

**Jesus, Our Great High Priest Forever**  
**(Week 17)**  
**Hebrew's 9:11-28**  
**"Nothing But The Blood"**

**Introduction**

"Just as I am, without one plea  
But that Thy Blood was shed for me.  
And that Thou bid'st me come to Thee  
Oh Lamb of God I come, I come."

Charlotte Elliot (1834)

One Day we will all stand before God and give an account of our lives. There will be no exceptions. Everything that we have ever said, done, or even thought, will be revealed for all to see. Let the truth of this fact set in for a moment. Now ask yourself, "Will I be able to survive that kind of scrutiny?" Though many will no doubt try and make feeble excuses for their many transgressions upon that fateful day, the law of God will offer no exceptions:

**"The wages of sin is death."**

**Romans 6:23**

And just in case that verse alone isn't terrifying enough, how about this one?

**"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."**

**Romans 3:23**

So you see, upon that day, no one will be able to list all of the wonderful things that they have done, nor the goodness they have shown to others, or even how they earnestly strived to pray and live according to the scriptures. There is nothing that a person can do to justify themselves before a Holy, and Righteously Perfect God. No one will be able to stand in His presence and live, for we are **all** sinners... no exceptions. And as such, there is only one of two places that we will be able to place our multitude of sins. Either we put them upon Jesus, OR they will be on us. Just as the song says, in the day of judgment, we have but one plea, and that my friends is the Blood of Jesus. Only His blood is able to wash away our sins forever and completely. The only question that remains for every individual is simply this: "Have you been washed in The Blood?", for those who neglect His great offer of salvation will be left without excuse (**Hebrews 2:3**).

But here is the good news:

**"Everyone who calls on the name of The Lord will be saved."** **Romans 10:13**

Today we are obviously going to be teaching about the great power of salvation, that is available to all through the Blood of Jesus. There is no other offer that has been given through which mankind can have the hope of salvation. We can only come to God, by the Blood. For the Blood of Jesus, **Pays** for our **Redemption**, **Purifies** our **Conscience**, **Provides** our **Inheritance**, **Purges** our **Sin**, and **Protects** us from **Judgement**. There is truly "wonder working" power in The Blood!

**The Blood:**

**Pays for Our Eternal Redemption (Vs. 11-12)**

**"But Christ has appeared as a High Priest of the good things that have come. In the greater an more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, (that is not of this creation), He entered the most holy place once for all time, not by the blood of goats and calves, but by His own blood, having obtained eternal redemption."**

**Hebrews 9:11-12**

From **verse 11-28** of this text the word "Blood" is used ten times. So it is incumbent upon us to seriously consider the vital importance of our forgiveness being directly linked to the the shedding of blood. We have no hope of being clean before God, apart from Jesus' blood. All of *The Old Testament* sacrifices were offered up as an example of the ultimate sacrifice of The Son of God, Who presented His own blood before The Throne of God, as the ultimate "propitiation" (appeasement) for our sins. By offering Himself as our substitute, Jesus was able to provide for us "Eternal Redemption".

There are a great many "Bible words" that people do not really understand. "Redemption" is one of those words. To "redeem" something literally means to "buy it back". So what does it mean when the writer of *Hebrews* tells us that Jesus blood purchased our "eternal redemption"? Simply this, we were once enslaved to our sins. We were sinners by nature, simply because, quite frankly, we had no choice in the matter. We were born sinners, and therefore, we were unable to resist sinning, no matter how hard we tried. Sounds pretty hopeless doesn't it? But wait, there's more!

Jesus died for our sins, and His blood REDEEMED us from the bondage of sin. He literally "bought" us out of that bondage. Therefore, as His children, we no longer HAVE to sin. We have been given the power to say "no" to our temptations. A lost person has no such power, but a "blood bought" Child of God has been forever set free from sin's bondage! Now, I know what you're thinking: "So why do I still sin?" (Did I read your mind or what?)

The best that I have ever heard this explained was by a pastor named James MacDonald, and I will do my best to quote his illustration. Suppose you were a tree, and a huge vine grew up from the ground choking the very life from your branches. That is exactly what sin does to each of us. It grows up around us and chokes off our very lives. But then, when we put our faith and trust in Christ, it is as if the vine has been cut off at the roots. Oh, we still have the vine wrapped around us, but because it has no root, the vine begins to die. Little by little, we are able to break free from its grip, as it begins to die away around us. That, my friends, is exactly what happens to the sin that would choke the very life from us. The more time we spend with Christ, and in His Word, the stronger we become, while at the same time the old dead vine is starting to lose its grip on us. Stick with Christ, Child of God, and you will find that sin's hold upon you will grow weaker and weaker! The Blood of Christ has forever redeemed us from the bondage of sin. Can I get a "Hallelujah"?!

