



Christianity Born In Blood

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Leviticus 17:11

For the life of the flesh is in its blood, and I have given it to you on the altar to take away your sin: for it is the blood which makes free from sin because of the life in it. (Bible in Basic English).

The United States is a nation that has been born with the blood of great patriots. The freedoms we enjoy as US citizens have been purchased with the sacrifice of generations gone by. Some years ago I discovered that I have a relative that goes back to the Civil War. My grandparents had a portrait of a family member who held the rank of Major in the Union Army.

Many of our citizens have ancestry that served and fought in battles from the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812, the Civil War, the Battle of San Juan Hill and the Alamo. WWI and WWII, along with the Korean Conflict, the Vietnam War and the Gulf Wars and in the former Czech/Slavic Republics have cost millions of lives so that our freedoms and the freedoms of other countries could be secured.

We cannot forget about the battle in my generation for Civil Rights and it's leader, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. who was gunned down and spilled his blood for a cause that was greater than himself. That is ultimately what every soldier who has served their generation has done. Our Son is currently serving in the US Military and we have never been prouder as parents. We pray for all of those, including

Law Enforcement Officers and Firemen who put themselves in harms way to protect you and me.

Back in the early 90's our church in Long Island participated in the Memorial Day Parade in our town of Baldwin and won First Prize for the best float 3 years in a row. Each of those years we gave honor to the American Military but we also gave honor to the greatest soldier of ALL...the Lord Jesus Christ!

I have heard people say that they do not want to be a part of a blood religion! Yet the freedoms they are enjoying today have been purchased by people and the blood they have spilled that I have described above. People who in many cases had their lives cut short and forfeited their potential futures!

Jesus said in **John 15:13**, 'Greater love has no man than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends.' NKJV

When most of us think of blood we think of horror movies and Hollywood murderers like Jason and Freddy! Perhaps we think of Medical or Rescue or even Military shows that graphically show blood and guts. The thought of blood and it's shedding typically grosses many people out! Even the sight of our own blood can make us queasy and faint!

So why would God choose the faith that many of us Christians hold so dear to be born in blood?

The **first sacrifice** recorded in the bible is found in **Genesis 3:21** where God made coats of skin for Adam & Eve to cover their nakedness after they sinned in the garden of Eden. Once they were covered with God's glory but since their fall their eyes were opened to see things in their fallen state separated from God.

The **second sacrifice** is found in **Genesis 4:1-10** where Cain killed his brother Abel because his offering of crops from the field were not acceptable to God but Abel's offering from the flocks was. WHY? It appears that Abel's offering had **blood** and Cain's did not. **Verse 10** reveals that Abel's own blood was speaking from the ground in which it had been spilled.

What is interesting is in **1 John 3:12** it reads, 'Not as Cain, who was of that wicked one, and SLEW his brother. And wherefore SLEW he him? Because his own works were evil, and his brother's righteous.'

The term SLEW in the Greek means to slay or kill with a sacrificial knife. In essence Cain, in his anger over a perceived rejection of his offering to God, said to God, **If It's blood you want God, then I will give you blood...** and in all likelihood Cain took the same knife that Abel had used for his offering and used it to slay his brother!

Abel's blood, God said, was crying from the ground upon which it had been shed. What was Abel's blood crying out for? In my opinion, his blood was crying out for **JUSTICE** and some might even say, revenge.

Hebrews 11:4 says, 'It was by faith that Abel brought a more acceptable offering to God than Cain did. Abel's offering gave evidence that he was a righteous man, and God showed his approval of his gifts. **Although Abel is long dead, he still speaks to us by his example of faith.**' (New Living Translation)

Just like Abel's blood was crying out and speaking to us, we are told that the **Blood of Jesus speaks better things than that of Abel's blood. (Hebrews 12:24)**. What an inspiring thought that the **Blood of Jesus** is speaking to us! *It is speaking of God's love, God's grace, His acceptance, and the gift of righteousness that is now ours!*

The **Blood of Christ** is testifying of the new and better covenant that has brought about our redemption from the curse of the law. The curse of the law has at least three parts; **Spiritual death or Separation from God; Physical death by sickness and disease;**

and Poverty and lack. While there are many voices speaking to us about our circumstances let us learn to listen to the testimony of the **Blood of Jesus Christ!**

ABRAHAM OFFERS ISAAC

In **Genesis 22:1-19** we have the incredible story of God's testing of Abraham. Remember when Abraham was 99 years old and Sarah was 90 that they saw the promise of God fulfilled and they had their promised Son whom they named Isaac? Now God asks Abraham to take his promised Son and offer him sacrificially like he had done many times before with beasts of burden.

