

## THE BLOOD OF JESUS

**Text: Ephesians 1:3-14**

**Key Word:** Blood

**Key Thought:** The Blood of Jesus Has Never Lost its Power

The shedding of our Lord's blood at Calvary carried with it a number of far reaching blessings which we need to be reminded of. The blood has never lost its power and never will. Our Lord's sacrifice of His precious blood has brought life, and protection, healing and power to those who access its availability.

Paul was one who continued to teach on this subject. This became one of the most important mysteries revealed into the mind of the great apostle. The Ephesians were bombarded with idolatry. God sent His servant into Ephesus to bring about an abrupt change in belief. It took the empowerment of the Holy Spirit together with the power of the Blood to proclaim this truth in the midst of strong opposition. **Let us consider part of this tremendous message today.**

**I. The Blood of Jesus has CALLED us Back from Sin's Curse**

**II. The Blood of Jesus has CLEANSED our Guilt Before God**

**III. The Blood of Jesus has CROWNED us with the Riches of His Grace**

**IV. The Blood of Jesus has CHOSEN us to Live out His Plan**

**I. The Blood of Jesus has CALLED us Back from Sin's Curse**

*"In him we have redemption through his blood . . ."*

*Ephesians 1:7a*

Before we knew Jesus as our personal Saviour, we were enslaved to sinful habits. We may have thought we had freedom to do as we wanted but we were deceived to think so. When Jesus went to the cross and shed His precious blood His voice of mercy and grace echoed into the corridors of hell to give notice that the souls of mankind now had a choice to make.

Our Lord's blood offered a message a hope. It said that sin's curse had been broken and abundant life was available to those who would receive His gift of forgiveness. His blood offered us a new meaning for life. It continues to draw people who stand in the shadows not wanting to be identified.

## I. The Blood of Jesus has CALLED us Back from Sin's Curse

### 500 Rembrandt Crucified Christ

\*\*\* In the famous painting of the crucifixion by Rembrandt, your attention is drawn first to the dying Saviour. Then as you notice the crowd gathered around the scene at Calvary, you are impressed by the various attitudes and actions of the people involved in putting the Son of God to death.

Finally your eyes drift to the edge of the picture and catch sight of a lone figure almost hidden in the shadows. He represents the artist himself, for Rembrandt realized that his sins had helped nail Jesus to the cross. \*\*\*

The Blood of Jesus continues to call us back from the curse of sin.

## II. The Blood of Jesus has CLEANSED our Guilt Before God

*"In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sin . . ."*

*Ephesians 1:7b*

There is nothing more tormenting than a guilty conscience.

\*\*\* The story is told of a time when Sir Arthur Conan Doyle decided to play a practical joke on twelve of his friends. He sent them each a telegram that read, "*Flee at once . . . all is discovered.*"

Within twenty-four hours, all twelve had left the country. \*\*\*

Michael Green # 627  
Illustrations for Biblical Preaching

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle was a British writer and physician who created the character **Sherlock Holmes**. He was born on May 22, 1859 and studied medicine at Edinburgh University from 1876 to 1881. He wrote four novels and fifty-six short stories about Holmes and his assistant Dr. Watson.

## II. The Blood of Jesus has CLEANSED our Guilt Before God (Contd.)

\*\*\* A tired minister was at home resting. But through the window he saw a woman approaching his door. She was one of those too-talkative people and he was not too anxious to talk to her. He said to his wife: "I'll just duck upstairs and wait until she goes away."

An hour passed, then he tiptoed to the stair landing and listened. Not a sound was heard. He breathed a sigh of relief and began to make his way downstairs. He called out to his wife saying, "Well, my dear, did you get rid of the old bore at last?"

The next moment he heard the voice of the woman, and he stood guilty recognizing that she could not have missed hearing his comment. Within a few more steps he was staring at both of them. It seemed to be a crisis moment.

His wife was very quick thinking and answered him, "Yes, dear, she went away an hour ago. But Mrs. Jones has come to call in the meantime and I'm sure you'll be glad to greet her." \*\*\*

The Last of the Good Clean Jokes  
Bob Phillips p. 117

We also stood guilty before our God. He chose to remove our guilt not by adding to our deceiving ways but by cleansing us from all sin.

