



Lesson 12

The Blood of Jesus

INTRODUCTION

There is SO MUCH POWER in the blood of Jesus. As we learned in the previous lessons, the blood of Jesus is one of our weapons to defeat Satan.

Revelation 12 gives an account of the war that happened in heaven. Michael and his angels prevailed over the dragon and his angels. The dragon (Satan) was then thrown down to earth.

NOW WAR AROSE IN HEAVEN, MICHAEL AND HIS ANGELS FIGHTING AGAINST THE DRAGON. AND THE DRAGON AND HIS ANGELS FOUGHT BACK, BUT HE WAS DEFEATED, AND THERE WAS NO LONGER ANY PLACE FOR THEM IN HEAVEN. AND THE GREAT DRAGON WAS THROWN DOWN, THAT ANCIENT SERPENT, WHO IS CALLED THE DEVIL AND SATAN, THE DECEIVER OF THE WHOLE WORLD- HE WAS THROWN DOWN TO THE EARTH, AND HIS ANGELS WERE THROWN DOWN WITH HIM. REVELATION 12:7-9 (ESV)

Satan is a defeated foe and as believers we have to constantly remind him of that fact. We (believers) have conquered Satan by the blood of Jesus! When we take on the blood of the Lamb, the blood of Jesus, we are called to die to self.

...FOR THE ACCUSER OF OUR BROTHERS HAS BEEN THROWN DOWN, WHO ACCUSES THEM DAY AND NIGHT BEFORE OUR GOD. AND THEY HAVE CONQUERED HIM BY THE BLOOD OF THE LAMB AND BY THE WORD OF THEIR TESTIMONY, FOR THEY LOVED NOT THEIR LIVES EVEN UNTO DEATH. REVELATION 12:10B-11 (ESV)

THE PROPERTIES OF BLOOD

THE BLOOD IS THE LIFE-GIVER

The Bible defines blood as life. It is a life carrier. Life = Blood.

FOR THE LIFE OF EVERY CREATURE IS ITS BLOOD: ITS BLOOD IS ITS LIFE...
LEVITICUS 17:14 (ESV)

In the human body, if blood flow is cut off from any organ, then that organ will die. Blood not only carries oxygen and nutrients to organs, it also removes un-useful and toxic particles away from organs. Scripture tells us that blood began to flow/move through the body in the garden.

AND THE LORD GOD FORMED MAN OF THE DUST OF THE GROUND, AND BREATHED
INTO HIS NOSTRILS THE BREATH OF LIFE; AND MAN BECAME A LIVING BEING.
GENESIS 2:7 (NKJV)

THE BLOOD MAKES ATONEMENT

The blood is cleansing. It is a covering of forgiveness and reconciliation. In the Garden of Eden, directly after Adam and Eve sinned by eating of the fruit of the forbidden tree, they were removed from God's covering.

AT THAT MOMENT THEIR EYES WERE OPENED, AND THEY SUDDENLY FELT SHAME AT
THEIR NAKEDNESS. SO THEY SEWED FIG LEAVES TOGETHER TO COVER THEMSELVES.
GENESIS 3:7 (NLT)

There is literally nothing that we can do (no amount of good works) on our own to bring ourselves back into relationship with God. Our good works are not God's recipe for atonement. **Blood is our covering; blood makes atonement for us.**

FOR THE LIFE OF A CREATURE IS IN THE BLOOD, AND I HAVE GIVEN IT TO YOU TO
MAKE ATONEMENT FOR YOURSELVES ON THE ALTAR; IT IS THE BLOOD THAT MAKES
ATONEMENT FOR ONE'S LIFE. LEVITICUS 17:11 (NIV)

Hebrews 9:22 gives the definition of atonement.

INDEED, UNDER THE LAW ALMOST EVERYTHING IS PURIFIED WITH BLOOD, AND
WITHOUT THE SHEDDING OF BLOOD THERE IS NO FORGIVENESS OF SINS.
HEBREWS 9:22 (ESV)

God is love. He loved His creation so much that He was not willing to put Adam and Eve to immediate death. Instead, He was willing to provide a substitute to die in their place.

