

Five Minute Foundation Series



5. THE BLOOD OF JESUS

We have been looking at the covenants God has made – and in each one we have seen that blood was used.

What is the significance of blood?

Leviticus 17:11 “For the life of a creature is in the blood’ and I have given it to you to make atonement for yourselves on the altar; it is the blood that makes atonement for one’s life.”

This was God’s idea – he said, “I have given it to you.” The reason is that the blood represents the life of a creature, an animal or man. Science has shown the importance of the blood. It carries oxygen and nutrients to all parts of the body, and when it stops flowing, the body dies.

From the earliest times animals were offered as sacrifices and their blood shed. Even in the Garden of Eden, after Adam and Eve sinned, the lives of animals were taken to provide a covering by God. Noah offered sacrifices to God, so did Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Then God gave clear instructions to Moses on Mt Sinai as to how the people of Israel were to offer sacrifices to God.

Hebrews 9:22 “In fact, the law requires that nearly everything be cleansed with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.”

This was the provision God made for that era – but it also pointed forward to the One who would shed his blood and offer himself as a sacrifice for our sin. Just as the High Priest in the Old Testament would go into the Holy of Holies with the blood of animals, so Jesus, our Great High Priest has entered the Throne Room of Heaven with his own blood and offered himself as a sacrifice for us. We accept by faith what he has done.

What does the blood of Jesus mean in our lives?

1. It means forgiveness is provided for

First of all it means that our forgiveness has been provided for. As the old hymn, that was sung at the Billy Graham Crusades says, ‘what can wash away my sins – nothing but the blood of Jesus.’

2. It means we are freed from Satan’s bondage

When our sin is forgiven Satan no longer has power over our lives. The Bible says we are now redeemed. The word redeem means ‘to buy back’.

There is a story of a boy who built a little sailing boat – and he took it to a stream to see it float. However the current caught the boat and it swept downstream. He searched for it

but couldn't find it. Then one day he saw the boat in a second hand shop. He ran inside and said, 'That's my boat, I made it.' 'Well,' the shopkeeper said, 'It's mine now. If you want it you will need to buy it back.' And so the boy did.

That is what Jesus did for us. We were created by God and rightfully belonged to him. But sadly we chose to leave and went far from him and we were taken captive by Satan. Jesus paid the price in his blood to buy us back.

Revelation 5:9 "You are worthy – because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased men for God."

He bought you back – you now belong to him.

3. It means we are protected by him

When Israel was about to leave Egypt, God told them to take a lamb for each household, kill it and apply the blood to the doorposts of the house. God said this would be a sign, and when the Destroyer passed over, they would be protected. In the same way, the blood of Jesus has been applied to our lives. Not physically, but spiritually. The enemy, Satan can see it! And he is afraid of the blood of Jesus. Don't focus on what the enemy can do, but focus on Jesus.

Remember we always need to make sure our lives are covered with the blood of Jesus – if we have failed and sinned, then repent and ask for the blood of Jesus to wash you afresh – then we can be assured that we are protected from the enemy.

Revelation 12:11 "They overcame him (Satan) by the blood of the Lamb."

For some of us we will remember the chorus, 'There is power, power, wonder working power – in the blood of the Lamb, in the precious blood of the Lamb.' And that is still true today.