## III. The Blood of Jesus has CROWNED us with the Riches of His Grace

*"Praise be to the God and father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ . . .  
7. . . in accordance with the riches of God's grace."*

*Ephesians 1:3,7c*

**We must never forget that the crowning comes after the cleansing.** The Lord is eager to crown His people with spiritual blessings. These will be witnessed through many practical ways. God's grace has a way of transferring heaven's riches into our daily life to needs.

The riches that Jesus has crowned upon us through the shedding of His blood are much different. Our God wants to bestow upon us the riches of His grace. He wants to give us as much as we can contain. In fact, He often gives above what we can use. The feeding of the 5,000 is a great example.

### III. The Blood of Jesus has CROWNED us with the Riches of His Grace (Contd.)

The riches of grace include peace, contentment, joy, good health, wealth, obedient children, opportunities to serve others, trials and testings, as well as situations which we cannot always understand at the moment.

God is no respecter of persons and allows these things to be poured upon the rich as well as the poor in spirit, the bond as well as the free, the young as well as the old, male and female and every race. He lavishes these riches upon our lives.

"God's gifts puts man's dreams to shame"

Elizabeth Barrett Browning

"Riches are the least worthy gifts which God gives man. What are they to God's Word, to bodily gifts, such as beauty and health, or to the gifts of the mind, such as understanding, skill and wisdom?

Yet men toil for them day and night, and take no rest. Therefore, God commonly gives riches to foolish people, to whom He gives nothing else."

Martin Luther  
12,000 Religious Quotes  
p. 161

### IV. The Blood of Jesus has CHOSEN us to Live out His Plan

*"For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight . . .  
11. In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will."*

*Ephesians 1:4,11*

God has a plan for every one of us. The Bible is full of illustrations for us to read about. The Holy Spirit is still working out the will of the Father in our lives today. The Blood of Jesus Christ was shed with a definite purpose in mind and not limited by time. He did not die without a purpose.

Our lives are to bring praise and glory to God. We need to daily express that Jesus is able to live His will through our surrendered will. He has made everything available for us to live a life that is according to His plan.

#### **IV. The Blood of Jesus has CHOSEN us to Live out His Plan (Contd.)**

\*\*\* As a young boy I remember after having my hip problem that I was usually one of the last kids picked to play on a team.

We would stand up in a line while the two captains would select the players they thought would serve them best. I never was chosen as a captain. A kid with a leg brace or crutches didn't seem to fit into their plans.

I often felt rejected for something I had no possibility of changing. It wasn't my fault that I was crippled. I fell on rock on my right hip joint playing touch football during recess at Central Public School.

It didn't make sense that it happened just after I accepted Jesus Christ (the first time at 10 years of age). He didn't reject me just because I then had to walk a brace on my right leg and a 3-inch lift on my left shoe and even walking with crutches. I felt accepted in the beloved even though I didn't understand it all. He chose me before I chose Him and he didn't reject me when many of my peers did.

I walked with a sense that people kept looking at me. In my mid teens I became angry at God for allowing me to be hurt in so many ways. The enemy of soul gave me an opportunity to be recognized as the drummer of Amber Rock. I was admired. I followed the crowd and often led even my friends into the downward spiral of alcohol, drugs until one important night.

I thought I was in control until I split a tiny mescaline pill with one of my friends because the pusher didn't have any more than one pill. I didn't realize it had been laced with Strychnine. It was a horrible experience. The pusher got more pills the following week and died of Strychnine poisoning because he took one full pill. It caused me to ask why those who produced these hallucinatory drugs would knowingly add a poison to kill those who made them money.

That incident caused me to once again consider surrendering my life back to God to live out his plan for me. Fifty years later, here I stand knowing that my journey will soon end. I can sense that His plan of conforming me will be completed shortly.

As amazing as it may seem, God chose us all before the foundation of the world to carry out His plan. Those who have surrendered have been marked with the seal of the Holy Spirit as our deposit ensuring us that we belong to Him. These are just a few of the blessings that the Blood of Jesus has made available to us.

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Date: May 3/24

Place: FCA

Time: 10:30 Am

Song: Nothing but the Blood (Matt Redman) - A

**THE BLOOD OF CHRIST**  
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**Rembrandt's Painting of Our Crucified Christ**

**II. The Blood of Jesus has CLEANSED our Guilt Before God**

*"In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sin . . ."*

*Ephesians 1:7b*

**Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's practical joke**

**The Tired Minister**

**III. The Blood of Jesus has CROWNED us with the Riches of His Grace**

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**My Early Life Story**