

## THE BLOOD: DOCTRINE OF

### 1. Animal blood defined:

#### A. Blood is the seat of animal life.

##### Leviticus 17:10-14

- 10** `And any man from the house of Israel, or from the aliens who sojourn among them, who eats any blood, I will set My face against that person who eats blood, and will cut him off from among his people.
- 11** `For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it to you on the altar to make atonement for your souls; for it is the blood by reason of the life that makes atonement.'
- 12** "Therefore I said to the sons of Israel, `No person among you may eat blood, nor may any alien who sojourns among you eat blood.'
- 13** "So when any man from the sons of Israel, or from the aliens who sojourn among them, in hunting catches a beast or a bird which may be eaten, he shall pour out its blood and cover it with earth.
- 14** "For {as for the} life of all flesh, its blood is {identified} with its life. Therefore I said to the sons of Israel, `You are not to eat the blood of any flesh, for the life of all flesh is its blood; whoever eats it shall be cut off.'  
(NAS)

#### B. In the Old Testament shadow worship, the blood of animals was used to represent redemption, the saving work of Christ on the cross.

##### Hebrews 9:18-22

- 18** Therefore even the first {covenant} was not inaugurated without blood.
- 19** For when every commandment had been spoken by Moses to all the people according to the Law, he took the blood of the calves and the goats, with water and scarlet wool and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book itself and all the people,
- 20** saying, "This is the blood of the covenant which God commanded you."
- 21** And in the same way he sprinkled both the tabernacle and all the vessels of the ministry with the blood.
- 22** And according to the Law, {one may} almost {say}, all things are cleansed with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no forgiveness. (NAS)

#### C. From the garments of skin in Genesis 3:21 to the Levitical offerings of Leviticus 1-5, animal blood was used to represent the figurative blood of Christ.

### 2. Animal blood as a representative analogy:

#### A. While the animal blood was real and literal, it does **not** represent the literal blood of Christ shed on the cross. Christ did **not** die by bleeding to death. The animal blood represents the spiritual death of Christ on the cross.

##### Ephesians 2:13

- 13** But now in Christ Jesus you who formerly were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. (NAS)

##### Colossians 1:20

**20 and through Him to reconcile all things to Himself, having made peace through the blood of His cross; through Him, {I say}, whether things on earth or things in heaven. (NAS)**

**Hebrews 10:19**

**19 Since therefore, brethren, we have confidence to enter the holy place by the blood of Jesus, (NAS)**

**1 Peter 1:18-19**

**18 knowing that you were not redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers,**

**19 but with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, {the blood} of Christ. (NAS)**

- B. A real analogy would be a literal death compared to a literal death.
- C. In a real analogy, the physical death of the animal would be compared to the physical death of Christ.
- D. Therefore, animal sacrifice is a representative analogy in which the physical death of the animal on the altar represents the spiritual death of Christ on the cross (two deaths of Christ on the cross: spiritual, then physical).

**Romans 6:4, 9**

**4 Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, in order that as Christ was raised from the deaths [nekrwn-plural] through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.**

**9 knowing that Christ, having been raised from the deaths,[nekrwn-plural] is never to die again; death no longer is master over Him. (Corrected Translation)**

- E. The analogy requires that the blood of Christ be taken figuratively.
3. The physical death of Christ:
- A. The physical death of Christ on the cross occurred by an act of His own volition, not from bleeding to death.

**John 10:17-18**

**17 "For this reason the Father loves Me, because I lay down My life that I may take it again.**

**18 "No one has taken it away from Me, but I lay it down on My own initiative. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This commandment I received from My Father." (NAS)**

- B. After His work on the cross was finished, Christ exhaled His last breath in which He uttered the words of:

**Psalm 31:5**

**5 Into Thy hand I commit my spirit; Thou hast ransomed me, O LORD, God of truth.[doctrine] (NAS)**

**Luke 23:46**

**46 And Jesus, crying out with a loud voice, said, "Father, into Thy hands I commit My spirit." And having said this, He breathed His last. (NAS)**

C. Having exhaled this last sentence, Christ did not inhale again.

**Matthew 27:50**

**50 And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice, and yielded up {His} spirit. (NAS)**

**Mark 15:37**

**37 And Jesus uttered a loud cry, and breathed His last. (NAS)**

**John 19:30**

**30 When Jesus therefore had received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished!" And He bowed His head, and gave up His spirit. (NAS)**

D. Christ had already completed His salvation work for us when He died physically.

E. Therefore, the blood of Christ is part of a representative analogy between the physical death of the animal and the spiritual death of Christ when He was bearing our sins on the cross.

**1 Peter 2:24**

**24 and He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wounds you were healed. (NAS)**

4. The blood of animal sacrifices was a shadow pointing to the reality of the cross.

**Hebrews 9:12-15**

**12 and not through the blood of goats and calves, but through His own blood, He entered the holy place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption.**

**13 For if the blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkling those who have been defiled, sanctify for the cleansing of the flesh,**

**14 how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?**

**15 And for this reason He is the mediator of a new covenant, in order that since a death has taken place for the redemption of the transgressions that were {committed} under the first covenant, those who have been called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance. (NAS)**

5. The blood of Christ depicts the saving work of Christ on the cross through four doctrines of soteriology:

A. Expiation.

**Colossians 2:14**

**14 having canceled out the certificate of debt consisting of [containing] decrees against us [the penalty of sin, spiritual death] {and} which was hostile to us; and He has taken [removed completely] it [our guilt] out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. (Expanded Translation)**

B. Redemption.

**Ephesians 1:7**

**7 In Him we have redemption [the purchase of our freedom from the slave market of sin] through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace, (Expanded Translation)**

C. Justification.

**Romans 5:9**

**9 Much more then, having now been justified [vindicated, acquitted, declared righteous] by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath {of God} through Him. (Expanded Translation)**

D. Sanctification.

**Hebrews 13:12**

**12 Therefore Jesus also, that He might sanctify [set apart unto God] the people through His own blood, suffered outside the gate. [of Jerusalem, on the hill Golgotha] (NAS)**

6. The blood of Christ in expiation is the basis for the rebound technique.

A. Sin offering: Rebound with emphasis on the unknown sins of the believer.

**Leviticus 4:1-2**

**1 Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,**

**2 "Speak to the sons of Israel, saying, `If a person sins unintentionally in any of the things which the LORD has commanded not to be done, and commits any of them, (NAS)**

B. Trespass offering: Rebound with emphasis on the known sins of the believer. (Leviticus 5-6:7)

C. New Testament counterpart:

**1 John 1:7, 9**

**7 but if we walk in the light [proper adjustment to God] as He Himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin. [known and unknown]**

**9 If we confess [name, cite, identify] our sins, [personal sins] He [God/Father] is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.[known and unknown sins] (Expanded Translation)**

7. The true meaning of the blood of Christ is set forth in the direction of the doctrines of soteriology:

A. Redemption- sinward.

B. Reconciliation- manward.

C. Propitiation- Godward.

D. Sin has estranged two parties- God and man. The mediator solves the sin problem by redemption. As the Savior, Jesus Christ reconciles man and propitiates God.

**Hebrews 9:15**

**15 And for this reason He [Jesus Christ] is the mediator of a new covenant, [the finished work of grace] in order that since a death [Jesus' spiritual death] has taken place for the redemption [ransom payment] of the**

**transgressions that were {committed} under the first covenant, [Mosaic Law] those who have been called [by God] may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance.[salvation] (Expanded Translation)**

E. Therefore, the blood of Christ is analogous to redemption, reconciliation, and propitiation.