruptible, for sin brought corruption, and where no sin is there is no corruption.***

***...the blood which flowed in Jesus’ body was sinless and ... He escaped having one single drop of Adam’s human blood within Him. Every drop of blood which flowed in Jesus’ body is still in existence just as fresh as it was when it flowed from His wounded brow and hands and feet and side. The blood that flowed from His unbroken skin in Gethsemane, the blood that was smeared about His back as the cruel, weighted thongs cut through His flesh as the flagellator scourged Him, the blood that oozed out under the thorny crown and flowed from His hands, His head, His feet was never destroyed for it was incorruptible blood. David in speaking of Him in the sixteenth Psalm which Peter quotes in Acts 2, says:***

***‘Thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.’ Although the body of the Lord Jesus Christ lay in the tomb in death for three days and three nights, no corruption had set in for that body contained incorruptible blood. Lazarus being dead only one day more was said by his sister to be STINKING with corruption, but this one saw no corruption because the only cause of corruption, SINFUL BLOOD, was absent from His flesh. That blood, every drop of it, is still in existence. Maybe when the Priest ascended***

*into heaven, He went like the High Priest of old into the Holy of Holies in the presence there of God to sprinkle the blood upon the Mercy Seat in heaven of which the material Mercy Seat and Ark in the Tabernacle were merely copies. In Hebrews 9:23 – 26 we read.*

*'It was therefore necessary that the "patterns of things in the heavens (referring to an earthly Tabernacle) should be purified with these (that is, the blood of the beasts); but the heavenly things themselves with BETTER SACRIFICES THAN THESE. For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us; nor yet that he should offer himself often, as the High Priest entereth into the holy place every year with blood of others... but now once in the end of the age hath he appeared to PUT AWAY SIN by the sacrifice of himself.'*"

*After Christ had made the atonement, He arose from tomb, and then as the eternal High Priest, ascended into heaven to present the blood in the Holy of Holies where God dwells, and that blood is there today pleading for us and prevailing for us. The priest in the Tabernacle never spoke a word. All he did was to PRESENT THE blood, and that was enough. MAYBE there is a golden chalice in heaven where every drop of that precious blood [Jesus' blood] is still in existence, just as pure, just as potent, just as fresh as two thousand years ago. The priest in the earthly Tabernacle needed to repeat this sprinkling again and again and it is a significant fact that among all the pieces of furniture of the Tabernacle there was no chair to be found. We read of the alter, the table, the candlestick, and the Ark, but there is no chair in the Tabernacle of Israel. [No chair whatsoever is listed, not even in the instructions given by God about how to build that tabernacle or the permanent location in the Holy Temple. There is no chair to be found in the instructions.] It simply signifies that the work of the earthly priest who sprinkled the blood of the animal sacrifice was never done. He could not sit down. [The priest had to repeat the sacrifice over and over and over. There was no rest for the Old Testament High Priest.] His work was never finished. Of our High Priest Jesus Christ, we read:*

*'But this man [Jesus], after he offered one sacrifice for sins forever, SAT DOWN on the right hand of God... For [by one] offering he hath perfected FOREVER them that are sanctified.'* [That is interesting. The Old Testament priest could never sit down because there was no chair to sit on, but when Christ's work was done, it only needed to be done once. He made the trip, His blood remained sinless, and when He was done, He sat at the right hand of God after He offered one sacrifice for sin – Forever!]

*The blood has been shed. The incorruptible, eternal, divine, sinless, overcoming, precious blood. It availed then, and it avails now and throughout all eternity it shall never lose its power.*

*Because of all of this, the blood is called in Scripture by many descriptive names. 'It is precious,' says Peter. 'It is incorruptible,' says David. 'It is overcoming blood,' says John, in Revelation 'for they overcame him by the blood of the lamb and by the word of their testimony.' No wonder Satan hates the blood and will do anything to get rid of that power of the blood of Christ.*

*Today, it is as true as in the day of Israel, that there is no remission without the blood."*



In another example, when the men of Bethshemesh received the Ark back from the Philistines, they removed the lid, the Mercy Seat, sprinkled with the blood, the Law was exposed. It was no longer covered by the blood, and without that blood, they perished and others perished also.

***“Today the Law has not changed its character, nor the blood. The Law is still the ‘ministration of death.’”***

That is found in II Corinthians 3:6-7,

***“Who also hath made us able ministers of the new testament; not of the letter, but of the spirit: for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life.***

***But if the ministration of death, written and engraved in stones [the Law], was glorious, so that the children of Israel could not steadfastly behold the face of Moses for the glory of his countenance; which glory was to be done away....”***

It is to be done away, and that is still true today and curses ***“everyone that continueth not in all things which are written in the book of the law to do them.”*** We had to be perfect through and through; no mistakes, no errors. The Law, and not just the Ten Commandments, had to be followed perfectly. And if we did not, we fell under the curse of the Law because ***“The Law killeth.”*** That is what II Corinthians 3:6 is saying. ***“Who also had made us able ministers of the new testament; not of the letter, but of the spirit: for the letter [or the Law] killeth, but the spirit giveth life.”***

They that are under the works of the law are under the curse, because ***“the Law killeth.”*** It is a death sentence. And that is what happened to the men in Bethshemesh. When the men lifted up that lid, the Mercy Seat with the sprinkled blood on it; when they lifted it up to check, I guess to see if the law was still in there when they received it back from the Philistines, the curse fell upon them because there was no blood covering. They lifted off and took away what gave them life, the Blood Covering, from over The Law; and Death came.

***“God said to Israel and to us, ‘When I see the blood, I will pass over you.’ He did not say, ‘When I see your goodness, your morality, your works, your religious worship, your earnestness trying to keep the Ten Commandments or observe the Golden Rule.’ No, it is simply this, ‘When I see the blood I will pass over you.’ Do you think that I have made too much of the blood, that I have over-emphasized its importance? Listen, blood is mentioned in the Bible about Seven Hundred Times from Genesis to Revelation, and when we see the redeemed throng in heaven in the book of Revelation, we hear them singing, not about their goodness, not about how they kept the law and have been faithful, but this is the song, ‘Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood.’ Revelation 1:5.”***

That is what they are singing. Not about their works, not about their goodness, not about how they keep the Law, not about anything that requires fleshly effort, but singing unto Him that loved us and washed us from our sins, in His own blood. They are singing about and rejoicing about the blood. But why wait until we get to heaven? We should be singing daily that we have been washed in the Blood of the Lamb. He makes us white as snow to the Father. We should be singing about how Jesus' blood cleanses us with no effort on our part, except to trust and faith that He did come, He did die for our sake and benefit, He did rise from that tomb, and one day we will be there also. We should be singing and rejoicing about how He washed us from *all* our sins with His own blood.

The question is: are you washed in the blood of The Lamb? Some might be still undecided about this Jesus. To this Jesus says, **'I am The Way, and the Life.'** He presented the only truth that can make us whole, that can cleanse us, that can wash all our sins away. We can start singing and rejoicing now! Do not wait until you get to heaven. Start rejoicing and singing now and every time we go to this Table of The Lord, with the elements or without the elements. Not only be thankful for what He did by shedding His precious blood for us, but start rejoicing and celebrating. Do what those revelation saints were doing; singing and rejoicing because they recognize the only reason they were able to do that was because of what Christ had done for *all* of us; not just them, but for all of us.

I do not think I am overemphasizing the blood, and I do not think you can. It is written of over seven hundred times in the Bible, from Genesis to Revelation, because God does not want us to forget what His only begotten Son has done for us.

Bring Him glory by recognizing it as we go to this Table and say, "Thank you, Jesus, for your precious blood that you spilled for us, that gave us a covering, and our sins are no more. Not by any of our efforts, but by what you have done. And let us sing and rejoice, and be thankful forever more, from this day on, Amen."

Take the elements.

# Toxic Cleansing

Open your Bibles to 1 John 1:8, but first, remember it is a commandment of Jesus that we remember Him, and as a disciple of Jesus Christ, why would we not follow that commandment if we are to please Him? Christ wants us to please Him for all the reasons preached in all the messages and sermons in the Table of the Lord series.

Verses 8 through 10 of I John says, ***“If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.***

***If we confess [or acknowledge] our sins, he is faithful and just [meaning that He has the right because He paid the price] to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.”***

So let us focus on this word *cleanse* in verse 9 as I briefly read something before we take the elements. This author writes,

***“How to dispose of toxic waste is one of the most difficult dilemmas in modern American life. Indeed, some experts consider chemical poisoning as the world’s biggest problem next to nuclear bombs. The difference is that tons of deadly compounds are already seeping into our soil and water, but not a single atomic warhead has yet exploded outside of government control in our country. Toxic waste improperly stored is ticking away like time bombs in tens of thousands of landfills and water sources across our country.***

***Mankind is very good at producing not only a high level of physical toxins that endanger the body, but also a high level of spiritual toxins that imperil the soul. Furthermore, just as our flesh requires a clean atmosphere to ensure health, so too our hearts must be cleansed of all those deadly sins that contaminate.***

That what Jesus said, ***“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”*** Christ decontaminated us.

***“Where is the answer to this problem of toxicity to be found? The Gospel points us to the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world and whose shed blood purifies us from all contamination. Calvary made forever clear that our sins are truly toxic, death dealing for both Christ and for us, but Easter announces that He took the toxic waste to the tomb and left them there.”***

Christ took those toxic wastes to the tomb, and left them there. That is what Jesus did for us. He cleansed us. He left those toxic wastes that were spiritually poisoning us in the tomb. Christ took the blow for us.

So in this Table of the Lord message, I want to thank Him for cleaning this toxic waste dump, Joe Cortes; and you can put your own name to it. Thank Him for cleaning up this toxic waste dump. You see, we are not poisonous any longer. We have been cleansed from all unrighteousness because of what He did at Calvary allowing His body to go through what it did, and the spilling of His blood gave us a blood covering. He decontaminated us. We are toxin free because of what Jesus did for us. Halleluiah!

What a wonderful way to remember Him, in addition to all the other things I have taught. Christ has made us toxin free; we are no longer a dumpsite for spiritual evil poison. We have been cleansed by the blood of Jesus Christ from all unrighteousness.

