

THE BLOOD OF THE LAMB

Part 1

The Price of Redemption

I'm truly convinced that God who wanted the world to take another look at Calvary inspired Mel Gibson's movie "The Passion of the Christ". Jesus – the principle figure in all the history of mankind – is little known and understood and so are the meaning of Calvary, the Cross, Redemption, and the shedding of blood.

In Proverbs 24: 3-4 we read: *By wisdom a house is built, and by understanding it is established and by knowledge the rooms are filled with all precious and pleasant riches.*

We, the Body of Christ, are the house that the Lord is building to Himself, for a habitation. Knowledge is the accumulation of pleasant truths, which fills the house. Yes indeed there is much knowledge in the house of God. However understanding establishes it. It gives the house a solid foundation, it settles what's wavering and weak; in other words it makes the person firmer in the faith. The word itself says it: understanding = to stand under, to support, to hold you in the mind (would you say that it suggests having a **sound mind?**). It is the ability to take hold of God's ideas so that we can have His mind, which is **sound and firm**.

Another meaning of this word is "to be intelligent". The person who is intelligent is the person who "reads in" (from the Italian word "leggere" = to read), the person who is skillful in taking hold of ideas, meanings, in separating mentally and thus rightly dividing the Word of truth (2 Tim.2: 15).

In English we have the expression "I read you" to convey that we have gone past the hearing of the words spoken and have comprehended what the other person intended to communicate.

When it comes to things pertaining to God and His Word, understanding comes by Revelation. Peter understood who Jesus was, when he exclaimed: "you are the Christ, the Son of the Living God".

I said all the above to state that we need a fresh revelation that would open our understanding of the work, the benefit, and the power of the Blood of Jesus, given for our complete redemption. Jesus came to redeem us from death and to bring us to LIFE. For this reason the whole plan of Redemption hinges on the one principle that runs throughout the Bible:

THE LIFE OF THE FLESH IS IN THE BLOOD. Lev.17: 11

The very property of blood is LIFE, both in the physical and in the spiritual realm.

When a doctor orders a blood test, it's usually to find out if the body is diseased; indeed then the "**life**" is in the blood".

When Adam sinned, the human blood became diseased, his blood carried the sentence of death, both in the physical realm and in the spiritual "*...the soul that sinneth, it shall die*" Ezek 18: 4. Spiritually Adam died right away and when that happened, the death processes was put in motion in the physical body also. Someone put it this way: "eating of the tree of knowledge of good and evil caused blood poisoning" and it brought death to the human race because all mankind is related to Adam by blood. The only thing that can drive out DEATH is LIFE. As a transfusion of "good" blood can stop the process of death in the natural, so it is in the spirit. Spiritual (Eternal) LIFE is in the blood, but not in the human blood that contains the poison of Adam's sin, but in the pure, spotless, uncorrupted, precious blood of the Son of God.

Peter wrote: *Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold... but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.* 1 Pet 1:18-19

The preciousness of Jesus' blood surpasses by far that of Adam's blood even as the value of silver and gold (the most valuable stones found on earth) is above that of other metals. Furthermore, silver and gold as precious as they are, can corrupt, but Jesus' blood is incorruptible.

In his book "The precious blood", David Alsobrook points out that the insurmountable value of the blood of Jesus, was demonstrated by the system of animal sacrifice in the Old Testament. Animals were the livelihood of the people in Bible land. They were very precious possessions, so that when a person gave one of His animals as a sin offering, it cost him (or her) quite a lot. The reading about the sacrifices offered by Solomon and the nation of Israel during the dedication of the Temple (I Kin 8:62-64) provides a visual of the enormous cost and bloody mess involved in the process. Yet, it doesn't even come close to what happened at the Cross. He continues to say, "redemption was not cheap and the Cross was not a pretty sight".

Even the movie "The Passion" as realistic as it is does not totally portray the devilish insanity and cruelty of hell itself and the excruciating suffering of our Precious Savior. The modern Church must repent for watering down the message of salvation that leaves out the mentioning of sin and the need of contrition.

God purchased the Church by HIS own blood

Jesus' blood was not common or human, nor could it be in order to carry Life in it. (Adam's blood carries death). So from whom did Jesus get His blood? Our Savior did not get his blood from Mary, like many believe. Dott. M.R. DeHaan, in his book titled "The Chemistry Of The Blood" states that *"the mother provides the fetus with the nutritive elements ...but all the blood which forms in it, is formed in the embryo itself. From the time of conception to the time of birth of the infant, no one single drop of blood ever passes from mother to child"*. Later he writes: *"...yet it is only after the sperm has entered the ovum and a fetus begins to develop that blood appears."*

We know that every child is born with the blood type of his or her father, but Jesus had no earthly father, so His blood came from God, even as the Bible tells us in Acts 20:28: *"Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of **God** which He purchased with **His own blood**."* (Emphasis added).

Note: the pronoun "HIS" refers to the noun: GOD".

Yet, God is a Spirit and spirits have no blood because they don't have a body.

The birth of Jesus was a miracle. To gain an understanding of this great miracle we need to go back to creation. What happened there?

1. **The Miracle of Creation** Gen 1:2-3 *And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And **the Spirit of God** moved upon the face of the waters. And **God said**, Let there be light: and there was light.* (Emphasis added). When the miracle of creation started, the Spirit moved and God spoke the words "let there be light". **The Spirit and the Word are both involved**. In verse 26 "God said", (here is the Word again), "let us make man..." then in **Gen.2: 7** we read: *"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 soul**."* (Emphasis added). The breath of God is His Spirit. The breath put something in Adam that made him alive. It had to be blood because "the life of the flesh is in the blood". In fact, life is possible because the blood carries the oxygen from the lungs to every cell of the body and the body lives. Humans need breath to live, but do not live because they have breath; they live because the blood circulates that breath within the body.

The word for 'life' in the Hebrew is "Nephesh" which means "the breathing one". Literally then, the "breathing" (nephesh = life) is in the blood!"

2. **The Miracle of Conception** At the birth of Jesus as well, we see the Word (Rhema) and the Spirit being active in the creative miracle of conception in the womb of the virgin Mary. In Luke 1:30-31 the Angel came to Mary with God's WORD: "... *Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favor with God. And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shall call his name JESUS.*" Then in verse 35 of the same chapter, we read of the Spirit overshadowing Mary: "*and the angel ...**said** unto her, The **Holy Ghost** shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.*" (Emphasis added). Now the Word or the Rhema (Promise) of God is the seed, as Jesus told His disciples in the parable of the sower (Luke 8:10-11). It is interesting that the word "seed" in many New Testament passages is the Greek word "sperma" (see Mark 12:20; Luke 20:28; Gal.3: 16; Rev.12: 17). The "seed of God" entered Mary's ovum when she received by faith the **Word** spoken to her by the Angel and she said: "... Let it be to me according to your **Word.**" Luke 1:38 The Blood came into Jesus by the Father when the **Holy Spirit** (the Ruach or Breath) overshadowed Mary (Luke 1:35). Mary provided for Jesus a human body but the blood came from God. He was both man and God. The virgin birth was necessary because no drop of human blood could be in Him. Jesus could take part of Adam's flesh but not of his blood, which was sinful. Heb 2:14 "*Inasmuch then as the children have **partaken** of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise **shared** in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil*" (Emphasis added) