Today's Order of Worship

Announcements: Greg Lowery

Song Leader: Eddy Dickinson

Opening Prayer: Joshua Berryhill

On the Table: Head - Ralph Burleson

Servers - Bradley Box David Key

Greg Lowery

Closing Prayer: Al Corkren

Preparing the Lord's Supper Katie Berryhill

Weekly Service Times

Sunday

Bible Study 10:00 am Morning Worship 10:45 am Evening Worship 5:00 pm

Wednesday

Bible Study 7:00 pm

Visit Our Website

www.brilliantchurchofchrist.org

Elders: Deacons: Al Corkren / Josh Berryhill

Leonard Key / David Key

Billy Box / Eddy Dickinson Minister: Greg Lowery

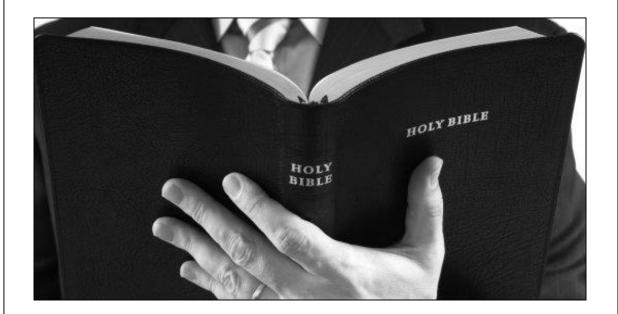
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Brilliant, AL 35548

Why Serve God



The Brilliant Beacon



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The Grace Of God Provides The Blood Of Christ

By Don Simpson

Christ resolved, by the grace of God, to lay down His life as a sacrifice. John 10:17, 18 reads: ". . . I lay down my life, that I may take it again. No one taketh it away from me, but I lay it down of myself. . ." The apostles regarded it exactly in this light: He "gave Himself up" (Eph. 5:2, 25; Gal. 2:20; 1 Pet. 2:23). His violent and cruel death was a voluntary sacrifice. It was a divine act, resulting from no merit of man.

This writer wishes to note three blessings which come through the grace of God with particular emphasis on "the blood of Christ". The proposition is stated: The grace of God provides the blood of Christ wherein is (1) remission of sins, (2) reconciliation, and (3) redemption.

Remission of Sins

Throughout the Old Covenant the use of blood is vested with cleansing, expiatory, and symbolic qualities which reverently point toward Christ. In the Old Covenant an expiatory animal was to shed blood (Lev. 5:6). But for the remission of sins there is required the vicarious shedding of Christ's blood (1 John 1:7). Hebrews 9:22 reads: "...apart from shedding of blood there is no remission".

The blood of Christ is essential for sins to be remitted. Christ said: "...this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins (Matt. 26:28). The preposition "eis" indicates that it is essential "in order to obtain" the remission of sins. The same preposition appears again in Acts 2:38 where "unto the remission of sins" modifies "repent" and "be baptized". The preposition looks forward and not backward (i.e., not "because of"). A penitent believer is not saved by water, but by the blood of Christ. However, water is essential "for the remission of sins" since one is to be "born of water and the Spirit" (John 3:5).

THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS

Mary Rainey: has bone cancer throughout her body, please be praying for her and her family

Patty Berryhill: having problems with a hernia, please pray that the doctors can help her with this problem

Billy Lee & Jimmie Ann Hardy {Carolyn's Brother & Sister} both are in the nursing home in Guin, please continue to pray for them they both have some health issues

Joey Colburn: is taking treatments for cancer, please pray that the treatments will be successful in defeating his cancer

Don Lawrence: dealing with some heath issues, please continue to keep him your prayers

Buddy Frazier: undergoing cancer treatments, please keep him in your prayers

Hunter Coal Corkren: treating his kidney problem with medicine, please be praying that this problem clears up with this treatment

Felicia Berryhill: she is having some ongoing health problems, please pray that she will be able to receive the right medical treatment to help her

Al Corkren: still recovering from fractured leg, please be praying that he has no setbacks.

Angie Ganey Gardner: breast cancer surgery went well and is waiting learn the next course of treatment, please pray that this cancer will be defeated

David Warren: has been diagnosed with cancer, please pray that it will be treatable

Bobby Sanderson: continues to improve, please pray he has no further problems

Gunner Pendley: suffering from severe brain injury, please keep him and family in your prayers

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THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS

Wyatt Spann: is currently fighting a brain tumor, please pray that with medical help he can win this fight

Pam Davis (Adrian's daughter) has been diagnosed with cancer, please be praying that it can be defeated with treatment

Indee Kois {student at BHS}: she is still dealing with some health issues, please pray that the doctors will be able to help her