Say, "Thank you Jesus," as we take these elements and remember Him. Thank you for reminding us through your Word that we are no longer toxic. Amen.

Take the elements.

# Look to Me

Open your Bibles to Acts 16. What does a person have to do to be saved?

I repeat... *What does a person have to do to be saved?*

I know many denominations of Christians across this world have all kinds of things that you need to do and not do to be saved. They have their whole checklist of things that you need to do to be saved, and if you are able to check all these things off on that list, then you can consider yourself saved. They have taken something so simple and complicated it, corrupted it, and polluted it. Something so simple because the Bible does not leave us confused. The Bible does not leave us in the dark on this subject matter. You *can* find the answer to that question: What does a person have to do to be saved? So we will begin in Acts 16:25, when Paul and Silas were imprisoned.

***“And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed and sang praises to God: and the prisoners heard them.***

***And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken: and immediately all the doors were opened, and every one’s bands were loosed. And the keeper of the prison awaking out of his sleep, and seeing the prison doors opened, he drew out his sword, and would have killed himself, supposing that the prisoners have been fled.***

***But Paul cried with a loud voice, saying, Do thyself no harm: for we are all here.*** [Stop, we have not gone anywhere, we are still here.]

***Then he called for a light, and sprang in, and came trembling, and fell down before Paul and Silas,***

***and brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved?***

***And they said, Believe [pisteo, in the Greek; faith, trust, and confidence] on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.”***

Paul told them that if any members of his household would just have trust, confidence, and faith in Jesus, they would be saved also. This jailer was asking Paul and Silas what is the one thing necessary that he must do so he could be saved, and Paul makes it very clear.

***“Believe [pisteo] on the Lord Jesus Christ.”*** That was it. We do not need a long list of things to do to determine whether we are saved or not. Paul did not go into some exhortations on things as these people listened to Paul and Silas in the prison singing the hymns. They did not lay hands on them or do any of the things we see in modern Christianity so they can determine whether you are saved or not. Who are they to determine that? Who died and made them God?

***“Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ.”*** In the scriptures there are two groups of people; ones who believe and ones who do not believe. It is that simple.

Next, go to the Gospel of John 3:36.

***“He that believeth [pisteo again] on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not ....”***

Here the Greek makes it very clear what this means. It is to willingly NOT believe even though you were presented the truth that Jesus Christ is the Lord and paid the price for our condemnation, our death sentence. But the word also carries another meaning; you are in disobedience because you willingly did not believe. Returning to this verse, we now read,

***“He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.”***

This verse separates us into one group or the other: the ones that believe or the ones that willingly do not believe. Those who believe have everlasting life, and those who do not shall not see it, and the wrath of God abides in them.

Go to John 3:18, ***“He that believeth [pisteo] on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed [pisteo] in the name of the only begotten Son of God.”***

He is condemned. Jesus said there are two groups of people: those who believe in Him, and those who willingly do not believe. Those who believe in Him do not face a death sentence any longer; it has been lifted. But those who willingly do not are condemned under that death sentence including the second death because they are not believing ***“in the name of the only begotten Son of God.”***

Go to Galatians 3: 26. It says: ***“For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.”*** It is plainly saying that everybody who is a child of God is a child of God by faith through Jesus Christ. I want these scriptures to emphasize an important point.

Now, go to Romans 5:1: ***“Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.”*** This verse is telling us that we are justified, or made right with God again by faith. We have peace, and that only happens because Jesus has provided the pathway to obtain that peace so we can be right with God. There is no other way; He is *it*.

One thing that bothers me is the phrase ‘*saving faith*.’ What is that? It sounds catchy, and sounds like something that might be good to apply in someone’s life. Saving faith, what is so wrong with that? Oh, how Christians have come up with their own terminology and catch phrases. Books are titled Saving Faith. There are plenty of sermons that have the title ‘Saving Faith,’ and there are sermons that are preached using that same ‘saving faith’ terminology. But, find me anywhere in scripture, I challenge you, find me anywhere in scripture where the Word of God puts the word ‘saving’ before ‘faith.’ I put the challenge out there; find it. I am sorry friend, I do not care what you have been led to believe, faith is not the savior, and faith in God’s Word is not the savior; Jesus Christ is the Savior. Faith is an attitude of the soul through which Jesus saves, I have no problem with that, but faith is not the savior; Jesus is.

Here is another challenge. Find me somewhere in the scriptures where it tells us to ‘believe and be saved.’ Instead, it says, “**Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shall be saved,**” which is different. It also says, “**He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life,**” and “**Whosoever believeth on him shall not perish,**” but nowhere in the scriptures does it say ‘believe and be saved.’ This is where that saving faith nonsense comes from. It is the object of faith that makes faith important, because you could have faith in the wrong thing, and it can result in a person’s damnation if you are not careful. That is why the Bible tells us to beware of the false preachers and teachers. Beware; they will lead your soul into damnation by having you believe something that is just not in the Scriptures.

Now, turn to Hebrews 12: 2. It tells us, “**Looking unto Jesus the author** [some translations have *beginner*] **and finisher** [not of *our faith*, but] **of faith.**” Too many in today’s modern Christian world are looking **at** Jesus, but not looking **unto** Jesus, and once again, there is a difference. Most people, if they are honest with themselves, will admit that Jesus Christ existed. There is enough historical data and facts now to prove that without any doubt there was a historical Jesus. But faith is not looking at a historical Jesus. And as I said, too many are looking **at** Jesus, and not looking **unto** Jesus, meaning they are not depending on Jesus.

Are you depending on Jesus? Are you faithing that He paid the debt that we all owe that came with an eternal death sentence if He had not paid that debt? To use a simple illustration, what if you are trying to get a loan, but your credit is not good enough. So you have to convince someone, whether a friend, family member, or whoever, to be the co-borrower on that application along with your name on it, and you get the loan that you need, then eventually the loan payment became due. But because of a set of unseen circumstances in your life, you now have no money to pay that loan payment. This is now a problem and you do not know what to do. Not only that, you know the co-borrower also has a problem, because if they do not come up with the payment it will affect and destroy their credit too. So what do you do? You call up your co-signer, the co-borrower, and say “Listen (whoever the name of that co-borrower is), I’m in a jam, a set of circumstances came my way, I was not expecting it, and now I don’t have the money to make the payment. And the bad news is that you’re on the application loan document also, and they’re going to come after you too. I can’t pay the loan.”

Then out of the blue your friend (or your relative or whoever the person is) says, “Don’t worry about it, I’ll pay it, *I’ll pay it*; just look to me. Quit looking at everything around you, and the circumstances that created the situation that you’re in, including your own life also, and look unto me. *I’ll pay it*. Just depend on me, and consider it paid in full.” Did Jesus not do the same for us?

Romans 6:23 tells us that we owe the sin debt and the wages of sin is death. So to pay what we owed, we would have to die eternally and spend our eternal existence either in hell, or the lake of fire, or whatever you believe, forever. But Jesus says, “Don’t worry about it.” All you have to do is look unto Jesus, and keep looking unto Jesus, because He paid the debt for us.

Using simple illustrations shows the magnitude of Christ’s love for us, and what He has done for us, and why He has said we are to remember Him when we go to this table daily, even many times a day, or as much as you want. And I have said you do not even have to use the elements to

remember Him and what He has done for us.

Isaiah 53:6 reads, “...*the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all;*” every sin that was committed, every sin that is committed *now*, and every sin that will be committed *in the future*. God has already laid those sins on Jesus Christ. God punished Him instead of us, and He bore our sins in His own body as He hung there paying that debt that we owed. His death on the cross made full payment for our sins, and He rose on the third day just as was prophesized and promised; and His precious blood is sitting on that heavenly mercy seat, which removed our sins to a place that can never be seen by God the Father. He has peace with us, and now we have peace with Him, because of what Jesus Christ did.

Hebrews 12 says *look to me*. In fact, I think that is a good title for this message. “Look to Me” and *pisteo* on what I did on that cross. Have trust and confidence that I paid your sin debt, and keep looking to me, keep looking **unto** me. Stop looking **at** me, and realize what I did. Keep looking unto me. Faith is not looking at Jesus, anybody can do that. Faith is looking unto Jesus which separates you into that one of two categories that I mentioned earlier. Can we depend on Jesus? Absolutely, and not only can we depend on Jesus, we can rely on Jesus concerning our salvation. We can trust Him, because only He will get us to heaven. Now, one of the few things that I agree with Martin Luther about is his translation of this verse in Hebrews. He translated it as, “looking *up* to Jesus.” When you are looking up to Jesus, you are looking away from everything else, because you are focused on Him, not on your circumstances, trials, or tribulations, your sins, or your works. You are looking up to Him. When people are talking to me, I do not care if it is a man or a woman, if I am having a conversation and we are sitting across from each other, I like to see eye contact. People not only speak with their mouths, but through facial expressions, even including eye expressions happening in the midst of that conversation. I pay attention closely to details, especially if we are having a serious one on one. Well, if I can focus on a person that way, how much more should I focus on Him, who has given me the wonderful gift of eternal life.

We are to look **up** to Jesus, not look **at** him. And by looking up, it also means we are looking away from our own righteousness, or righteousness that we think somehow we deserved or earned, if we are that stupid to believe we could even do that, which many Christians do. So look away from our righteousness, and look only unto Jesus, or look up to Jesus.

Titus 3:5 reads, “*Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost.*”

Many of you have heard or read the scripture in Isaiah 64:6, which reads, “...*all our righteousness are as filthy rags.*” That verse is not saying that the worse that we have done is filthy rags, but most people think that way. It is saying the *best* that we can do is filthy rags, the *best*. There is no one anywhere on this planet that has lived before, that lives now, or will live in the future that could ever be righteous enough on their own, because of their self-made righteousness, or self-proclaimed righteousness, that would get them to heaven. It just does not happen that way. You would have to be a perfect individual from the date of your birth, and we know we are born right into sin. So therefore, there is no perfect person out there, except Jesus.



