

THE BLOOD OF JESUS **(John 19:31-34)**

I. The blood of Jesus was prophesied.

A. It is sad, but there are those that teach that Jesus was not supposed to die on the cross in God's original plan.

1. Some teach that Jesus was supposed to come to earth and set up a physical kingdom.

2. He was supposed to bring back the glory days of Israel.

3. But the Jews were more obstinate than God imagined so God had to come up with a plan B, having Jesus die and set up the church.

B. Those that teach this miss many things but they definitely miss the Old Testament prophecies of the Suffering Savior.

C. God's plan was always a Plan B or a blood plan if you will.

D. Psalm 22:12-18.

1. We don't read of the blood of Christ here, but we do know this is a prophecy of His death.

2. God intended for His Son to die on the cross.

E. Isaiah 53:1-12.

1. This whole chapter is about the Suffering Servant of God.

2. God intended for His Son to die on the cross.

F. Zechariah 13:1.

1. The fountain mentioned there is the blood of Christ (Zechariah 12:10).

2. The prophet was looking forward to the day when that blood would be made available (Zechariah 13:7).

3. God intended for His Son to die on the cross.

G. These three prophecies plainly show the death of Jesus was intended and His blood was to be shed.

H. One of the most well-known scenes of blood recorded in the Old Testament pointed to blood that would be shed by Jesus (Exodus 12:2-7).

1. The night the death angel came through the land of Egypt, the Israelites were to have blood on the two sides and over the top of their doors so the death angel would pass over them (Exodus 12:12-13).

2. Now notice 1 Corinthians 5:7.

a. Paul points to Jesus as our Passover.

b. The lamb that the Hebrews killed and whose blood they put on their doors foreshadowed the blood of Jesus.

3. This is why Peter would liken Jesus to a lamb "without blemish and without spot".

I. There is no doubt the blood of Jesus was prophesied.

II. The blood of Jesus is precious.

A. I mentioned that Peter likened Jesus to the Passover lamb.

1. Notice the adjective he used to describe the blood of Jesus.

2. 1 Peter 1:19.

3. The Greek word comes from a word that means valuable.

4. This word literally means most dear or most esteemed.

B. Peter calls Jesus precious 3 more times in his first letter.

C. It is completely understandable why Jesus would be called precious.

1. He is such because of who He is.
 - a. He is the only begotten Son of God.
 - (1) John 3:16.
 - (2) This phrase means, one of a kind, never to be another one like Him.
 - b. He is and was sinlessly perfect.
 - (1) Remember He is described by Peter as a lamb without spot or blemish.
 - (2) Notice how the writer of Hebrews described Him (Hebrews 4:14-15).
 - c. He is deity (John 1:1).
 2. He is such because of why He came to earth.
 - a. John 3:16-17.
 - b. John 12:47.
- D. We deem blood to be precious even now.
1. We have blood banks to store it, so those with the need of a transfusion can have it.
 2. We are concerned when for some reason we or a loved are losing blood.
 3. How much more precious though, is the blood of the sinless Son of God who came into this world to save us?

III. The blood of Jesus is powerful.

- A. Man has a terrible problem.
1. You can think of many problems we might call terrible.
 2. Cancer, AIDS, terrorism, addictions of various kinds, and many other things could be named.
 3. However, there is a problem that each accountable person on the face of the earth has and that is a sin problem (Romans 3:23).
- B. The reason this is the most terrible problem man faces is that sin separates us from God and sin brings death (Isaiah 59:1-2; Romans 6:23a).
- C. There is no cure for many types of cancers and diseases man faces that can kill our physical bodies.
- D. Thanks be to God, however, for the cure for the most terrible problem we face, the problem of sin.
- E. The cure for this problem is the blood of Christ (Matthew 26:28).
1. The blood of Jesus can remove our sins.
 2. It is through His blood that we obtain the forgiveness of our sins (Ephesians 1:7).
- F. Our sins cause us to deserve a death sentence with God, but we can, instead, have eternal life through Jesus (Romans 6:23).
- G. We mentioned that Isaiah told us that our sins cause us to be separated from God.
1. It is through the blood of Jesus that we can be brought back to God.
 2. Ephesians 2:13.
- H. His blood is powerful enough to cleanse our consciences (Hebrews 9:14).
- I. It is powerful enough to purchase the church for which He died (Acts 20:28).
- J. It is the powerful blood of Jesus that separates from the world (Hebrews 13:12).

K. We mentioned in the introduction how amazing blood is.

1. A medical doctor, who was a believer in Jesus wrote this: used to think it strange that the Bible keeps talking about the cleansing power of the blood (1 Peter 1:2). It seemed to me that blood was messy stuff. I needed to wash my white lab coats if they became stained with blood. Today, I love the analogy; it is so true of the body. The blood is constantly cleansing every cell, and washing away all the debris that accumulates all the time. I like the phrase in Hebrews 9:14 (KJV): "How much more shall the blood of Christ purge your conscience from dead works?"
2. Human blood is amazing and powerful, but not nearly as amazing and powerful as the blood of Jesus.

IV. The blood of Jesus must be sought perpetually.

A. The blood of Jesus will remove sins from our soul and make them pure; of that there is no doubt.

B. Sadly, you and I, once the blood has purified us, will still sin.

1. John tells us that we are liars if we say we have no sin (1 John 1:8).
2. We are still weak and will sin from time to time.

C. Christians aren't people who are sinless, we should be people who sin less though.

D. We don't want to treat the Son of God and His blood as if they are nothing (Hebrews 10:28-29).

E. Therefore, we must seek the blood of Christ perpetually (1 John 1:7).

1. There will never be a time where we don't need to walk in the light.
2. We will always need access to the blood of Jesus because there will be times when we sin and we need those sins forgiven as well.

F. It is recorded in Acts 8 that a man who practiced sorcery, named Simon, was converted to Christ.

1. He watched as Peter and John laid hands on the new Christians there in Samaria to impart miraculous gifts to them.
2. He was so amazed by this and new the money that he could make if he had that power, that he asked the two apostles to allow him to pay them for the same ability.
3. Notice what Peter told him (Acts 8:20-23).
4. Remember that Simon had obeyed the gospel already (Acts 8:13).
5. He would have lost his soul if he did not repent as he did (Acts 8:24).

G. You and I can fall from grace (Galatians 5:4).

H. We will if we fail or refuse to repent of our sins, even after being cleansed from them at an earlier time.

I. Today, there are diseases that we can cure with medicine, but we must keep on taking the medicine or the disease will reappear.

J. We will always need access to the blood of Christ because our sin problem is going to reappear.