

“There is Power in the Blood”

Introduction:

1. Note Lev. Lev. 17:11: *“The life of the flesh is in the blood...”*
2. All true scientists and qualified doctors agree that *“the life of the flesh is in the blood.”* They know, by education, and observation, that there is power in blood.
 - a. Hence, across the land there are many centers for donating blood. Thousands of pints of blood are used every day in the hospitals in America and other countries. Doctors know that blood can make a difference between life and death. We are told that *“one pint of blood can help up to three people.”*
3. Indeed, there is power in human blood. But the power in human blood pales into complete insignificance when compared with the power in the blood of **Jesus!**
4. In this study we shall discuss the topic entitled *“there is Power in the Blood,”* and of course, we are talking about the blood of Jesus.

Discussion:

I. **First, However, Let us consider the importance of Animal Blood in the Old Testament.**

- A. From the time of Abel, throughout the Old Testament, animal blood was offered in sacrifice unto God.
 1. Genesis 4:4;8:20; 12:8, etc.
- B. There was a time when the Israelites were in Bondage in Egypt, Exodus 1:6-11.
 1. God commissioned Moses to lead His people out of Egypt, Exodus 3:9-10
 2. God sent a series of ten plagues upon Pharaoh and the Egypt people to force their hand, Ex. 7-12.
 3. Finally, in Exodus chapter 12 God instituted the Jewish Passover.
 - a. Summarize Ex. 12:1-13
- C. Facts about the blood of the Passover Lamb:
 1. It represented life, Lev. 17:11. A sacrifice of blood was a sacrifice of life.
 2. It had to be applied in order to be effective, Ex. 12:7.
 3. It accomplished the deliverance of Israel, Ex. 12.
 - a. There was power in the blood.
- D. In Old Testament times literally millions of animals were slain in sacrifice unto God.
 1. Note that which was offered at the dedication of the temple, 2 Chron. 7:4-5.
- E. However, the blood of Animals under the law had its limitations!
 1. It could not take away sin! Heb. 10:1-4.

II. **But there is Power in the blood of Jesus! He is our perfect sacrifice! Heb. 10:9-10; John 1:29. In His blood, there is:**

- A. Redeeming Power! Eph. 1:7; I Peter 1:18-19.
 1. Redemption (from *Lutrosis*). In its verb form it means to release from bondage on payment of a ransom.
 - a. We were in the bondage of sin, Rom. 6:16; John 8:34.
 - b. But Jesus died to set us free! Heb. 9:12-14.
- B. Reconciling Power! Eph. 2:16
 1. Sin placed enmity between God and man. Isa. 59:1-2; Jas. 4:4
 2. For man to be saved, he must be reconciled unto God, and this reconciliation was only made possible by reason of the death of Jesus Christ.
- C. Cleansing Power!
 1. Sin is pictured as filth, as that which defiles a person. 2 Peter 2:7,20-22.
 - a. Have you ever **felt** dirty because of sin?
 2. The blood of Jesus has the power to cleanse even the filthiest of sinners! Rev. 1:5; I John 1:7.
 - a. *“The blood of Jesus has the power to take the blackest heart and wash it whiter than snow.”* Isa. 1:18; I Cor. 6:9-11; I John 1:7.
- D. Saving Power!
 1. People in sin are lost! They are alienated from God, separated from God, at enmity with God.
 - a. Illus. the prodigal son, Luke 15:32
 2. But the blood of Jesus is able to save our sin-stained souls! Matt. 26:28
- E. Sanctifying Power!
 1. God made a difference between Israel and Egypt, Ex. 11:7. And that difference was the blood of the lamb!

2. The blood of Jesus has the power to sanctify you, to set you apart from the world. Heb. 13:12.

F. Purchasing Power!

1. Christians are people who have been *"bought with a price,"* 1 Cor. 6:20.
2. They are members of *"the church,"* Acts 2:47, the church purchased by the blood of Jesus, Acts 20:28; Eph. 5:25.

G. Overcoming Power!

1. God's people continue to be opposed by Satan, 1 Peter 5:8-9.
2. During the latter part of the first century, when the Roman Empire was determined to eliminate the religious of Jesus, Christians had to make a strong stand for truth and righteousness.
3. Many overcome the opposition. They did so by the *"blood of the Lamb,"* Rev. 12:11.

III. Ironically, the religious world praises the blood of Jesus, but then denies the necessity of everything connected with the blood!

A. They say "you don't have to be baptized in order to be saved."

1. They say that in contrast to what the Scriptures teach. Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; 1 Pet. 3:21.
2. But it is in baptism that one makes contact with the death, and therefore, the blood of Jesus.
 - a. Romans 6:3-4.

B. They say "you don't have to be a member of the church in order to be saved."

1. They say that in spite of the fact that *"the church"* consists of *"the saved!"* Acts 2:47.
2. But remember that the church was purchased by the blood of Jesus! Acts 20:28.
3. Every drop of blood shed by Jesus went to the purchase of the church; hence, if the church is not necessary, then Jesus died in vain!

C. They often substitute the doctrines and commandments of men in place of the New Testament of Jesus Christ.

1. The Old Covenant was ratified by the blood of animals, Heb. 9:18-22.
2. Jesus, by the shedding of His blood, became the mediator of the new covenant, Heb. 9:15-17.
 - a. Hence, if we can substitute the doctrines and commandments of men in place of the New Testament, then Jesus died in vain!

D. Many say "once saved always saved," or they preach the impossibility of apostasy.

1. However, those who have been saved from their past sins are imperfect; they commit sin. 1 John 1:8,10.
2. It is by confessing their sins and walking in the light that Christians are cleansed by the blood of Jesus, 1 John 1:9.
3. Those who preach the impossibility of apostasy negate the necessity of the cleansing blood of Jesus!

Conclusion:

1. For different reasons, multitudes ridicule the necessity of Jesus having to die for man to be saved.
 - a. They cannot conceive of themselves as being so sin-stained that they could not be saved apart from the death of Jesus!
 - b. Some say it is "unfair for the innocent to have to suffer for the guilty;" hence, they dismiss the necessity of Jesus having to die for them.
2. But sin is so sinful that it took nothing less than the blood of Jesus to redeem sinners; and the love of God was so great that the price for our redemption was willingly paid. John 3:16; John 15:13; Rom. 5:8.
3. Have you been redeemed, cleansed, reconciled, saved by the blood of Jesus?

--Bobby Witherington, January 24, 2016