In Mark 2:15 we read, *“And it came to pass, that, as Jesus sat at meat in his house, many publicans and sinners sat also together with Jesus and his disciples: for there were many, and they followed him.*

*And when the scribes and Pharisees saw him eat with publicans and sinners, they said unto his disciples, How is it that he eateth and drinketh with publicans and sinners?*

*When Jesus heard it, he saith unto them, They that are whole have no need of the physician, but they that are sick: I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance [or metanoia, a change of mind].”*

All the righteous ones who think they will get there in their own righteousness, who think they are righteous, are really sick and just do not want to recognize that fact. All the righteous ones who do not want to associate with anybody that might be unfit to be part of the group; their righteousness is as filthy rags. They are not looking unto Jesus, but looking at themselves. At best they are just looking **at** Jesus, instead of looking **unto** Jesus, who has washed anyone cleaned by the blood of His precious life and body, a perfect body sent to rescue, to be the great physician that heals, not only physically but more importantly, spiritually, the diseased, decaying, rotten body, that is destined for condemnation throughout eternity.

The older I get, the more amazing the story of the Gospel truly is. The more and more amazing is His love for us, which is detailed throughout the Scriptures. I just marvel at it; I am in awe of it. A God that created everything came down, and even though He did not have to, He rescued us. For some reason He would not do it for angels, but He did it for us. I do not really think most Christians realize how precious that gift is, how special it is, and the place that He has put us in; and it only happens through the Lord Jesus Christ.

I do not care whatever else you believe in you are heading down a road that will lead only to eternal condemnation and damnation. It is time to change, and the only thing, as Paul, other disciples, and the Lord Jesus Christ said when He was instructing the disciples, all you have to do is believe on Him, in the right context of what believe means; and that is it. Once that happens, and we are faithing and walking in Him daily, do not forget what He also commanded us to do, which was to remember Him and what He has done for us.

And that is not all. He is also coming back for us, along with the other promises that go with that. Consider yourself the most fortunate person on the planet that has been gifted the most precious gift anyone has ever received.

We are to do this, as Jesus said, as often as we eat and drink. We cannot remember Him enough, we cannot be thankful enough, but what we can do is never forget what He has done for us, and do that often.

It is not about works; it is not about righteousness; it is always about Him. Stop looking **at** Him and start looking **unto** Him. Focus in on Jesus, all the other stuff in life comes and goes. He will get us through the valleys; He will get us through the tribulations; He will get us through the trials. There are plenty of promises where He says that He will never leave us nor forsake us and that He will always be there with us. And it starts with trusting, having confidence, and belief in Him, in the right context of what the word really means. Christians have complicated this, but it is really very simple. Before we ever get to discipleship, we have to recognize this wonderful gift

of grace that Christ has provided for us. And the benefit of it, among other things, is that He has put us in peace with God the Father.

The only thing left to say is, “Thank you Jesus. Thank you for what you have done for me.” Let us always remember Him. Let us always remember to look unto Jesus.

Keep looking up, because that is where our focus should be.

Take the elements now in Jesus’s name.

# Book of Blood

Open your Bibles to Hebrews 4:12, but first I am going to read something to you that has more than a few key points in it, and I will stop in a few places to point those out. What I will read is concerning the chemistry of the blood and how, like prophecy, it is everywhere in God's book from Genesis to Revelation. Blood is everywhere in the Bible.

But for now, take blood out of the spiritual sense and put it into a worldly sense, not Christ's blood, but blood in general. Look at Hollywood's fascination with blood, movies, and so forth. Blood is splattered throughout the screens across this world. People, for some reason, are attracted to Hollywood's representation of all the blood splattering. Why? What is so unique about blood that fascinates people in general? Well, I am leaving the world's fascination of blood splattering or blood spilling across the screens. I am not interested really in all that nonsense. It serves no purpose except to draw people to the box office to buy tickets and sell movies to make a profit with all kinds of ramifications why. That is something you should be especially careful with. It amazes me, especially today, how parents allow their kids to be part of all that. Young minds are being molded by the wrong explanation of all this blood spilling. So now, take the blood out of Hollywood, wars, people not getting along with people, and have no problem with shedding blood. Across this world, there has been one bloody battle after another through the millenniums. One person even made an estimation of how many people have died throughout history, not including the Bible, so a lot of that is left out. In addition, think about all the unknown skirmishes and battles throughout history that did not make the history books. The number of deaths is staggering!

But the focus of this chapter is the Bible. Yes, it is a book of prophecy. Yes, it is a book of hope and eternal salvation, but it is also a book of blood. Whether you read in Genesis or anywhere between there and Revelation, you will find blood. This author writes,

***“The Bible is a book of blood and a bloody book. When we are accused of preaching a Gospel of blood we proudly plead guilty to the charge to the only thing that gives life to our teaching and power to the Word of God is the fact that it is the blood which is the very life and power of the Gospel. The Bible claims for itself that it is a ‘living’ Book and the only living Book in the world and is able to impart life to those who will believe with their hearts what it teaches. In Hebrews chapter 4 [verse 12] ‘For the word of God is quick [or alive], and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword.’***

***The word translated ‘quick’ in this verse is ‘LIVING’ or ‘ALIVE.’ The word of God is a living Word....”***

It is alive, unlike a pamphlet, which does not come alive and does not bring life. But the Bible speaks of nothing but life. It speaks of death also, but this is a book of life, and it comes alive as the Living Word to give us that life.

***“The word of God is a living Word, wholly distinct ... for just one reason, namely that it contains blood circulating through every page and in every verse. From Genesis to Revelation we see the stream of blood which imparts to this Book the very life of God. Without the blood in the Bible it would be like any other book and of no more value, for the Bible plainly teaches that the life is in the blood. ... we must begin with one fundamental principle found in the Bible. This fundamental principle is given in Leviticus 17 as follows, ‘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 and atonement for the soul.’***

***The same inspired principle is repeated in the 14th verse where we read again, [Leviticus 17] “‘For it is the life of all flesh; the blood of it is for the life thereof.’***

***Life, that mysterious something that science has never been able to define or fathom, is said by God to be in the blood of the flesh, so that there can be no life without the blood. Now while this is true of all flesh, we are mainly interested in the human blood, and particularly in the blood of the man Christ Jesus because His blood was not only life as we think of it physically but ETERNAL life as well.***

***In the human body, there are many different kinds of tissues. [What I have experienced with my medical problems I think I have felt every single one in my body, as of late, especially the surrounding area of my back and upper torso and lower torso.] We define them as muscle, nerve, fat, gland, bone, connective tissues, etc. All these tissues have one thing in common, they are fixed cells, microscopically small and having a specific and limited function. Unlike these fixed tissues, the blood is fluid and mobile, that is, it is not limited to one part of the body but is free to move throughout the entire body and touch every other fixed cell as it supplies it with nourishment and carries off waste products and the ashes of cell activity which we call metabolism.”***

Even though those other tissues are fixed in their place the way God created them in the beginning, the blood is not fixed. It goes everywhere in the body; from the tip of the finger to the end of the toe; from the top of the skull to the bottom of the feet. It circulates everywhere.

***“In the normal human body, there are about five pints of this fluid, and this blood pumped by the heart circulates through the system about every twenty-three seconds....”***

That still fascinates me. Every twenty-three seconds, and it has a lot of places to travel. That might not seem like much, but even if you are the tallest person in the world, or the shortest person in the world, the blood still has to travel the whole body to bring nourishment and also cleansing. Let us continue with this author,

*“In the normal human body there are about five pints of human blood. This blood, pumped by the heart, circulates through the system about every twenty-three seconds, so that every cell in the body is constantly supplied and cleansed and at the same time is in constant communication and touch with every other cell in that body. This blood is the most mysterious of all tissues, being composed of scores of elements and compounds and strange chemical bodies, whose function is not yet fully understood, but of all which have to do with the mystery of life for the ‘life is in the blood.’ Once the blood fails to reach the cells and members of the body, they promptly die and no man ever dies until his blood ceases to circulate. The life is in the blood.*

*Now all this is true of a physical body, but all points to a greater, deeper spiritual truth. The church of Jesus Christ is called His body and we ‘are members of His body’ and ‘...members of one another.’ In this body Jesus Christ is the head and all the believers are the members. These members are related by the blood of Christ. The life of each member depends on His blood and is dependent solely for life, nourishment, cleansing and growth upon the blood of the Lamb of God, for ‘the life is in the blood.’ Every born-again believer is a member of that body and lives the common life of every other member by the one thing that unites them and makes them ‘relatives and brothers,’ even the blood of Christ. [So through the blood of Christ, we are related, and even though I have never met you, we have this bond through Christ. You are my brother or my sister.] These members may be widely separated in the body like the hands and the feet.*

*They may differ widely in color; such as the white members- the teeth, and the black members- the hair or pigments of the eyes. They may differ widely in functions such as nerves and skin, or differ in structure such as fat and muscle, but they are all members of one body united by one tissue, the blood that reaches every member everywhere. Even so it is with the Body of Christ, the true Church. They may differ in color and be white, or [black] or yellow. They may differ in function according to their gift and talent. They may differ in their place as far as Eskimos are removed from the Bores in South Africa.*

*They may differ in form as much as Catholics and Plymouth Brethren but all born-again believers have trusted the Finished Work of the Lord Jesus Christ, the Head of the Body, are brothers by blood [we are blood brothers] members of one family and body, whether they be Jews or Gentiles, white or black, Catholic or Protestant, kings or peasants. All are one through the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ.*

*...God cares nothing for our manmade divisions and groups and is not interested in our self-righteousness, hair-splitting, and religious, man-made formulas and organizations.*

*[Halleluiah!] He wants you to recognize the UNITY of the body of Christ. Our business is not building denominations ... men and women from one so-called faith to another but to preach the truth that ‘Ye must be born again’ and that you are lost, no matter what church you belong to unless you have been washed in the precious blood of Christ.*

*Show me the man or woman who is more interested in getting members for his church than winning them for Christ, and I will show you a person who does not yet know the Unifying and purifying power of the Blood, in making us all ONE in Him, not in form or ritual or mode of worship but one in common interest to EXALT OUR HEAD, the Lord Jesus, and to love one another.* [Those are the two commandments that Christ refers to over and over and also His apostles in their letters to the churches.] *Some folks are so busy defending their pet doctrines and sectarian views and getting church members, that they never* [consider anyone to be brought to Christ].