AND THE LORD GOD MADE FOR ADAM AND FOR HIS WIFE GARMENTS OF SKINS AND CLOTHED THEM. GENESIS 3:21 (ESV)

Genesis 3:21 tells us that an innocent animal had to die so that Adam and Eve could be covered. This is a picture of innocent Jesus dying for us. We are able to put on the blood of Jesus and live under His covering.

THE BLOOD SPEAKS

Genesis 4 tells the story of brothers, Cain and Abel, where spilled blood spoke. Both brothers brought sacrifices to God. Cain, a farmer, brought fruits of the ground. Abel, a rancher, brought the best of his first-born as an offering. God was pleased with Abel and had no regard for the offering that Cain brought. The key here is that Abel gave an offering by faith!

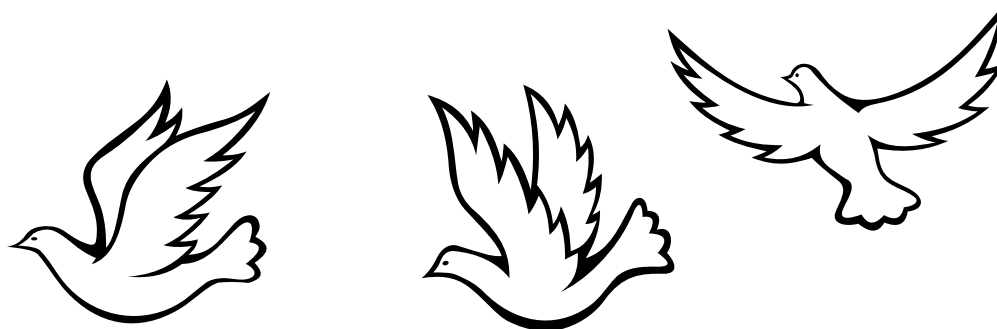
BY FAITH ABEL BROUGHT GOD A BETTER OFFERING THAN CAIN DID. BY FAITH HE WAS COMMENDED AS RIGHTEOUS, WHEN GOD SPOKE WELL OF HIS OFFERINGS. AND BY FAITH ABEL STILL SPEAKS, EVEN THOUGH HE IS DEAD. HEBREWS 11:4 (NIV)

Abel had faith in God and he wanted to offer his best to God. Abel gave God a blood sacrifice and Cain was not willing to do that. God, in His love and grace, urged Cain to make a proper sacrifice. Cain was not willing to make a proper sacrifice and in his anger killed his brother Abel. The spilled blood of Abel spoke to God!

THEN THE LORD SAID TO CAIN, "WHERE IS YOUR BROTHER ABEL?" "I DON'T KNOW," HE REPLIED. "AM I MY BROTHER'S KEEPER?" THE LORD SAID, "WHAT HAVE YOU DONE? LISTEN! YOUR BROTHER'S BLOOD CRIES OUT TO ME FROM THE GROUND." GENESIS 4:9-10 (NIV)

The spilled blood of Jesus STILL speaks grace and mercy, a better word than the spilled blood of Abel. (Heb. 12:24)

An example of blood speaking today: A doctor can do a blood test on a patient to determine an illness. When the doctor tests the blood, the blood speaks volumes and is able to tell the doctor many things.



THE BLOOD IS A COVENANT MAKER

In the story of “Noah and the Ark,” God sent a mighty rainfall that covered the earth. Noah and his family were spared after spending a year on the ark. What is easily missed in the reading is the fact that the first thing that Noah did when he got off the ark was build an altar for sacrifice to God.