Frank Farris: is recovering from a stroke, please keep him in your prayers

Kye Jackson: (Lindsey's son) diagnosed with arthritis he is 2 years old, pray that he will receive successful treatment for this arthritis

Jeff Upton (Donna Martian's Co-worker): weakness in his legs, please pray that this will improve

Judy Shirley: had part of her lung removed because of cancer and is waiting to hear from the doctors, please pray that she will receive good news

Mary Box: recovering from cracked ribs and some other health problems, please pray that she will get better

Winfred York: is in the nursing home at Hamilton dealing with injures from recent automobile accident, please keep him and Mrs. Vertie in your prayers

Ren Garrison (Donna Martian's Nephew): will have an operation October 17th dealing with an issue concerning his heart, please be praying that surgery will be successful in dealing with this problem.

Through the blood of Christ there is justification (Rom. 5:9). The word "justified' signifies legal acquittal from guilt. This is a forensic justification where the one acquitted is rendered guiltless as if he had never sinned. All that was necessary on God's part for man's justification has been effected in terms of the blood of Christ. Without that blood there is no salvation (Acts 20:28; Eph. 1:7 Heb. 9:22).

Reconciliation

Man is reconciled through the blood of Christ (i.e., brought back to God). Romans 5:10 states: "For it, while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son,..." The word "enemies" expresses man's hostile attitude to God, indicating that until this change of attitude takes place, men are exposed to the wrath of God.

The removal of God's wrath, conditioned upon man's obedience, does not infringe upon the immutability of God. Unconditional grace, without obedience required, would violate the immutability of God. The holiness of God cannot be unconditionally reconciled to the unholiness of evil men. An obedient change is required, predicated upon the sacrificial death of Christ. God never changes in His nature, nor violates His own law. However, the attitude of God toward man will change when man changes. Never once is

God said to be reconciled. The enmity is on man's part. It is man who needs to be reconciled to God, not God to man.

But what will remove divine wrath once man is obedient to God? This is where grace comes in. In Eph. 2:16 Paul writes: "...and might reconcile them both in one body unto God through the cross, having slain the enmity thereby: ..." Only the blood of Christ can remit sin that produces wrath, and thereby make "peace" (Col. 1:20). Both Jew and Gentile are reconciled to God through the cross, and reconciled to each other in one body by the blood of Christ.

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Redemption

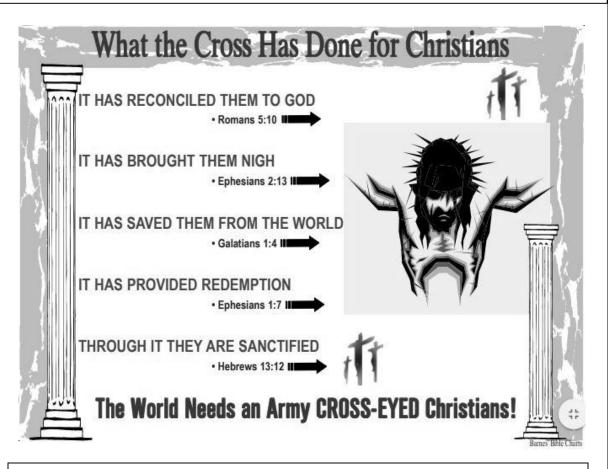
Through the blood of Christ there is the song of redemption (Rev. 5:9). Rev. 5:6 pictures a Lamb standing in the majesty of "the Lion that is of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David". There Christ the Lamb stands in the midst of the throne, preparing to receive the sovereignty of the Kingdom. He stands as a Lamb slain, with its throat cut, with blood pouring forth unto death. The blood of Christ is the basis of redemption for it is the price paid for man's iniquity.

Christ is the Lamb without blemish or spot (1 Pet. 1:19). Animals offered as sacrifices were to be without blemish (Ex. 12:5; Lev. 22:19-21). The blood of animals could never take away sins; yet it is written: "For the life of the flesh is in the blood; and I have given it to you upon the altar to make atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh atonement by reason of the life" (Lev. 17:11). The blood of animals prefigured the blood of

Christ through which expiation for sin is made.

Through the blood of Christ man is redeemed (bought back). This redemption brings emancipation from spiritual bondage. Freedom from sin is illustrated in Lev. 14 of the ceremonial cleansing of the leper. Two birds are taken. One is slain over clean or running water. The second, whose leg is tied to a hyssop branch, is dipped into the blood of the dead bird and then set free to fly. The bird that was killed is a "type" of Christ, therefore, illustrating liberation from sin through His blood.

The Spiritual Sword, vol. 17, no. 4, July 1986, p. 10-11.



Upcoming Events

Today Country Place 2:00 pm

September 6th Breakfast Football & Band

September 8th Nursing Home 2:00 pm

September 15th Fellowship Meal