*All men are related by the blood of Adam, sinful and polluted blood, dead in trespasses and sins. Scripture teaches that God-*

*'And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of earth.'* Acts 17:26

*All men have a common origin from Adam. It is Adam's blood which courses in every man's veins whether white or black, Jew or Gentile, pagan or cultured. This blood carries the sentence of death because of Adam's sin and for this reason all men die a common death, with no exceptions. Now remember that the life is in the blood, and so if man must die it is because there is death in the blood.* [There is death in it because it has been poisoned.] *Whatever the fruit of knowledge of good and evil was we to know that eating of it caused 'blood poisoning' and resulted in death for God had said:*

*'The day that thou eatest thereof thou shall surely die.'* – Genesis 2:17”

As soon as Adam took that bite, he not only created a blood poisoning for himself that would bring on death, but for every one of his off-spring, including us, are under that physical death, blood poisoning curse. Now, thank God, if we are in Christ Jesus, even though we might face physical death, if His return is not close, we will be spiritually alive waiting for all things to be completed and then get a new body if we are still alive in that process. The blood poisoning did not stop that from happening if we are in Christ.

*“So potent was this poison that six thousand years after all who are related to Adam by human birth still succumb to that poison of sin which is transmitted through the blood.”*

From one person to another person to another person, all through the ages, down through the history of time, nothing could remove that blood poisoning and what would cause us physically to die a physical death. Science is trying to figure out how to prolong life, how to make a life never to see the death of a physical life. It cannot be done unless you are one of the few fortunate ones like Enoch, for instance. All we know about him is he did not die; he was “translated;” he took off into the heavens. And as for Elijah, he was taken by some strange looking chariot into the sky. Some people would call that a flying saucer, a UFO, in today's world, but those are the only two exceptions I am aware of. Everyone else, person after person, throughout history has died of a physical blood poisoning, no exceptions.

***“A review of the story of Adam’s creation will make clear this truth. We are told that God formed man out of the dust of the earth. Up to this, Adam was a lifeless clump of clay. Materially he was just so much dust, and merely molded to the shape of a man, but without life, he was a mere dummy. Then the record tells that-  
‘And [God] breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.’ - Genesis 2:7”***

So did God create Adam as this molded lump of clay in its dummy state with blood already in Adam? And if the blood was in Adam, it was definitely not circulating because if it were circulating there would be life, right? Think about it. This much we know in medical science; when the blood stops circulating, death quickly comes to every member of the body. If God created Adam with blood already in his body when He molded that lump of clay together, why was Adam not living?

***“...God breathed into his nostrils the breath of life.”*** What is that which He breathed? What did it consist of that made Adam become a living soul? The breath of God put something in man that made him alive, and that something was blood. It had to be; it could be nothing else! ***“For we have already shown that the life of the flesh is in the blood.”*** So if Adam was created with the blood, I know God breathed His Spirit into him. I know what the Hebrew says, but what did that consist of? Whatever the breath of life, the spirit of God was implanted in him by God, we do not want to think about that because we cannot explain it unless we look at it from a different angle.

***“The breath of God put something in man that made him ALIVE. That something was blood. It must have been. It could be nothing else: for we have already shown that the ‘Life of the flesh is in the blood thereof, and so when life was added by the breath of God, He imparted to that lump of clay in the shape of a man the blood, and man became a living soul.’ Adam’s body was of the ground. His blood was the separate gift of God for God is Life and the Author of all life.”***

I will have some wondering and running to your commentaries or whatever your religious source of knowledge is on your shelves, but you are not going to find this. Commentaries cannot explain why God created a human being even though it was not living yet. The only explanation is that besides the gift, the blood gave us life. The only explanation is that God’s Spirit blew something into Adam that got the blood mechanism moving so Adam came to life. It is almost like a battery is to a car. Without a battery, there is no life. The car might look great; it might be a fifty thousand dollar car or a one hundred thousand dollar car. Without the battery, however, it is just a piece of metal that will not go anywhere. But, if you put the battery into the car, it becomes a useful mechanism for your purposes. Well, for God’s purposes, the only missing element that He

did not put in Adam after He molded him, which was His gift of giving us life, was blood. His gift!

I was never just satisfied with the simple definition that God's blew or breathed His spirit, His *'ruach'* in Hebrew, into Adam and he became a living soul. What was in that breath? Scripture says over and over that life is in the blood, meaning that Adam was just a figure of molded clay. So, if life is in the blood, then what God gifted Adam with was blood to make him become a living soul. If you have a better explanation, then I am happy to hear it. Until then, do not rule out mine. This makes sense to me.

***“Then man sinned and ate of tree of knowledge of good and evil and HE DIED. DIED SPIRITUALLY—and, ultimately, physically. Now since life is in the blood... when man died, something happened to the blood. Sin affected the blood of man not his body, except indirectly because it is supplied by the blood. For this very reason sin is not in the flesh but in the blood and flesh can only be called ‘sinful’ flesh because it is nourished and fed and sustained by sinful blood. [This is more effect of the blood poisoning because of sin] Sin is transmitted through the blood and since God ‘hath made of one blood all nations,’ the sin is transmitted to all of Adam’s progeny. For in that one sin all have sinned.***

***This very fact that sin is in the blood necessitated the VIRGIN BIRTH of Christ if He was to be a son of Adam and yet a sinless man. [Yes, Christ was to be born a son of Adam and yet a sinless man and nobody up to that point had been able to do that. So what made Christ special?] For this very reason, Christ could partake of Adam’s flesh which is not inherently sinful, but He could not partake of Adam’s blood which was completely impregnated with sin. God found a way by which Jesus ‘born of a woman’ (not man) could be a perfect human being but, because he had not a drop of Adam’s sin in His veins He did not share in Adam’s sin. ... sin is in the blood and the whole plan of redemption, therefore, revolves around the blood. Now I am sure that what we have said so far will answer the question ‘Why is the Bible a Book of blood?’ Because sin is in the blood, and it follows that if sin is to be atoned for, sinless blood must be provided by someone who is totally unaffected by Adam’s sin and yet belong to the human race. So we can trace throughout the Scriptures this line of the blood. The first mention of the blood is in chapter four [of Genesis] where the blood of Abel cried from the ground for vengeance. In the preceding chapter the blood, while it is not mentioned by name is inferred. you remember how Adam and Eve after their sin have tried to make garments to cover their shame from fig leaves.***

***That is the history of man. Instead of realizing that sin needs not COVERING but ATONEMENT, man has ever after been trying to save himself by the work of his own hands and by the garments of his own manufacture.”***

Which brings us to another point; of all the practices that they were supposed to carry out as a commandment, the blood offerings were a cover offering in the Old Testament. But it was much



more than that in the New Testament. The blood did more than cover. In fact, we did not even need the covering in the New Testament because of what God did through His only begotten Son. What Jesus did was remove that sin from our blood. That does not mean we will not sin any longer, but God can perceive us and look upon us and commune with us, intermingle with us, have connection with us. That sin was covered in the Old Testament and removed by the work of Christ on the cross and what He did at Calvary.

*“That is the history of man. Instead of realizing that sin needs not COVERING but ATONEMENT, man has ever after been trying to save himself by the work of his own hands and by garments of his own manufacturing. So he weaves that flimsy fig leaf garment of morality and culture and good works and law works, religion, education and social gospel, repeating the error of our first parents when they tried to save themselves by the work of their own hands. They failed us all, [and] since then [mankind] has failed and will fail. Then God comes to them and we read in Genesis 3:21 these words, ‘Unto Adam and also unto his wife did the LORD God make coats of skin, and (He) clothed them.’ – Genesis 3:21*

*In this first record of sacrifice, we have the whole story of the blood. Notice three things about this act of God which is a preview of the whole plan of redemption. First, Adam’s sin called for God’s intervention. It must be God’s work and not mans. GOD MADE THE COAT OF SKINS. Salvation must be ALL of the Lord. Second, Salvation must be by the DEATH of an innocent substitute.*

*Since these coats were made of skin and animal first had to die to provide the covering. A poor substitute (probably a little lamb) had to die that Adam might be saved. Third, it MUST BE BY THE SHEDDING OF BLOOD, for the animal must be killed to give its skin and in this sacrifice its blood must be shed. Without shedding of blood is no remission. It is the blood that maketh atonement for the sole. ‘The blood of Jesus Christ His son cleansed us all from sin.’ This principle of blood laid down in the first sacrifice runs like a scarlet line all through the book. In Genesis four Cain and Abel bring a sacrifice each. One is accepted, the other rejected simply because Cain presented no blood while Abel did. [That is why it was not pleasing to God. There was no blood involved in Cain’s offering.] In Genesis nine, Noah sheds blood of the clean animals out of the Ark and God makes a covenant of grace with him. In Genesis Twenty Two, Abraham sacrifices a ram caught in the bushes in Isaac’s stead and the blood of the substitute spares the sinner. In Exodus we have the Passover Lamb. [Blood after blood after blood.]*

*In Leviticus, we have the tabernacle sacrifices with their streams of blood, and all through the rest of the book we follow the line until we trace it to its source and we see on Calvary God’s perfect Lamb of which all the others were a picture and a type and we see the one who met the three conditions of the Father.*

*First - He was God’s own gift.*

*Second - He died in the place of others and,  
Third - It was by the shedding of His own precious blood.”*

Men, in his man-made efforts, are useless. Oh, some keep attempting to save themselves by using their own fig-leaf efforts, but it is not sufficient, works are not sufficient. That is why I get surprised so often when people say “You’re preaching works!” Really!?! That is new to me, or you have not been listening long enough and you made a false judgment while hearing what I preach on and the facts behind it.

