

v1 Now the first covenant had regulations for worship and also an earthly sanctuary. v2 A tabernacle was set up. In its first room were the lampstand, the table and the consecrated bread; this was called the Holy Place. v3 Behind the second curtain was a room called the Most Holy Place, v4 which had the golden altar of incense and the gold-covered ark of the covenant. This ark contained the gold jar of manna, Aaron's staff that had budded, and the stone tablets of the covenant. v5 Above the ark were the cherubim of the Glory, overshadowing the atonement cover. But we cannot discuss these things in detail now. v6 When everything had been arranged like this, the priests entered regularly into the outer room to carry on their ministry. v7 But only the high priest entered the inner room, and that only once a year, and never without blood, which he offered for himself and for the sins the people had committed in ignorance. v8 The Holy Spirit was showing by this that the way into the Most Holy Place had not yet been disclosed as long as the first tabernacle was still standing. v9 This is an illustration for the present time, indicating that the gifts and sacrifices being offered were not able to clear the conscience of the worshiper. v10 They are only a matter of food and drink and various ceremonial washings--external regulations applying until the time of the new order. v11 When Christ came as high priest of the good things that are already here, he went through the greater and more perfect tabernacle that is not man-made, that is to say, not a part of this creation. v12 He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but he entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, having obtained eternal redemption. v13 The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkled on those who are ceremonially unclean sanctify them so that they are outwardly clean. v14 How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God! v15 For this reason Christ is the mediator of a new covenant, that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance--now that he has died as a ransom to set them free from the sins committed under the first covenant. v16 In the case of a will, it is necessary to prove the death of the one who made it, v17 because a will is in force only when somebody has died; it never takes effect while the one who made it is living. v18 This is why even the first covenant was not put into effect without blood. v19 When Moses had proclaimed every commandment of the law to all the people, he took the blood of calves, together with water, scarlet wool and branches of hyssop, and sprinkled the scroll and all the people. v20 He said, "This is the blood of the covenant, which God has commanded you to keep." v21 In the same way, he sprinkled with the blood both the tabernacle and everything used in its ceremonies. v22 In fact, the law requires that nearly everything be cleansed with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness. Hebrews 9:1-22

The bible is a book about blood. The word occurs 356 times in the Bible, the first reference is found in Genesis 4, where Cain killed Able and we read in 4:10 **The LORD said, "What have you done? Listen! Your brother's blood cries out to me from the ground."**

The practice of Sacrifice is one of the first things people did after they left the Garden of Eden. Noah offered a sacrifice of one of all the "clean" animals after he came out of the Ark in Gen 8:20. Abram built an altar in Gen12:8 as one of his firsts acts of worship when he arrived in the land the Lord had planned to give to him. The first covenant with Abraham was sealed with the shedding of blood. Every one of the Patriarch's, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, built many altars.

The Israelites were saved from the “Angel of death” by painting blood on their doorframes. Moses built an altar and established the Sacrificial System of the Old Covenant. The practice of sacrifice continued for almost 1500 years. Until God got so sick of false sacrifice that GOD said: “**To obey is better than sacrifice**” **THEN WE GET TO THE CROSS!!!** And everything became clear.

In this section, the writer of the Book of Hebrews, shows what the BLOOD OF JESUS compared with the blood of bulls and goats. I have given this message the following title:

THE POWER IN THE BLOOD OF JESUS.

THERE IS POWER IN THE BLOOD OF JESUS BECAUSE:

1. The blood of Jesus ENTERS THE REAL TABERNACLE.

v11 When Christ came as high priest of the good things that are already here, he went through the greater and more perfect tabernacle that is not man-made, that is to say, not a part of this creation.

When children are growing, they often play by imitating what adults do. They play “house, house” or “doctor, doctor”. When our children were growing up, they often played with the children of Steve and Anne Mann. They used to play “church, church.”

Now, if somebody in the house broke their arm, we wouldn’t ask our children to fetch their toy stethoscope, and play “doctor, doctor” with a broken are. WE WOULD GO STRAIGHT TO THE REAL DOCTOR.

In verse 1-10 of the chapter, the writer of the Book of Hebrews shows that all that went before Jesus came is just playing a metaphorical “doctor, doctor” and that now that Jesus has come, we are dealing with the real thing.

THERE IS POWER IN THE BLOOD OF JESUS BECAUSE:

2. The blood of Jesus is TOTALLY EFFECTIVE.

*v12 He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but he entered the Most Holy Place **once for all***

Unlike the Old Covenant sacrificial system, that needed to be repeated daily, what Jesus did on the cross only needed to be done once. The writer of the Book of Hebrews makes this point in Heb 10:1-2

*10:1 The law is only a shadow of the good things that are coming--not the realities themselves. For this reason it can never, by the same sacrifices repeated endlessly year after year, make perfect those who draw near to worship. v2 If it could, would they not have stopped being offered? For the worshipers would have been cleansed **once for all**, and would no longer have felt guilty for their sins.*

Paul makes this point in **Romans 6:10** “The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God.”

Peter makes the same point in **1 Peter 3:18** For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God.

THERE IS POWER IN THE BLOOD OF JESUS BECAUSE:

3. The blood of Jesus is HIS OWN BLOOD.

*v12 He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but he entered the Most Holy Place once for all **by his own blood**,*

Because sin entered into this world through a man, the only way to truly deal with sin is through ANOTHER MAN. Paul makes that point in

Romans 5:12-15 Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned-- v13 for before the law was given, sin was in the world. But sin is not taken into account when there is no law. v14 Nevertheless, death reigned from the time of Adam to the time of Moses, even over those who did not sin by breaking a command, as did Adam, who was a pattern of the one to come. v15 But the gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died by the trespass of the one man, how much more did God's grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, overflow to the many!