### **Purifies Our Guilty Conscience (vs. 13-14)**

**"For if the blood of goats and bulls, and the ashes of a young cow, sprinkling those who are defiled, sanctify for the purification of the flesh, how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, cleanse our consciences from dead works so that we can serve The Living God?"**  
**Hebrews 9:13-14**

There is a ton of truth packed into these two short verses of scripture! Since the first part about the blood of goats and bulls speaks to the sacrifices made upon the day of atonement (which we have previously discussed in great detail), I will skip this these two elements of the text and proceed directly to "the ashes of the red heifer". In **Numbers Chapter 19**, God instituted an incredibly complex ritual for the children of Israel to observe, if they became "ceremonially unclean". The son of The High Priest was to be presented with a spotless red heifer. He would lead the heifer outside the camp, and it would be slaughtered while he watched. The priest would then take some of the blood and return to the tabernacle and sprinkle some of its blood upon the tent of meeting seven times. After this the heifer would be burnt whole along with cedar, hyssop, and a scarlet worm that was crushed to make red dye. Once these elements were burned completely to ashes, the ashes were then kept in a designated place. When an Israelite was defiled for touching a corpse, or even being in a tent with someone who died, they were to go to someone, who was not ceremonially defiled, and have them mix some of the ashes of the red heifer with clean water. The "clean person" would then sprinkle the mixture upon the one who was defiled, and they would, after a period, be declared clean. To the Jews it is the most confusing of rituals, but to the Christian it is a wonderful picture of Christ!

You see, the sacrifice of the red heifer was done in advance of anyone becoming defiled. It was done in preparation to provide cleansing for any one, who had come in contact with death. Sin and death in *The Bible* are inseparably linked. Death is the consequence for the sin of mankind. The heifer, like Christ, was led "outside the camp". Jesus was crucified on a hill outside the city of Jerusalem and away from the Temple. It was a picture of His being separated from God in His crucifixion. The Blood of the

heifer was sprinkled seven times upon the tabernacle. Seven in *The Bible* signifies completeness. The Blood of Jesus was shed for us once, and for all, to provide us "complete redemption". Just as the Heifer was slain as preparation for the defilement that was sure to come, Christ was slain before the foundation of the world (***Revelation 13:8***), as it was always God's plan to sacrifice His son to redeem us.

The red heifer was spotless and was to have never been yoked. This is a picture of Christ, Who had no sin and was never under its yoke of bondage. And the best part? Every time an Israelite came into contact with death, the ashes of the red heifer were readily available to offer cleansing, with the assistance of someone, who wasn't defiled. When we, as Christians, sin (come into contact with death), our forgiveness and cleansing is available upon request. The Holy Spirit (represented by the one who was ceremonially clean) will once again wash us clean, because of the perpetual sacrifice of Jesus, Who died to pay for all that we have done or ever will do! When a believer falls into the temptation of sin, the blood of Jesus is ever ready to cleanse us from all unrighteousness (***1 John 1:9***). Thanks to the blood of Christ, the Child of God has been enabled to live with a perpetually clean conscience, knowing that our sins have been forgiven once, and for all, and even when we make mistakes, Christ stands ever ready to forgive and cleanse us!

If you read the text of ***Numbers 19*** very closely, you will notice that the priest who led the heifer into the wilderness was declared unclean for a day when the heifer was sacrificed (***Numbers 19:7***). This too is a marvelous picture of Christ, our Great High Priest, Who took our sins (defilement) upon Himself for one day upon the cross (***1 Peter 2:24***)! As I stated earlier, there are only two options that you have on which to place your sin. You will either place it upon Christ, or it will be upon you. Would you like a clean conscience today? Ask for the forgiveness and cleansing that is readily available to you, through the Blood of Jesus. He will cleanse your conscience so that you can serve God with joy and gladness! And trust me, when you have been washed clean by the blood, nothing will please you more than to serve Him. The cleansed ones are so easy to spot. They take great pleasure in serving The One, Who made them clean!

Got a guilty conscience today? Come to Jesus and let Him wash it forever clean with His blood!