I know more than probably most because I have done an extensive study on the blood. I am still trying to dig in to its richest meanings, which we get through the scriptures, and what it has to offer, but I am far from being completed. I know my fig-leaf efforts will always fall short and understand it is the blood that makes atonement for the soul, not my efforts. I understand without shedding of blood there is no remission for my pathetic sins and horrible trespasses. I do know it is through Jesus Christ that we are saved. Before anyone can be saved, whether it is referring to me or referring to you or anyone else, before anyone can be saved, you must come to that realization and the knowledge. You must learn that you cannot save yourself. You just cannot; it all falls short. But, I know the One who can. He happens to be Jesus Christ, the savior of anyone that will trust and faith in His wonderful redemption plan carried out for our benefit. Without the understanding of what Christ did for us, is to be put back in the place where we are going to be spiritually and physically contaminated with poison within the blood, poisoned blood.

Christ came to save us spiritually from that poisoned blood. Unfortunately, we still must die if His return is not soon. But we are promised to be given a new body when it is all said and done, and to rule and reign with Him throughout eternity. If we do not trust and faith that it is going to happen we are wasting our time. There is no reason why we should be involved as a disciple of Jesus Christ, because we are not a disciple.

I thank Jesus, as we go to this table, remembering Him and what He has done for us, and I have another reason now to thank Him; for decontaminating my blood to give me spiritual life, with the promise that we will never get old, our body will never age, few will not have diseases, illnesses, ailments, and it will not have contaminated blood, period! I sure do not want this body again. It has failed me enough over the years, but that is still yet ahead and I do not know what the new body will be. I do have some idea through scripture what it can be like, but now I want to remember Jesus, and thank Him as we take these elements.

He came down and rescued us and started that decontamination process and He focused in on what is most important; the decontaminating which kept us away from His Father. We no longer have just a covering. He removed our sins by putting Himself between us and His Father. So when His Father sees us, He sees us through Jesus and His blood is not contaminated. Jesus did

not fall short. He made the whole trip. He never sinned. He never allowed His blood to be contaminated. And because of that, we now have communion with the Heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ!

Life is in the blood. For now, our spiritual life is in the only uncontaminated blood, and that is in Jesus Christ. So thank Him, as we remember what He has done for us, and what He provided. It is another wonderful provision of uncontaminated blood.

Thank you Jesus. Thank Him now as we take the elements and remember what He has done for us.

# Jesus' Blood was Sinless

Open your Bibles to Matthew 1:18.

***“Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost.”***

I know my mentor wrestled with the resurrection and he had to overcome that. But for me I had to get past this verse in Matthew 1:18. I always thought if I could really believe with no evidence that the Holy Spirit impregnated Mary, then why not believe that someone could be raised from the dead after three days. Think about it! How many cheating wives would say, “No, I didn't cheat on you, I just got pregnant by the Holy Spirit!” I am not mocking anything here I am trying to make a point. I imagine this excuse would be used over and over and over again because it cannot be physically done unless God intervenes. As far as we know, this has only been done once over two thousand years ago. I can understand why people might wrestle with the resurrection, but how did you get past this event? It happened first! Then about 33 or so years later, the resurrection happened. So, if you can get past this and believe that the Holy Ghost can make a woman pregnant, then why not believe in the resurrection? It would take the same divine intervention for the two to happen. Think about it! That is why I had to get past this point first before believing anything else.

When I was still a young Catholic boy and even though the Catholics at that time were discouraged from reading the Bible (I am not sure about now), we had Bibles in our home. I remember reading this story in Matthew and even though I was just a dumb kid, I thought this was amazing. I already knew enough. I was a little older, maybe about 13 or 14 years old, but I knew how babies were made. Even though I was not a Christian yet, something deep down inside of me knew this had to be true because if it is not true, then all of Jesus' miracles and all the things that happened between His birth, His death, and resurrection were false. So the point I am trying to make is: do not tell me that you are wrestling with all the other things after Jesus was born. It has to start here. Do you trust and faith that God intervened and the Holy Ghost made Mary pregnant? If you do and you have trust and confidence of that happening, then you can move on to everything else and everything else becomes much more believable. Remember it was Isaiah who said the virgin birth was going to happen. There is no doubt in anyone's mind who does any research on when these things were written and how old some of the documents are that find what Isaiah said prior to Jesus arriving on the scene came to pass.

Here an author writes,

***“Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a public example, was minded to put her away privily. But when he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not [Do not be struck with fear over it.] to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS [or Saviour]: for he shall***

*save his people from their sins.*

*Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying,*

*Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.”*

Of course, it is referenced in Isaiah 7:14, which reads,

*“Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.”*

Long before Jesus ever arrived on the scene, and it can be proven historically now by the records we do have, that this was prophesied. So we have Mary impregnated by the Holy Ghost which produced Jesus. In Matthew 1:23, it was prophesied hundreds of years prior that this event would come and Jesus would be that saviour. I know it is hard to believe the virgin birth and many wonder how that could happen, but you cannot deny the Bible does not teach about it, because it does. Man can reject it, but cannot deny that it is taught and that it is given to us as a record in the Holy Scriptures.

*“The Bible teaches plainly that Jesus was conceived in the womb of a virgin Jewish mother by a supernatural insemination of the Holy Ghost, wholly and apart from any generation by a human father. This the Bible teaches so plainly that to the believer there is no other doubt.”*

There is no doubt that this event took place. As I said, if you can believe this, I do not think you will have a problem believing everything else.

*“The Bible teaches in addition that Jesus was a SINLESS man. While all men from Adam to this day are born with Adam's sinful nature, and, therefore, are subject to the curse and eternal death, the Man Jesus was without sin and, therefore, DEATHLESS until He took the sin of others upon Himself and died THEIR death.”*

Jesus was not born like us. For some reason we sinned from the very beginning and He did not. There was something different about Him.

*“Now while Jesus was of Adam's race according to the flesh yet He did not inherit Adam's nature. This alone will prove that sin is not transmitted through the flesh. It is transmitted through the blood and not the flesh, and even though Jesus was of the ‘Seed of David according to the flesh’ this could not make him a sinner.*

*God has made of ONE BLOOD ALL THE NATIONS of the earth. Sinful heredity is transmitted through the blood and not through the flesh. Even though Jesus, therefore, received His flesh, His body from a sinful race, He could still be sinless as long as not a drop of blood of this sinful race entered His veins.”*

How could that have happened?

***“God must find a way whereby Jesus could be perfectly human according to the flesh and yet not have the blood of sinful humanity. That was the problem solved by the virgin birth. It is now definitely known that the blood which flows in an unborn babies arteries and veins is not derived from the mother but is produced within the body of the foetus itself only after the introduction of the male sperm. An unfertilized ovum can never develop blood since the female egg does not by itself contain the elements essential for the production of this blood. It is only after the male element has entered the ovum that blood can develop.”***

Some of you microbiologists know what I am reading is true.

***“As a very simple illustration of this, think of the egg of a hen. An unfertilized egg is just an ovum on a much larger scale than the human ovum. You may incubate this unfertilized hens egg, but it will never develop. It will decay and become rotten, but no chick will result. Let that egg be fertilized by the introduction of the male sperm and incubation will bring to light the presence of LIFE IN THAT EGG. After a few hours it visibly develops. In a little while red streaks occur in the egg denoting the presence of Blood. This can never occur and does never occur until THE MALE SPERM HAS BEEN UNITED WITH THE FEMALE OVUM. The male element has added life to the egg. Life is in the blood according to scripture, for Moses says:***

***‘For the life of the flesh is in the blood.’ (Leviticus 17:11). ‘For it is the life of all flesh; the blood of it is for the life thereof.’ - Leviticus 17:14***

***Since there is no life in the egg until the male sperm unites with it, and the life is in the blood, it follows that the male sperm is the source of the blood,”***

Let me repeat that again. You would be surprised at how many people do not know these facts.

***“...it follows that the male sperm is the source of the blood, the seed of life.”***

No mother's blood is involved here.

***“For this very reason, it is unnecessary that a single drop of blood be given to the developing embryo in the womb of the mother. Such is the case according to science. The mother provides the foetus (the unborn developing infant) with the nutritive elements for the building of that little body in the secret of her bosom, but all the blood which forms in that little body...”***

Let me read that again: ***“but all the blood which forms in that little body is formed in the embryo itself and only as a result of the contribution of the male parent. From the time of conception to the time of birth of the infant not ONE SINGLE DROP OF BLOOD ever passes from mother to child.”***

Let me read that again because it is going to be very important to understand why Jesus was born sinless. God found a way; God knew about science long before science knew this to be true, and why would He not? He is the creator of all things, including Adam and Eve.

***“From the time of conception to the time of birth of the infant not ONE SINGLE DROP OF BLOOD ever passes from mother to child. The placenta that mass of temporary tissue known better as ‘afterbirth,’ forming the union between mother and child is so constructed that although all the soluble nutritive elements such as proteins, fats, carbohydrates, salts, minerals and even antibodies pass freely from mother to child and the waste products of the child's metabolism are passed back to the mothers circulation, no actual interchange of a single drop of blood ever occurs normally. All the blood which is in that child is produced within the child itself as a result of the introduction of the male sperm. The mother contributes no blood at all.*”**

[The author of this article reads from other textbooks.]

***‘For the purpose of understanding its general functions it is sufficient to recall that the placenta consists essentially a vascular chorionic papillae from the foetus (the unborn child) bathed in the large blood spaces of the decidual membrane of the mother. The fetal and maternal blood DO NOT COME INTO ACTUAL CONTACT. THEY ARE SEPARATED FROM EACH OTHER by the walls of the fetal blood vessels and the epithelial layers of the chorionic villae.’”***

Here is another source:

***“The fetal blood in the vessels of the chorionic villae AT NO TIME GAINS ACCESS TO THE MATERNAL BLOOD in the intervillous space, BEING SEPARATED ONE FROM ANOTHER by the double layer of chorionic epithelium.’”***

Again, another source:

***“Normally there is no communication between the fetal blood and the maternal blood.’”***

Just go to any medical handbook that goes into more of the maternal aspect of this process and look it up for yourself if you do not believe me or the sources that I am reading. Let us read another one:

***“When the circulation of the blood begins in the embryo, it remains separate and distinct from that of the mother. All food and waste material which are interchanged between the embryo and the mother must pass through the blood vessel walls from one circulation to the other.’”***

And another source:

***“The foetus receives its nourishment and oxygen from the mothers blood into its own through the medium of the placenta. The fetal heart pumps blood through the arteries of the umbilical cord into the placenta vessels, which, looping in and out of the uterine tissue and lying in close contact with the uterine vessels, permit a diffusion, through their walls, of waste products from child to mother and of nourishment and oxygen from mother to child.*”**

***As has been said, this interchange is effected by the process of osmosis, and there is no direct mingling of the two blood currents.”***

I will read that again: ***“As has been said, this interchange is effected by the process of osmosis, and there is no direct mingling of the two blood currents. In other words, no maternal blood actually flows to the foetus, nor is there any direct fetal blood flow to the mother.”***

What you must take from this is that God found a way.