Without hesitation Abraham did what God asked him to do as he prepared to offer his beloved Son Isaac. I challenge you to read the entire story and see how Abraham was committed to obeying God's request as God stopped him just before he thrust the knife into his Son. God, Jehovah-Jireh - The God who see's ahead and provides, had provided a ram caught in the thicket for Abraham to offer instead of Isaac.

I read a **fictitious story** of a community where a terrible virus had begun to kill the citizens of this small hamlet and many had fallen ill and had begun to die rather quickly upon catching this virus. The area was cordoned off and no one was allow to leave or enter except for State officials, medical staff and armed soldiers in protective gear.

A young boy had taken ill and the parents were gravely concerned knowing that their sons survival was extremely uncertain. To their relief their son fought off this plague and recovered. The officials came to the parents and told them that their son was the only one who had survived and completely recovered. *They were certain that they could use this boys blood to develop a vaccine that would save this community that would otherwise certainly die.*

The parents were delighted at their sons recovery and filled with mixed emotions of happiness and concern at their son being used to

save their friends and neighbors. They were agreeable but had a pressing question for the officials and medical staff. *They wanted to know how much of their sons blood would be needed to create the vaccine that would save the towns people?* The officials looked at each other and then said to the parents...**ALL OF IT!**

While this story may be fictitious it is similar to the real life account of Abraham and Isaac. Ultimately the account of Abraham and Isaac was a foreshadowing of God the Father sending His Only Begotten Son into the earth to spill His blood willingly for all of mankind.

THE PASSOVER

Most of us are familiar with the Jewish Feast of Passover. For over 430 years the Jews had been in captivity to Pharaoh and the Egyptians. Generation by generation they waited for God's promised deliverer to come and bring them to the promised land. God raised up Moses and through a series of events that are recorded in the **book of Exodus**, the last of the 10 plagues took place just prior to Pharaoh letting the Children of Israel go!

This 10th judgment of God upon Pharaoh and the Egyptians would be the proverbial straw that broke the camel's back and would cause him to let God's people go...***The first born male would die of every household!*** This would not only affect the Egyptians but also the Jews except for the ***Passover meal and the applying of the spotless passover lamb's blood upon the lintels of the door posts of their homes.***

Throughout the entirety of the old testament we see **types** and **shadows** of things that were fulfilled in the new testament. In the old testament we see two tabernacles, ***the Tabernacle of Moses AND the Tabernacle of David.*** Sacrifices of bulls, goats, rams, lambs, pigeons, and turtle doves were offered to atone or cover the sins of God's people. This was done by the priests of Moses Tabernacle. David's Tabernacle was a glimpse of the freedom we now know under

this new and better covenant through Christ's sacrifice and rising from the dead!

Hebrews 9:11-14 from The Passion Translation

11. But now the Anointed One has become the King-Priest of every wonderful thing that has come. For he serves in a greater, more perfect heavenly tabernacle not made by men.

*12. And **he has entered once and forever** into the Holiest Sanctuary of All, **not with the blood of animal sacrifices, but the sacred blood of his own sacrifice.** And he alone has made our salvation secure forever!*

The writer of this letter, who I believe to be the Apostle Paul, could not be clearer as he shares about the completed work that the Lord Jesus did for humanity. Notice He did it **ONCE with His own blood! Unlike the former covenant where it had to be done every year.

*13. Under the old covenant the blood of bulls, goats, and the ashes of a heifer were sprinkled on those who were defiled and effectively cleansed them **outwardly** from their ceremonial impurities.*

14. Yet how much more will the sacred blood of the Messiah thoroughly cleanse our consciences! For by the power of the eternal Spirit he has offered himself to God as the perfect Sacrifice that now frees us from our dead works to worship and serve the living God. TPT

The old testament is the new testament concealed and the new testament is the old testament revealed! If you have received the Lord Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God, who is literally our Passover Lamb, then the lintels of your heart have his precious blood applied to you and spiritual and eternal death MUST pass over you!

So why does God require blood to cleanse us from sins?

According **Leviticus 17:11** the life of our flesh is in our blood. Without our blood we cannot survive. Five pints of blood are housed in a grown adults body and the Lord Jesus Christ came as the Son of

Man with Five Pints of Blood that was destined to be spilled and shed for mankind. ***His blood was different. It was sinless. It was pure and perfect*** and when applied to our lives by faith it opens the door to the benefits of our redemption which includes the authority to live an abundant life every single day!

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