

**TEXT-** Hebrews 11:4-

**INTRO-** Abel - Heb. 11:4; Gen. 4:3.

**God asked for a blood sacrifice Heb. 9:22** *And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.*

**Abel had faith in His word. Cain did not show faith,** and was rejected.

**God witnessed to Abel's faith by accepting his sacrifice; and by this witness, Abel still speaks to us.**

**Heb. 12:24** *And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel.*

**Gen. 3:21** *Unto Adam also and to his wife did the LORD God make coats of skins, and clothed them.*

The coats of skins in **Gen. 3:21** are pictures of the salvation we have in Christ. There must be the shedding of blood, the offering of innocent life for the guilty. Adam and Eve had tried to cover their sin and shame with leaves Gen. 3:7 but these good works were not accepted by God. Nor does He accept such works today!

Garments in the Bible are often a picture of salvation. **Isa. 61:10; Zec. 3:1-10.**

The prodigal son was clothed afresh when he came home **Luke 15:22.**

The garments of self-righteousness and good works are but filthy rags in God's sight **Isa. 64:6** Note that God wanted Adam and Eve to be covered; It is always a sign of degeneration when a people reverse this and go back to nakedness.

"Modest apparel" is always God's standard **1Ti. 2:9.**

(1) There is no robe of our own righteousness which can cover our shame.

(2) That righteousness which we have not in ourselves we must be content and thankful to receive at the hands of God.

(3) Not Christ by His life, but by His life and *death*, supplies these garments for our spirits' need.

**Luke 11:51** *From the blood of Abel unto the blood of Zacharias, which perished between the altar and the temple: verily I say unto you, It shall be required of this generation.*

### **1. The blood of the covenant**

When he instituted the Lord's Supper, **Mat. 26:28** *For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.*

In fact, "... even the first covenant was not put into effect without blood. When Moses had proclaimed every commandment of the law to all the people, he took the blood of calves, together with water, scarlet wool and branches of hyssop, and sprinkled the scroll and all the people. He said, "This is the blood of the covenant, which God has commanded you to keep."

In the same way, **he sprinkled with the blood both the tabernacle and everything used in its ceremonies**" Heb 9:16-21.

The writer to the Hebrews said: **Heb. 12:23-24** *To the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect, 24 And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel.*

**Heb. 13:20-21** *Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, 21 Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.*

Then he gives a solemn warning: **Heb. 10:28-29** *He that despised Moses' law died without mercy under two or three witnesses: 29 Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?*

### **2. The blood of forgiveness**

Jesus said: **Mat. 26:28** *For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.*

The covenant is a solemn, binding divine agreement to forgive unworthy sinners because of the blood of Christ.

### **3. The blood of redemption**

Paul refers to "**Act 20:28** . . . feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.

**Eph. 1:7** *In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;*

**Heb. 9:12** *Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.*

**Peter writes: 1 Pe. 1:18-19** *Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; 19 But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:*

**John had a vision of heaven** where "they sang a new song: **Rev. 5:9** *And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation;*

We are "purchased" for God, ransomed from spiritual slavery through the blood of Christ.

### **4. The blood of justification**

**Paul** rejoices that **Rom. 5:9** *Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.*

**In his vision of heaven, John "heard a loud voice in heaven say:**

**Rev. 12:10-11** *And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is 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. 11 And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.*

### **5. The blood of reconciliation**

**Paul writes Rom 3:25** *Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;*

**He encourages the Gentiles** by saying Eph. 2:13 *But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ.*

He adds **Col. 1:19-20** *For it pleased the Father that in him should all fulness dwell; 20 And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven.*

Once alienated from God, excluded from full access to him, now, through the blood of Christ we are reconciled, So we can approach God confidently because of the blood of Christ.

### **6. The blood of cleansing**

The writer to the Hebrews points out: **Heb. 9:13-14** *For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh: 14 How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?*

**1 Jn 1:7** *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.*

There is no sin that Christ's blood cannot cleanse or from which it cannot set us free.

### **7. The blood of protection**

On the night of the Passover when Israel was about to leave slavery in Egypt, they were told to daub the blood of the passover lamb on their door lintels to protect themselves from divine judgement being meted out on the Egyptians.

**Heb. 11:28** *Through faith he kept the passover, and the sprinkling of blood, lest he that destroyed the firstborn should touch them.* Ex 12:13.

We are protected from Satan's power by the blood of Christ.

**Gen. 9:6** *Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made he man.*

This was later summarized as "a life for a life".

The shedding of innocent blood is the remedy for sin. First came the temporary remedy, an innocent animal, and then the permanent one when the Lord's own blood was shed. Once again we see a life for a life, so it appears God equates blood with life.

**Heb. 10:1-4** *For the law having a shadow of good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never with those sacrifices which they offered year by year continually make the comers thereunto perfect. 2 For then would they not have ceased to be offered? because that the worshippers once purged should have had no more conscience of sins. 3 But in those sacrifices there is a remembrance again made of sins every year. 4 For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins.*

### **Why is the Blood of Christ So Important?**

- **We Receive Forgiveness Because Of The Blood Of Christ**

**Eph. 1:7** *In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;*

If it were not for the precious blood of Jesus, we would not be able to stand before God today and have a personal relationship with Him.

- **We Are Cleansed From The Taint Of Sin Because Of The Blood Of Christ**

**1 Jn. 1:7** *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.*

It gives us a true new beginning and fresh start.

When the blood of Jesus is applied to your life, then you are made as fresh as a newborn babe

- **We Enter The Presence Of God Through The Blood Of Christ**

**Heb. 10:19** *Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus,*

When we pray, we are not just praying to the air. We are entering into the presence of God. We are able to boldly go before the throne of grace because of the blood of Christ.

Your enjoyment of the presence of God in your life was bought at with the price of Christ's sacrifice. **Eph. 2:13** *But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ.*

When the soldier pierced Him in His side and His blood flowed to the ground, it was for you.

- **The Blood Of Jesus Speaks For You**

**Heb. 12:24** *And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel.*

If you are born again and have had the blood applied to your life, then that blood speaks of better things for you.

In context, the writer of Hebrews is speaking of the blood speaking better things in the midst of people being shaken. **Heb. 12:27** *And this word, Yet once more, signifieth the removing of those things that are shaken, as of things that are made, that those things which cannot be shaken may remain.*

It speaks that you will not be shaken when trials and tribulations come your way. It speaks of when the world is upside down, you will still be right side up.