***“How wonderfully God prepared for the virgin birth of His Son. When He created woman He made her so that no blood would be able to pass from her to her offspring. That blood is the result of the male. Since Adam was the federal head of the race, it is HIS BLOOD which transmits Adam's Sin. In order to produce a sinless man and yet be the son of Adam, God must provide a way whereby that man would have a human body derived from Adam but have not a drop of Adam's sinful blood. Right here is the scientific biological reason for the sinlessness of Man Jesus Christ. Some have tried to answer the question, ‘How could He be sinless and yet born of a woman?’ by making Mary the ‘Immaculate Virgin.’ That, however, does not answer the question of how JESUS was sinless since it is through the male that the bloodline runs.***

***Not only is this a scientific fact, but it is plainly taught in Scripture that Jesus partook of human flesh without Adam's blood.”***

Go to Hebrews 2:14, which I also preached as part of the Spiritual Warfare Series. I did not get into the details, but pointed out that the Greek reads ***blood and flesh***. This verse in Hebrews reads,

***“Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, [or blood and flesh] he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil....”***

About that, the author says,

***“You will notice that the children, that is the human children, are said to be partakers of FLESH and BLOOD, and then speaking of Jesus it says that He ‘himself likewise took part of the same.’”***

That is right, but ***blood and flesh*** is what the Hebrew reads. However, Chris did not partake of Adam's blood as we partake because we are descendants of Adam. Our blood is Adam's blood, although it is different variations of blood types, it is still from Adam, the one source. In contrast, Jesus' source of His sinless innocent blood was not from an Adam source. Now as to Jesus, it says, ***“likewise took part of the same.”***

***“The Word ‘took part’ as applying to Christ is an entirely different word [that is used here] than ‘partakers’ as applied to the children [of Adam].”***



What does the word 'took part' translate to? It is important to understand the definition to understand the difference.

**“... ‘took part’ implies ‘taking part in something outside one’s self.’ The Greek word for partakers [in the beginning part of that verse] is ‘KOYNONEHO’ and means ‘to share fully,’ [in something, so ‘Forasmuch then as the children...’ Koynoneho or partakers to share fully] so that all of Adam’s children share fully in Adam’s flesh and blood.”**

That is what the early part of this scripture is saying and it leaps out once you see the difference. **“Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of blood and flesh [of Adam’s blood and flesh] he also himself likewise took part...”** What does 'took part' mean here? **Metecho** in the Greek means *to take part but not all*. Do you see what I am saying? **Koynoneho** is *to share fully in every way* in the context of this scripture. What Christ did was to take part of something but not all. So what was left out that He did not partake? The children take both blood and flesh of Adam, but Christ only took part but not all. He took the flesh part while the blood was the result of a supernatural conception. That is why I said years and years ago, it is important to understand why the Greek flips the phrase **“of blood and flesh”** in only a few places. It happens here and in Ephesians, because there are two different types of blood referred to in Hebrews 2:14; the one that Adam’s children fully share and take part of, where nothing is left out. That is what we have, but Christ only took part, but not all. He took the flesh of Adam, but the blood was from a different source. Unless that is understood, what the virgin birth means and why Jesus was born sinless and stayed that way will never be understood. Could Christ have been tempted? Sure. The devil tried to tempt Him many times. Could He have fell under the curse just like Adam did, because Adam was not born with poisoned blood? Sure, but Jesus did not. That is the difference. The second Adam made it all the way through; the first Adam failed.

**“Jesus was a perfect human being after the flesh. He was the seed of David according to the flesh, but the blood is that part of a man which is the divine addition. In the creation of man, Adam’s body was made from the dust of the earth, but God breathed into his nostrils the breath of life. Since life is in the blood, the act resulted in the formation of blood in Adam’s body, but the first Adam’s blood was corrupted and sin transmitted through it to all mankind. In the last Adam and the second man, new and divine and sinless blood was produced in a body that was the seed of Adam and by this resulted in the production of – DIVINE BLOOD.”**

To that, I want to add “a blood that did not become contaminated or poisoned.” It was divine blood.

**“Conception by the Holy Ghost then was the only way the Virgin Birth could be accomplished. Mary contributed the body of Jesus and He became the ‘seed of David according to the flesh.’ The Holy Spirit contributed the Blood of Jesus.”**

If you believe that is what happened to Adam when he was just a lump of clay, a dummy there on the ground, and God either breathed liquid blood into him or breathed some type of source that created the blood in Adam’s body, whatever miracle that took place and whatever process it was that formulated the blood, it really happened. If you believe it happened back in Adam’s day, then

why think it is that hard for the same to happen to Mary to accomplish God's purposes to send His only begotten Son. It just happened approximately 4,000 years later.

***“Mary contributed the body of Jesus and He became the ‘seed of David according to the flesh.’ The Holy Spirit contributed the Blood of Jesus. It was sinless blood. It was Divine blood. It is Precious Blood for there has never been any other like it. It is – INNOCENT BLOOD. [At first Adam’s blood was innocent, but it did not stay innocent for very long.]***

***‘I have betrayed the innocent blood’ Judas confessed in Matthew 27:4. Our Lord was innocent. [Because He never became poisoned or contaminated by sin.] He became like unto us in all things – SIN only excepted. Like unto us with ONE EXCEPTION and that exception was that instead of a human father He was conceived by a DIVINE FATHER. As a result biologically, He had DIVINE BLOOD, SINLESS BLOOD. Because this blood is sinless, it is – INCORRUPTIBLE BLOOD. [But it became poisoned.]***

***Sin made human blood corruptible. Soon after death, decay sets in, and it begins in the blood. That is why meat must be drained well of its blood. That is why embalmers place the embalming fluid in the blood. David said that Jesus’ body should ‘see no corruption.’ Though He was dead three days and three nights, His body did not corrupt. Because He was sinless they could not put Him to death but instead He ‘laid down His life voluntarily that He might take it up again.’ He arose by His own power because death had no claim in HIM except the claim of others’ sin, and when that was paid – ‘Death cannot keep his prey....’***

He was raised from the dead. Death could not keep Him as prey because Jesus is the Saviour. He is our Saviour. He tore the bars away from the grave and rose with the mighty trumpet over the enemy, over the foe. God provided a way. I do not think this was something that God thought up 4,000 years after sin was introduced into man's being and his blood became poisoned. God knew there was the possibility of failure by sin entering into His blood as sin entered into Adam's blood. Go back to the Garden of Eden. Sin did not enter in until Adam took the bite. It was not Eve’s action that was the cause. Like it or not, God set it up so that sin would enter into the male bloodline, not the female's. That does not mean females are not sinners; I am not preaching that at all. They are just as much a sinner as any male. We are all contaminated. But God found a way to create human flesh that was part of the seed of David as was promised; a human form. And as with Adam, He breathed life in the form of clean untainted blood into the ovum which produced the egg with the male sperm blood source. It is an amazing thing that we can see in the science world as two human beings interact with each other. Both are necessary. God had to produce a sinless man; a second Adam, Jesus Christ, who was promised and prophesied over and over and over again in the Old Testament, who would come and defeat the victory Satan had over man. God could only do that through a virgin birth that provided a blood source and a flesh source for man. As a result, Christ was born and eventually lived a life to seize the keys of death from Satan because of the tainted blood of Adam and all his offspring.

It is really a remarkable story, but it is more than a story if you trust and faith in what took place. We have enough information now in the science world to see how that could take place. If you are a Christian and believe God breathed life into Adam, it is not that hard to believe that He could do it again using a different method with the same conclusion of producing a sinless man. The first time it was divine intervention; the second time it was also divine intervention producing a sinless man, but Jesus would be His only begotten Son who would remain sinless

and say to Satan, “The keys do not belong to you anymore. I have them!” Look back at some of my early messages when I said the blood was the key. It is not all the silly theories that preachers like to preach about. The blood was the key.

In Revelation 1:18 Jesus tells us, ***“I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.”***

Of course, you have to understand the whole concept of hell as I taught in the Spiritual Warfare Series many, many years ago. If you never listened to it before, I recommend you do. But the phrase ***“...and of death”*** is what Jesus provided for us. His blood was spilled for our sake, brought us spiritual life, and eventually a new body that will never grow old or become weak or sick ever again. Christ did this, as Hebrews 2:14 clearly tells us when you understand all the principles of this verse. What it teaches leaps out when you connect the whole Bible and the verifiable truth.

***“Forasmuch then as the children are partakers [fully share] of flesh and blood [or blood and flesh; Adam's blood], he [Jesus] also himself likewise took part of the same [No, took part, but not all of it. He only took the flesh part of Adam, the blood was from a different divine source.]; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, [which He clearly states in Revelation 1:18] that is, the devil;”***

If that is not another good reason to go to the table of the Lord, then I do not know why you keep listening. Christ destroyed with His blood the power of death. The power that Satan had over us would produce spiritual death. Yes, our physical body will still die if we are not living in the very last days, but our spiritual life is protected by the blood and if we stay faithing and trusting in Jesus Christ, we have the promise that we will see Him. We will live in eternal life with Him, not spend our life experiencing eternal death without Him.

I do not know about you, but I am thanking Him for the power of death that He took away from the devil, which is another wonderful provision of God's only begotten Son's precious blood. I thank Him tonight to come down and partake in Adam's flesh and not failing in His mission. If He did fail, He would have tainted blood, but He does not. His blood remained untainted, not poisoned by Satan although Satan tried. Christ made the full trip in His 33 years on this earth, without ever sinning which was the requirement. He became our sacrificial lamb, which was another requirement. He was the unblemished sacrificial lamb, and unlike animals, He was totally sinless.