THERE IS POWER IN THE BLOOD OF JESUS BECAUSE:

4. The blood of Jesus BRINGS ETERNAL REDEMPTION.

*v12 He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but he entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, **having obtained eternal redemption***

The word “*eternal*” means “*abiding, constant, unending, eternal.*” And the word “*redemption*” means “*to release after the payment of a ransom price, after which the guilty party is forever delivered from all guilt and punishment.*” When all these truths are coupled together, we are left with the conclusion that the salvation Jesus provides, and the redemption the saints enjoy is an eternal redemption.

The blood of bulls and goats could only offer temporary relief for forgiven sin, only UNTIL YOU SINNED AGAIN. And I guarantee you some EVEN SINNED AS THEY WERE BRINGING THEIR SACRIFICES.

THERE IS POWER IN THE BLOOD OF JESUS BECAUSE:

5. The blood of Jesus BRINGS INTERNAL RE-LIEF/LEAF.

*v13 The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkled on those who are ceremonially unclean sanctify them so that they are outwardly clean. v14 How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, **cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God!***

There are few greater gifts when you are saved than, “PEACE OF MIND”. Every true believer will know what I am talking about.

YOU JUST KNOW THAT YOU KNOW.

THERE IS POWER IN THE BLOOD OF JESUS BECAUSE:

6. The blood of Jesus BRINGS MERCY.

v15 For this reason Christ is the mediator of a new covenant, that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance--now that he has died as a ransom to set them free from the sins committed under the first covenant.

I have always defined Grace and Mercy in this way.

GRACE is GOD GIVING US SOMETHING WE DON'T DESERVE.

MERCY is GOD WITHHOLDING THAT WHICH WE DO DESERVE.

AND IT IS THE BLOOD OF CHRIST WHICH IGNITES MERCY
JESUS HAS *set them free from the sins committed under the first covenant.*

Our sin deserves to be punished. WE HAVE SINNED. The bible makes it clear in **Romans 3:23** "*for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God*"

THERE IS POWER IN THE BLOOD OF JESUS BECAUSE:

7. The blood of Jesus UNVEILS the NEW COVENANT.

v16 In the case of a will, it is necessary to prove the death of the one who made it, v17 because a will is in force only when somebody has died; it never takes effect while the one who made it is living. v18 This is why even the first covenant was not put into effect without blood. v19 When Moses had proclaimed every commandment of the law to all the people, he took the blood of calves, together with water, scarlet wool and branches of hyssop, and sprinkled the scroll and all the people. v20 He said, "This is the blood of the covenant, which God has commanded you to keep." v21 In the same way, he sprinkled with the blood both the tabernacle and everything used in its ceremonies.

A will only comes into force, once the person who compiled the will, has died.

The BLOOD OF JESUS literally and figuratively UNVEILS the NEW COVENANT. For at the death of Jesus, after JESUS declared, "IT IS FINISHED", the curtain in the Temple, that hid the HOLY OF HOLIES from people, was torn in two, and all could enter the HOLY OF HOLIES because of what Jesus did for us.

THERE IS POWER IN THE BLOOD OF JESUS BECAUSE:

8. The blood of Jesus BRINGS CLEANSING AND FORGIVENESS.

v22 In fact, the law requires that nearly everything be cleansed with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.

William Cooper's hymn speaks of "*a fountain filled with blood drawn from Emmanuel's veins, where sinners, plunged beneath that flood, lose all their guilty stains.*"

The apostle John said that the blood of Jesus Christ "*cleanses from all sin.*"

The multitude in **Revelation 7** had washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

But how is blood a cleaning agent? To us, blood is a soiling or staining agent, something we try to scrub off, not scrub with.

Dr. Henry Brand explained it this way in Christianity Today: “All that we have learned about physiology in recent years confirms the accuracy of the still-jarring juxtaposition of blood and cleansing....

I suggest a simple experiment if you truly wish to grasp the function of blood as a cleansing agent. Find a blood pressure kit and wrap the cuff around your upper arm. When it is in position, have a friend pump it up to about 200 mm. of mercury, a sufficient pressure to stop the flow of blood in your arm. Initially your arm will feel an uncomfortable tightness beneath the cuff. Now comes the revealing part of the experiment: perform any easy task with your cuffed arm. Merely flex your finger and make a fist about ten times in succession, or cut paper with scissors, or drive a nail into wood with a hammer.

The first few movements will seem quite normal as the muscles obediently contract and relax. Then you will feel a slight weakness. Almost without warning a hot flash of pain will strike, after maybe ten movements. Your muscles will cramp. If you force yourself to continue this simple task, you will likely cry out in absolute agony. Finally, you cannot force yourself to continue; the pain overwhelms you.

When you release the tourniquet and air escapes from the cuff, blood will rush into your aching arm and a wonderful sense of relief will soothe your muscles.... Physiologically, you have just experienced the cleansing of the blood.

While the blood supply to your arm was shut off, you forced your muscles to keep working. As they converted oxygen into energy, they produced certain waste products (metabolites) that are normally flushed away instantly in the bloodstream. Due to the constricted blood flow, however, these metabolites accumulated in your cells. They were not “*cleansed*” by the swirling stream of blood, and therefore in a few minutes you felt the agony of retained toxins.”

But, that is the power of the blood to cleanse in a physical sense. On a spiritual level, the blood of Jesus has the power to take the blackest heart and wash it whiter than snow, **Isa. 1:18; 1 John 1:7!**)

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