THEN NOAH BUILT AN ALTAR TO THE LORD AND TOOK SOME OF EVERY CLEAN ANIMAL AND SOME OF EVERY CLEAN BIRD AND OFFERED BURNT OFFERINGS ON THE ALTAR. AND WHEN THE LORD SMELLED THE PLEASING AROMA, THE LORD SAID IN HIS HEART, “I WILL NEVER AGAIN CURSE THE GROUND BECAUSE OF MAN...” GENESIS 8:20-21 (ESV)

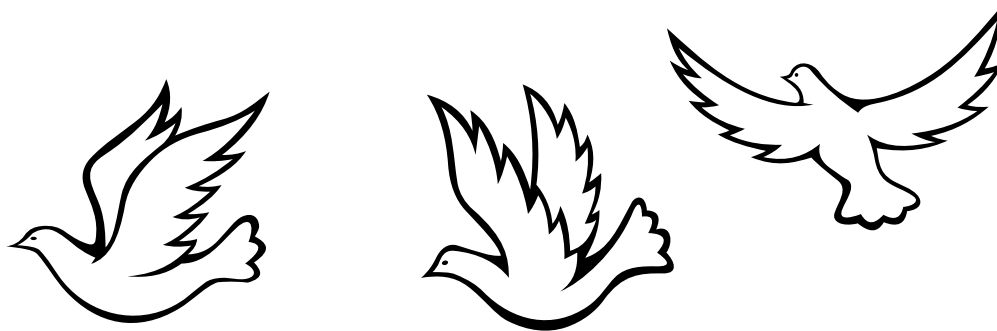
Then, in Genesis 9, the word “covenant” appears in the Bible for the first time. It is referencing the “pleasing aroma” from the above verse. Additionally, every covenant that God made thereafter with man had a blood sacrifice attached to it.

BLOOD = A COVENANT MAKER. IT SEALS THE DEAL!

Ancient leaders would use blood to seal promises. In ancient times, when countries wanted to go into covenant with one another, the individual leaders of each country would prick their finger to cause it to bleed. Each would then drop small amounts of blood into a single wine glass that the leaders would drink from. Their blood bound the promise.

Each time we take communion, we enter into blood covenant with God. We symbolically drink our Lord’s blood/identity.

...THIS CUP IS THE NEW COVENANT IN MY BLOOD, WHICH IS SHED FOR YOU.
LUKE 22:20 (NKJV)



THE BLOOD PROTECTS

Moses (the man who was called by God to deliver His people from bondage) gave specific instructions of protection to the Israelites.

THEN MOSES CALLED ALL THE ELDERS OF ISRAEL AND SAID TO THEM, “GO AND SELECT LAMBS FOR YOURSELVES ACCORDING TO YOUR CLANS, AND KILL THE PASSOVER LAMB. TAKE A BUNCH OF HYSSOP AND DIP IT IN THE BLOOD THAT IS IN THE BASIN, AND TOUCH THE LINTEL AND THE TWO DOORPOSTS WITH THE BLOOD THAT IS IN THE BASIN. NONE OF YOU SHALL GO OUT OF THE DOOR OF HIS HOUSE UNTIL THE MORNING. FOR THE LORD WILL PASS THROUGH TO STRIKE THE EGYPTIANS, AND WHEN HE SEES THE BLOOD ON THE LINTEL AND ON THE TWO DOORPOSTS, THE LORD WILL PASS OVER THE DOOR AND WILL NOT ALLOW THE DESTROYER TO ENTER YOUR HOUSES TO STRIKE YOU.”
EXODUS 12:21-23 (ESV)

The blood shed by the innocent animal in these Exodus verses was painted over doorways to form a cross at the door. This is a beautiful picture of the true Passover Lamb! Those who trust in Jesus (through His shed blood for them) receive eternal life and are free from guilt and death. The Israelites put their faith in God AND THEN they were obedient to God’s instruction.

Faith and obedience unlocks the supernatural. Likewise, it takes faith and obedience to activate the blood protection of Jesus!

THE BLOOD OF JESUS

We can put our faith in Jesus’ blood because He has the blood of His Father.

AND BEHOLD, YOU WILL CONCEIVE IN YOUR WOMB AND BEAR A SON, AND YOU SHALL CALL HIS NAME JESUS. LUKE 1:31 (ESV)

Luke 1:31 describes the most amazing conception because human conception does not take place in the womb. Conception takes place in the fallopian tubes, where the sperm fertilizes the egg and then travels to the womb. This verse describes the miracle of the birth of Jesus. He was so miraculously conceived in the womb, where Mary’s blood never penetrates. This was according to God’s perfect design because Jesus’ blood could not be contaminated by Mary’s blood. His blood had to be perfect and holy. Mary, a daughter of Adam, had blood that had been tainted by sin. Her blood type could not mix with the blood of Jesus.