Thank you Jesus, thank you God, for providing the virgin birth that brought me a rebirth. The true born again experience is a rebirth. I am spiritually untainted now because the blood of Jesus in the spiritual sense runs through my veins, and Satan knows that as long as it runs through my veins I am none of his, I am Jesus'. I do not belong to Satan and neither do you. Jesus always wins and Satan knows that, so he has been hiding these truths from us to bring confusion into the matter when there is no confusion when you understand that God has provided a rescue plan for us. The science world can prove that it can be done. What we have to faith and trust in is that He did it the first time with Adam. Adam failed, but God did it again through Jesus in His divine intervention with His pure blood that did not become tainted so now we have eternal life through

Christ, the second Adam.

If you can believe in the virgin birth anything after that becomes very believable. Think about it. If you get past the virgin birth, understanding what I just taught, then everything else will just follow. A God that can breathe life into a human being could also bring life to one that was dead three days and three nights, rose after three days and presented Himself to His disciples, to others, and eventually to us when we see Him again either by His return, we meet Him in the air, or meet Him when we die and see Him and be with Him throughout eternity. I do not know about you, but that excites me.

A faith element is never removed from any of the teachings of God's Word. No matter how much science can prove, we still need faith and trust that God does exist and He can do what He said He would do, that was prophesied, and came to pass through Jesus Christ. If you can believe there was a first Adam, then it is not that hard to believe there was a second Adam. And thank God that the second Adam, Jesus Christ, made the whole trip and remained sinless for us.

For that, we remember Him tonight and thank Him and understand that He is not finished yet. He still has plans for us in this body and eventually in a new body. The last chapter has been written. Satan still has his way with so many, but the day is coming when he will burn in the lake of fire because Jesus always wins. Christ has those keys now and He paid the price for those keys with His blood. Thank you Jesus for doing that for me and for anyone else that comes to you in faith and trust that all these stories we read in the scriptures are true. Anyone who studies God's Word long enough must come to the conclusion, if they are a serious student of God's Word. Statistically it must be true. There are just too many coincidences.

I trust and faith in Jesus Christ and God the Father, that this is the Word of God. Thus saith the Word of God. He has the keys over death that He paid with His blood. Death, there is no sting in my life any longer. Yes, there will be pain; yes, there will be illnesses; yes, there will be things that physically happen to me because of the decaying of this body, but our promise in God's Word over and over that someday it too will no longer exist. I do not know about you, but I am looking forward to that day and now you can look forward to it by understanding and faithing that Christ has already paid the price for us to have that wonderful opportunity, a wonderful future, and a wonderful eternity which never ends.

Thank you, Jesus. Go ahead and take the elements thanking Him for destroying him that had power over death, in Jesus' name.

# The Blood Fights for Us

Open your Bibles to Hebrews 9:13, *“For if the blood of bulls and of goats [Old Testament sacrifices], and the ashes of an 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 [or without fault] to God, purge [or cleanse so we are now in a state where we are free from the guilt of sin] your conscience from [spiritually] dead works to serve the Living God?”*

In other words, Christ cleansed us. He made us free from the guilt of sin and left behind all those spiritually dead works to serve the Living God. See, the whole plan of redemption rests upon the Blood of Jesus Christ. Without it there is no permanent reconnection back to the Heavenly Father to serve the Living God. In the last several chapters have been reading from an author who wrote about the blood. In his work he continues to write,

*“...the blood is the only tissue which is unlimited in its movements within the body. Almost all other body tissues are fixed, such as muscle, bone, nerve, fat and skin. They remain where they are. The blood is the only tissue which is not fixed but circulates throughout the body to every living cell. There are other fluid products of the body, such as saliva and gastric juices, tears and bile, but these are not tissues, but secretions and are not parts of the body but byproducts of the body. The blood alone is the liquid tissue that can reach every single cell in the body and, therefore unites all the members with the head and the individual members as well.”*

The blood is a mysterious structure that did not just evolve; it was created that way.

*“Man has learned a great deal about this blood since the discovery of the microscope and the development of blood chemistry, and while much is still a mystery, we quite thoroughly understand its physical structure. The normal human body with its five pints of blood is wholly dependent upon the circulation of this fluid for its life for the ‘life of the flesh is in the blood thereof.’ Simply stated the blood consists of a liquid vehicle, called the plasm, a colorless liquid in which are suspended the various cellular elements and in which are found in solution a great many chemical compounds. The solid part of the blood consists mainly of three kinds of cells. These are called platelets, thin transparent cells whose function is still quite obscure. Then there are the red cells or erythrocytes, in a concentration of about 5,000,000 per cubic millimeter. These are cells which carry the fuel to the tissues in the form of combined oxygen and give the blood its red color. Then there are the white cells or leukocytes, of which there are several kinds, which have to do particularly with the defenses of the body in combating infection. Then there are the other elements in the solution which*

*provide for the clotting of the blood when an artery or vein is severed, and the antigens and the antibodies to prevent disease, as well as various salts and elements of lesser interest.”*

What about these erythrocytes, those red blood cells?

*“A good deal is known concerning the red and white cells, since they are the more easily studied. The red cells or erythrocytes are minute, disc-shaped cells with their mysterious hemoglobin, an iron compound which has an affinity for oxygen, the fuel of the body.”*

Now, I know this is a lot medical science stuff about the body’s anatomy, more specifically the blood. But it goes somewhere so stay with me.

*“These red cells traveling through the lungs come in contact with the oxygen in the air we breathe and unite loosely with it to form oxy-hemoglobin and in that form they can carry it to all the cells and there discharge its little cargo to the cell, providing it with its vital oxygen for combustion and heat. Then the blood picks up the waste products of tissues, the carbon dioxide, and the ashes of tissue metabolism, which we may well call ‘the cell garbage,’ and discharges this through the kidneys, the skin, the bowels and lungs and then refills with a load of precious oxygen and goes through the whole cycle again.... [Do you know how long this all takes, by the way? Twenty-three seconds! This happens every twenty-three seconds. It takes only twenty-three seconds for one trip around the body to do everything that I just read to you. It is amazing!] The food is carried to the tissues by the blood and in the same vehicle the ‘garbage’ is carried off, and yet there is never any contamination, so perfectly has the great Creator made us. Imagine today our city produce dealers today delivering our foods unpackaged in the same truck in which they haul the garbage.”*

Next time you look and you see a supermarket, watch the truck go by. Can you imagine if that truck served two purposes? Delivering fresh foods, hopefully, to the supermarket, and making stops along the way to pick up the garbage. Would you trust it? Would you not think that some cross contamination could possibly happen? But that is what is happening in our body. We have a health department in our physical body and it knows what it is doing is what I am trying to communicate. It knows what it is doing and it could have only been created by someone who knows what He is doing. This is not like a government health department that cannot even create web sites that function. No, God, The Creator and His only begotten Son knew what they were doing when they created this body. Because of Adam, sin was exposed to this body and man fell and it rearranged certain things, but for the most part the majority of the anatomy of what God created is still intact and we have not evolved.

*“As essential then as the blood is to our bodies, so essential is the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ to the body of Christ. It too is fluid so that it can reach every single member of that body no matter how far those members may be removed from one the other. Just as the blood supplies the food elements for nourishment and life, and then carries off the waste products and poisons due to cell metabolism, so too the Lord Jesus Christ is to every believer the only*

***source of life, the only support and sustenance of life but also the One who keeps cleansing us day by day, so that eternal life is really ETERNAL, for the ‘blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.’”***

Just as our physical, natural blood has a system built in that operates to deliver nutrients from the food we eat and the oxygen we breathe and carries of the waste products, Christ’s blood does the same thing. It brings us eternal life as it flows through us as it becomes a source for our life, and is the only support and sustenance of life that keeps cleansing us day by day. The blood of Jesus Christ cleanses us from all sin. Now that has eternal consequences. Our physical anatomy and blood that is flowing through us right now decays and eventually comes to a physical point where death is the outcome. But that is not so with Christ’s blood and that is not how it cleanses us day by day. It gives us hope, “*elpis*,” in the Greek, of eternal salvation because of what Christ did for us on the cross.

***“Here is indeed a marvel of divine chemistry. In Revelation we read that the saints of God had washed their robes white in the blood of the Lamb. Think of it. Washing in blood and becoming white. Try and wash your robes in the blood of a man and see what color they are.”***  
***“It is impossible to wash clothes white in human blood, but God’s chemical laboratory of redemption has found a way to wash away all filth and stain and wonder of wonders it is by the washing in the BLOOD of the Lamb. [He removes all guilty stains.] His sinless, supernatural blood alone can do that.”***

Now, let us read about the leukocytes, the white blood cells.

***“Now besides the red cells in the blood plasma, we mentioned the white cells, scientifically called leukocytes. They are called ‘white cells’ because they are pale or white in appearance, while the red cells, of course, are not. These white cells are somewhat larger than the red cells but much less in number. [Considerably less in number.] They normally occur in a concentration of about four thousand to seven thousand per cubic millimeter, while you remember the red cells have a count of four to five million. However, the number of these white cells may be very, very rapidly increased in cases of emergency. The seven thousand normal count may be called the regular ‘standing army’ of the blood stream. [They are the “Navy Seals” of our blood stream.] When an infection occurs anywhere in the body and the body is attacked by the enemy ‘army’ of germs, the news is flashed back to the ‘camp’ where the white cells are manufactured and immediately the organ turns out a greatly increased number of these white cells and rushes them over to the point of infection. We might call this ‘Conscription of the white army,’ in times of emergency. [Conscription is the practice of enlisting ordinary people, by law, to serve in the armed forces. It is similar to a draft. So these white blood cells are drafted into this white blood cell army. It happens rapidly and the numbers accumulate quickly in times of an emergency.] The numbers of white blood cells is doubled and then trebled, for the white cells are the ‘soldiers’ of the body. They have the strange power to kill germs and engulf them. So when you prick your finger and a little infection starts, you***

*soon notice a swelling around the wound. This is caused by the blood being rushed to the area carrying these little 'soldiers,' the white cells. These white cells surround the point of infection completely and lay siege to the bacteria causing the trouble. Millions of 'soldiers' are killed and are gathered to one place, where they form what is commonly called 'pus.'*

*So now the battle is turning and the wound which at first was red and angry and swollen now comes to a head. It has been successfully surrounded and finally the pimple bursts and the pus is expelled. The pus consists of serum and dead 'soldiers,' millions of white cells which gave their lives in the battle for the body, together with countless numbers of germs partly digested by the white cells."*

So these white blood cells are drafted, conscripted, into this white army; drafted into service rapidly. And once they succeed, once the battle is won for the body, these white army soldiers, the white blood cells, die in the service for the well-being of the body. They gave their lives in battle and took the enemy with them. That is interesting. They take the enemy with them.

