



The Voice Of Truth

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Hillcrest church of Christ

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Nothing but the Blood

By Jimmy Pettigrew

“For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God” (Romans 3:23), wrote the apostle Paul. Sin then, for all accountable persons, is a fact and a reality. “For the wages of sin is death” (Romans 6:23). Sin separates one from God (Isaiah 59:1-2). Is there any hope for man? How could man be brought back in favor with God? **NOTHING BUT THE BLOOD OF JESUS COULD DO IT!** “For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life” (Romans 5:10). Knowing the results of sin as we do should bring us to the realization of the great remedy of sin. *What can wash away my sins, nothing but the blood of Jesus.* Let us look at some of the benefits of the blood of Christ.

Nothing but the blood of Jesus provides for man's redemption. “In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace” (Ephesians 1:7). To redeem means to buy back. Christians have been *bought with a price* (1 Corinthians 6:20), and that price is the blood of Jesus Christ. We have been redeemed “with the precious blood of Christ” (1 Peter 1:19). Jesus paid with His own blood. The church was “purchased” with the blood of Christ (Acts 20:28).

Nothing but the blood of Jesus provides for man's

sins being washed away. “And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood” (Revelation 1:5). Because Christ loves us, He washed us from our sins. The means by which Christ released us from our sins is by His blood.

Nothing but the blood of Jesus provides for man's justification. “Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him” (Romans 5:9). To justify means to declare one free of guilt. Being guilty, man is in need of justification. Nothing but the blood of Jesus Christ will take away the guilt of sin.

Nothing but the blood of Jesus provides for man's reconciliation. “For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life” (Romans 5:10). The word reconcile means to be brought back to an agreeable condition. Man, who became God's enemy because of transgression, was brought back to agreeable conditions. Man, who became God's enemy because of transgression, was brought back on friendly terms with God, through the blood of Jesus Christ.

We know that the blood of Jesus is essential to man's salvation; then how can one contact the blood of Christ? Jesus shed His blood in His death (John 19:34). The only blood that can save and cleanse us is that which He shed in His death. And the only way we can reach that blood is said to be when we are baptized into His death! Paul in his epistle to the church in Rome pens the following words. "Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life" (Romans 6:3-4). Until one is baptized into Christ (Galatians 3:26-27) and into His death (Romans 6:3-4), he has not contracted the powerful, cleansing blood! Some people say we don't need to be baptized, that we are saved by grace only, and I would agree that we are saved by grace (Ephesians 2:8-10). Question: Where is grace found? "Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus" (2 Timothy 2:1). Grace is found in Christ! How do we get in Christ? One is baptized into Christ (Galatians 3:26-27). No sectarian preacher can point to a single passage that shows entrance into Christ by another means than baptism! **WHAT CAN WASH AWAY MY SINS, NOTHING BUT THE BLOOD OF JESUS.** We have access to that blood!

HOW TO TELL WHEN YOU ARE SLIPPING

If you were closer to God than you are right now, you have slipped. A man doesn't slip all at once. Usually it is quite gradual and unnoticed.

1) He forgets to read his Bible, cuts himself off from the spiritual nourishment. He is too busy.

2) He ceases to pray. He no longer asks God to supply wisdom and guidance, bless others, and forgive sins.

3) He begins to criticize others. He tries to

ease his conscience by making others as he is. He finds fault with the preacher, and criticizes the elders.

4) He no longer feels he should win people to the Lord. He talks of wasting money on missionary work.

5) He becomes irregular in attending church service. The preacher affords him no comfort in his downward walk.

6) He stops giving. Things have tightened up as he has to meet his bills.

ARE YOU SLIPPING?

Truth Is Truth Even If No One Believes
It. Error is Error
If Everyone Believes It!

It Is One of The Most Beautiful
Compensations of Life:
That No Man Can Help Another
Without Helping Himself.

The Man Who Really Wants To Do Something
Worthwhile Finds A Way; The Other Kind Finds An
Excuse!

Happy Is the Man Who Walks So Close To God
That There Is No Room For The
Devil to Get In Between.

A Smile Is a Light in the Window
Of Your Face to Show Your Heart Is At Work.

The Bible Never Suffers From Neglect;
It Is Always Those Who Neglect It Who Suffer.

If You Want To Convince Others Of The Value of Christianity -
Live It!

Other Books Were Given For Our Information,
The Bible Was Given For Our Transformation.
When We Die, We Leave Behind
All we have, And Take With us All That We Are.

Others Will Follow Your Foot Steps More Quickly Than They
Will Follow Your Advice.

Taking Heart to Meet Adversity
Can Be Your Ladder Whereby You Climb To Greater Heights.

Faith that will Not Take Us to Worship Will
Not Take Us to Heaven!

The Wages of Sin Have Never
Been Reduced!