### **Provides Our Inheritance (vs. 15-20)**

**"Therefore, He is the mediator of a New Covenant, so that those who are called might receive the promise of the eternal inheritance, because a death has taken place for redemption from the transgressions committed under the first covenant. Where a will exists, the death of the one who made it must be established. For a will is valid only when people die, since it is never in effect while the one who made it is living. That is why even the first covenant was inaugurated with blood. For when every command had been proclaimed by Moses to all the people according to The Law, he took the blood of calves and goats, along with water, scarlet wool, and hyssop, and sprinkled the scroll itself and all the people saying, This is the blood of the covenant that God has ordained for you."** ***Hebrews 9:15-20***

The first century Jews had a very difficult time understanding why their long awaited Messiah should have to suffer and die. To them, it was unthinkable that the Anointed One should ever suffer such pain and indignation. The writer of *Hebrews* guided with the absolute ingenious inspiration of The Holy Spirit, shows them the grievous error of their thinking! Every will that promises an inheritance can only be obtained when the one who gave it has died. God had ALWAYS intended for his Son to die, so that we may receive the inheritance that He has graciously offered to us. We shall indeed have the inheritance of eternal life, if we simply accept the blood of Jesus as a condition of the will! The inheritance is available to any who will receive it, but it can only be received... by the blood. So you see, it is the blood of Jesus that has provided our inheritance. Every sacrifice offered under The Law of Moses bears witness to this truth. There is wonder working power in the blood! Have you been washed in the blood of the Lamb so that you may receive your inheritance?

### **Purges Our Sin (vs. 20-21)**

**"In the same way, he sprinkled the tabernacle and all the articles of worship with blood. According to The Law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness."** ***Hebrews 9:20-21***

Moses consecrated the tabernacle, and its contents, with blood. This was done in order to show that it was the blood that purged away the sins of the people. Of course, the blood of animal sacrifices could never truly erase the sins of this wicked world. Jesus' blood, however, is able to do just that. On the day of Atonement, the blood of a bull and a goat was sprinkled upon the mercy seat in the Holy of Holies as a "covering" for the people's sins. When Jesus, our Great High Priest, presented His blood in the sanctuary of Heaven, He didn't simply cover our sins. He washed it away. To those of us who have put our faith in Him and His perfect once-and-for-all sacrifice, our sins have been forever purged and forgiven! We now stand before the throne of God dressed not in the filthy rags of our own righteousness, but in the pure and spotless righteousness of Christ. He entered the Most Holy Place with His own blood and brought us with Him, our sins forever purged and remember no more.

**"As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us."** **Psalms 103:12**

Not only has Christ cleansed our guilty conscience, but He has completely purged away the sins of those who will come to Him by faith and receive the forgiveness that only He can offer. And that forgiveness could only be offered through the shedding of His precious blood (**vs. 21**). There is wonder working power in the blood!

### **Protects us From Judgement (vs 22-28)**

**"Therefore it was necessary for the copies of the things in the heavens to be purified with these sacrifices, but the heavenly things themselves to be purified with better sacrifices than these. For Christ did not enter a sanctuary made with hands (only a model of the true one), but into Heaven itself, so that He might appear in the presence of God for us. He did not do this to offer Himself many times, as the High Priest enters the sanctuary yearly with the blood of another. Otherwise, He would have had to suffer many times since the foundation of the world. But now He has appeared one time, at the end of the ages, for the removal of sin by the sacrifice of Himself. And just as it is appointed for people to die once—and after this, judgement—so also Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for Him."** **Hebrews 9:22-28**

So Christ has entered the sanctuary in Heaven and presented His blood, so that those who have trusted in Him have nothing whatsoever to fear of the Judgement that will come upon this world when He comes again. Christ first came to this earth as the spotless Lamb of God, the sacrifice to take away our sins, but when He returns, He will come as the Lion of The Tribe of Judah, The King of Kings, and Lord of Lords, and no one will be able to stand in His holy presence, unless they have been washed clean by His precious blood. It is His blood that protects us from God's wrath.

Do not be deceived into believing that God takes the sins of mankind lightly. If you want to see God's righteous anger over sin, just take a look at the cross. For it was on the cross that God poured out the full fury of His wrath for our sins upon His beloved Son. Never take sin lightly, my friend, for you can be assured that God certainly does not. If you have never accepted the sacrifice of Christ as your own, then be warned that the same wrath that God poured out upon His Son will be poured out upon you as well. I once heard a well intentioned, but incredibly misguided preacher say, "Do not worry, God isn't mad at you." That statement can only be applied to someone, who has been washed in the blood. If you have not, then the wrath of God very much remains upon you, and you will not stand on the day of judgment. There are only two things upon which your sin will ultimately rest. Either you will place it upon Christ and find forgiveness, or sadly, it will remain upon you, and you will be hopelessly lost forever. Have you been washed in the Blood? There is wonder working POWER in the Blood!

And let the **blood bought** Children of God's say... **TRUTH!!!**