



**SUNDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2022.**

**The Blood of Christ.**

**Hebrews 9:11-28.**

This morning we are talking about blood – the shed blood of Christ. The blood of Jesus is central to the New Testament concept of redemption.

Although it is good to begin in the Gospels to learn about Jesus and what He did for us, the Bible is not just one book – it is a collection of 66 books. Opting to read a few of the books, skipping some, is like reading a trilogy and skipping ahead to the final book, or watching a TV series out of order. You never really understand the true story.

The Old Testament points to Jesus' sacrifice – reading the words of the prophets gets you excited to understand how their prophecies were fulfilled or will be fulfilled.

So my point is that to fully understand why Jesus died for us, we have to go back to the beginning of the Bible – starting at Genesis. There is only one author – Almighty God who inspired different authors, characters, modes and they all centre on the fundamental truth – the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Doing this then can help us to understand why forgiveness requires the shedding of blood?

**Is God blood thirsty? Is that why He wants blood to be shed?**

Blood is what brings people near to God, it reconciles people back to Him. In Old Testament times, when the people sacrificed animals, God considered the people's faith and obedience, cleansed them from sin

and made them ceremonially acceptable, according to the Old Testament Law.

In offering unblemished animal sacrifices they were anticipating Christ's coming and His death for sin.

You can test for insulin, blood proteins, cholesterol, signs of viral or bacterial infection just from one drop of blood. What other things can one drop of blood do for us? Jesus' shed blood symbolizes life; healing; cleansing and forgiveness.

### **One drop of Jesus' blood leads to life.**

We know there is life in the blood. Blood keeps us alive. The components of blood are Plasma, red and white blood cells. If you lose more than 50% of your blood – you die.

Jesus had to die in order for God's will to be accomplished. When God wrote out His will He wanted believers to not only have forgiveness of sin, but an internal and intimate relationship with Him forever. Jesus' blood opens up a new reality that transforms us and He never stops reaching out to us.

### **One drop of Jesus' blood produces forgiveness.**

*Matt 26:28 Jesus says: "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins."*

When sin came into the world it created a barrier between us and God with us subject to eternal punishment. But forgiveness through Jesus' blood means this relationship is restored; we are pardoned and our debt to God is cancelled; we are saved from eternal punishment; developed into the person God promises we will become and welcomed into Christ's kingdom.

*1 Peter 1:18-19 states: “for you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.”*

Thanks to God, we are redeemed. Jesus has stripped the enemy of his power and has truly set us free – all with one drop of blood that was shed on the cross of Calvary.

### **One Drop of blood justifies all who believe.**

*Romans 3:23-25 states: “for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God and are justified freely by His grace, through the redemption that came by Jesus Christ. God presented Him as a sacrifice of atonement, through faith in His blood. He did this to demonstrate His justice, because in His forbearance He had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished.”*

The word justify means to be righteous or be made righteous in God's sight. By Jesus' blood alone:

1. We have our conscience cleansed
2. We are freed from death's sting and can live to serve God
3. We are freed from sin's power.

All of us in this chapel and all of those listening live stream, have been chosen by God to be part of His church in Chelsea. If you are hearing these words but still feel a sense of guilt inside, thinking you are not good enough for God, then take another look at Jesus' death and what it means for you. Christ can heal your conscience and deliver you from the frustration of trying to earn God's favour.

Jesus' sacrifice transforms our lives and hearts and makes us clean on the inside. His sacrifice is infinitely more effective than any animal sacrifice. There is now no barrier of sin or weakness on our part which can stifle His forgiveness.

Today, if you are feeling burdened by guilt or any other issue, then bring them to Christ, confess them and seek His forgiveness, wisdom and guidance to grow in the life He has given you. It is also very important that you then thank Him for His deliverance, for His forgiveness and for stamping across your record book – **PAID IN FULL BY THE BLOOD OF THE LAMB.**

All of us will die physically but in Christ we will not die spiritually. But judgement is coming closer every day and when we stand before Almighty God on this day of judgement, if we do not like the verdict handed down – sadly there will be no Higher court to appeal to.

If we hope for a favourable verdict in this court, we must put our hope entirely on Jesus.

His blood was shed for your freedom and for mine. This is the gift from God.

God didn't create this gift like He created everything else, from nothing.

God did not go to the Op shop with a coupon to get it free or steal it.

God the Father purchased this gift of eternal life for you and for me with the shed blood of His Son on the cross of Calvary.

**Are you still living in misery because of your sins?**

**Then realise what it is that can wash away your sin and make you whole again - nothing but the blood of Jesus.**

**Benediction:**

**Hebrews 13:20-21**

**Now may the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing His will, and may He work in us what is pleasing to Him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever Amen.**