*"When the 'dead' in the form of pus have been expelled, the blood and other white cells come in, clean up the 'battlefield' and build new tissues until all is healed, and nothing but a scar remains. The number of white cell 'soldiers' during all this time has been greatly increased but now the battle is over and they return to the normal peacetime number. This is the reason the doctor takes a little blood out of your finger for a blood count when he suspects infection anywhere. In doubtful cases of appendicitis, he takes a drop of blood and examines it. If the white cells are greatly increased and the 'army' is being 'conscripted' as indicated by the increasing number of little white 'soldiers,' he knows pretty sure that there is an attack by infection being made upon the body somewhere. Surely in the light of all this we can appreciate the words of David when he said, 'I am fearfully and wonderfully made.'*

*What the blood in our bodies does for us in times of danger and attack, the PRECIOUS BLOOD of the Lord Jesus Christ does for each and every believer. Right in this connection I must quote a passage from Revelation 12 [verses 10-11].*

*'And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now has come salvation and strength, and the kingdom of our God and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, WHICH ACCUSED THEM BEFORE OUR GOD DAY AND NIGHT. AND THEY OVERCAME HIM BY THE BLOOD THE LAMB and by word of their testimony.'*

*They overcame him (Satan) BY THE BLOOD OF THE LAMB [the blood of Jesus Christ]. Now this hath its interpretation, of course...."*

I do not agree with the interpretation that is given here so I will skip over it. Satan was defeated by the blood of the Lamb. Does he still like to point out our sins and failures and our shortcomings? Sure he does. Does he like to point out the sins of our flesh? Just listen to yourself for a while when you are feeling down, when you are feeling defeated, when you are not focusing on Christ. Sure, he works over the sins of the flesh. He will say things such as, "Oh! Are you really a Christian? Are you really saved by the blood of the Lamb? You sure don't look



like a Christian.” And of course, it produces a result which defeat because we look at ourselves, we look at our sins. But I am telling you we can overcome those thoughts. We can overcome the enemy! We can overcome Satan and his minions! How, how can we overcome this enemy? How can we meet head on this infection of all infections, the worst infection of all time? There really is only one answer; it is the same answer that I just read to you in Revelation 12:10-11, ***“They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb ....”***

So the next time you are feeling down and defeated, the next time you feel like you found yourself failing and you do not know if you can overcome your failures, say what Jesus would say, “Get behind me Satan because I have overcome by the blood of the Lamb of my precious Lord, Jesus Christ!” His precious blood shut him and his minions up. He knows that and he wants you to forget that daily if he can.

That is why I say we can go to this table as often as we want. We do not even need the elements to remember what Christ has done for us and proclaim loudly, “Satan, get behind me because I have overcome all those things that bring me down, because Christ has lifted me up by providing His precious blood that has rescued me and keeps rescuing me day by day.”

This goes on to read,

***“I see no good in myself, even less than the Devil sees. I have no hope in myself and have no confidence in the flesh. Then I plead the blood. I look to Calvary and point to Him who there died for me and shed His blood for me and the light breaks through. I see that it is not my goodness nor the awful mountain of my sins, but it all depends on His blood. The blood fights for me.”***

The blood fights for us! Therefore this is my favorite topic to preach. The blood overcomes all those things. Just as the battle is going on in our physical body and those troops are called up and multiplied and increased rapidly until the infection is under control or killed off. They do not let up. Well, if that is what a physical element will do, how much more will the blood of Jesus Christ? That is why it says in Hebrews 9:14 ***“How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge [or cleansed, made free from the guilt of sin] your conscience from [spiritually] dead works....”***

The blood fights for us. Satan wants us to forget that, but I am here to remind you not to! The next time you are feeling guilty because of sin, or whatever situation you find yourself in, say “Lord, I know your blood still fights for me.” Do we need to confess our sins? Sure we do! That is the start, and as soon as that happens, “BAMM!” there goes the outflow of the blood of Christ, just like that white army of blood cells that attacks the invader. Christ’s blood cleans it up and purges it.

***“It is the army of ‘white cells’ in the blood of Christ which puts the enemy to flight. I acknowledge my sin, I do not deny it and then I claim the promise [in 1<sup>st</sup> John 1:9],***

***'If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to CLEANSE US FROM ALL UNRIGHTEOUSNESS.'***

***[1<sup>st</sup> John 1:7] 'If we walk in the light, and he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.'***

***[Revelation 12:11] 'They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb.'***

That means we can overcome him by the blood of the Lamb. To continue,

***"In the blood are not only these cells and the [clotting] elements but science has discovered in the blood the ANTIBODIES or ANTITOXINS. These are elements which PREVENT INFECTIONS. The white cells fight infection when it occurs, but the ANTIBODIES prevent the infection from getting a foothold. The nature of these elements is not fully understood, but we know clearly that except for these disease-preventing elements we would soon perish. An interesting angle is presented when you remember that these antibodies are produced in response to infection. That is, while these bodies which prevent a certain disease may be absent in the blood AFTER THE PERSON HAS HAD THE DISEASE ONCE, these bodies have been produced in a large amount, and thus prevent the patient from contracting the same disease twice. Some of those antibodies last for life, as in the case of smallpox, scarlet fever and other diseases. Once you have had an attack of these, you will never get it again. Others are only temporary, giving immunity only for a time, so that after a certain amount of time the same disease may be contracted again. The thing to notice is this: The body once attacked by disease builds up immunity so that it will not be attacked by that disease again. This immunity is in the blood.***

***What a lesson there is here for every believer in Him. [More than just belief, it is for one that trusts and faiths in Him.] Even after we have been saved we are still open to the attacks of the world, the flesh and the Devil. Even after we are born again we all too often fall prey to temptation and go down. The characteristic of a Christian who fails is that he seeks the cleansing of the blood of Christ, and thereafter pleads the blood of Christ and guards against a repetition of the thing that once brought him down. He does not fall in the same sin again and again, for each experience builds up immunity against the sin.***

***The difference between a sinner and a saint is NOT that the saint never SINS but the difference is this: the saint HATES his sin and pleads the blood of Christ, while the sinner loves his sin and goes back into it. The saint is like a sheep. It may fall in the mud hole, but it is not comfortable there, and it will bleat until the shepard lifts her out, and thereafter will avoid that mud hole by ten rods. The sinner is like a pig. It goes about looking for slime pits and when it finds one it slides in with a grunt of glee and will squeal vehement objections if you try to pull it out and no sooner is it out then it will return to the slime pit again.***

***The saint may FALL into Sin but he will never remain there and he will be unhappy while in it. Oh Christian, do not despair if you have failed. Our precious Lord knew when He came to die for you what a failure you would be. He knew how hard it would be to remain undefiled in***

*this old world which is ‘no friend to Grace’. He knew the pitfalls in the way and deceitfulness of the flesh, and so when He died to save you, He also shed His blood to cleanse you.*

*My friend, it will do no good to deny your sins. God says if you do that you are only deceiving YOURSELF and no one else. Your only hope is CONFESSING your sin, and then He sends the ‘army’ of ‘white cells’ of the precious blood of Christ to cleanse you. Then TRUST Him to keep you from Sin through that same precious blood which, in addition to the ‘white cells’ of fighting and cleansing, also contains the ANTITOXIN against future sinning. Do not despair today as you think of how you have failed, but flee to Him who shed His PRECIOUS BLOOD for your salvation, your cleansing and your KEEPING.”*

That is why I marvel at saints who occasionally write to me and almost come right out and say they do not sin any longer. Really?! I know I read it to you already but let us just go to what this is referring to.

1<sup>st</sup> John 1:5 begins, *“This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light* [in the Greek this light is one that never kindles or is quenched], *and in him is no darkness* [or ruin] *at all.*

*If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness* [spiritual darkness], *we lie, and do not the truth:*

*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.”*

In this verse, *cleanseth* is *katharizo*, meaning ‘to purify us from the pollution and guilt of sin.’

Verse 8 goes on to say, *“If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.*

*If we confess our sins* [by the way ‘sins’ is plural], *he is faithful and just* [or ‘it is His right’] *to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse* [this is the same word as in verse seven] *us from all unrighteousness.*

*If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.”*

So I have news for the people who ‘never sin’ after they become saved; you are deceived and you are deceiving others who believe in that. It is a really big lie and you make God a liar, you make His Son a liar, and His Word is not in you.

This blood is an amazing element that we have been gifted because of His grace, and what it does for our physical body far exceeds all the medical and scientific examples I read to you in this chapter. If we multiply that by some obscene number that is what Christ’s precious blood does for us.

His blood makes us overcomers so we can overcome Satan, we can overcome his demons, and we can overcome evil spirits. We can overcome instruments of Satan, whether they are in the

flesh or in the spirit, by only one means, and that is by the blood of Jesus Christ. It is only by His blood that we overcome because the blood fights for us, just as those white blood cells fight infection in our body. God knows what the spiritually diseased infection Satan has created multiplied by so many millions and billions of people over the years. There is only one answer, there is only one antidote, and that is the precious blood of Jesus Christ.

So as we go to the table, thank Him. Remember what He has done for us and remember we can overcome anything, that is right, anything in the seen and unseen world and be free of the guilt of sin if we apply His blood to our lives. Why would you not? So remember Him and thank Him.

Tell Him, "Thank you Jesus! Your blood fights for us." And it will continue to fight for us as long as we continue to trust in Him. So remember that now as we go to the Table of the Lord. Take the elements.

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