BLOOD CLEANSSES SEVEN WAYS

The number seven is the number of completion (the perfect number).

1. IT COVERS OUR MINDS:

In the Garden of Gethsemane, sweat as drops of blood - for our minds.

AND BEING IN ANGUISH, HE PRAYED MORE EARNESTLY, AND HIS SWEAT WAS LIKE DROPS OF BLOOD FALLING TO THE GROUND. LUKE 22:44 (NIV)

Jesus sweating drops of blood is backed up by science. Stress and strain can actually break capillaries. In the Garden of Gethsemane, Jesus was lifting the weight of the world (talk about stress)!

2. IT COVERS OUR SHAME: JESUS OFFERED HIS FACE TO COVER OUR SHAME.

JUST AS THERE WERE MANY WHO WERE APPALLED AT HIM- HIS APPEARANCE WAS SO DISFIGURED BEYOND THAT OF ANY HUMAN BEING AND HIS FORM MARRED BEYOND HUMAN LIKENESS... ISAIAH 52:14 (NIV)

I GAVE MY BACK TO THOSE WHO STRIKE, AND MY CHEEKS TO THOSE WHO PULL OUT THE BEARD; I HID NOT MY FACE FROM DISGRACE AND SPITTING. ISAIAH 50:6 (ESV)

He suffered physical abuse and shame for our sake.

3. IT COVERS US FOR OUR HEALING: JESUS OFFERED HIS BACK FOR OUR HEALING.

FOR BY HIS WOUNDS WE ARE HEALED. ISAIAH 53:5 (NIV)

4. IT CHANGES OUR CURSES TO BLESSINGS: THE CROWN OF THORNS CHANGES OUR CURSES INTO BLESSINGS.

When Adam and Eve originally sinned, God cursed the ground which caused thorns and thistles to grow. (Genesis 3:17-18)

It was no mistake that a crown of thorns was placed on Jesus, head causing Him to bleed profusely from His head. He said that He would take the curse because He wanted His people (us) blessed.

5. IT COVERS THE WORK OF OUR HANDS: NAILS IN HIS HANDS - FOR OUR WORK.

To cover our hands so that we are able to do the work that He has called us to do.

6. IT COVERS OUR WALK: NAILS IN HIS FEET - FOR OUR WALK.

This is so our walk can be washed in the blood. We are able to walk the walk that He has called us to walk.

7. IT COVERS OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM: THE SPEAR IN HIS SIDE BRINGS FORTH WATER AND BLOOD - CREATING THE BRIDE OF CHRIST.

John 3:3-8 says that we need to be born of water (which is birthed) and the Spirit.

CONCLUSION

Jesus' Blood Covers Our Past, Present, And Future

There is not a single thing that cannot be cleansed by the precious love of Christ the Lamb. His last words: It is finished.

THE PAST: through His blood, we are forgiven

...TO HIM WHO LOVES US AND HAS FREED US FROM OUR SINS BY HIS BLOOD...
REVELATION 1:5B (NIV)

THE PRESENT: through His blood, He cleanses and purifies us (present tense)

BUT IF WE WALK IN THE LIGHT, AS HE IS IN THE LIGHT, WE HAVE FELLOWSHIP
WITH ONE ANOTHER, AND THE BLOOD OF JESUS, HIS SON, PURIFIES US FROM ALL
SIN. 1 JOHN 1:7 (NIV)

THE FUTURE: through His blood, we are justified and sanctified (we have an eternal home)

SINCE WE HAVE NOW BEEN JUSTIFIED BY HIS BLOOD, HOW MUCH MORE SHALL WE
BE SAVED FROM GOD'S WRATH THROUGH HIM! ROMANS 5:9 (NIV)

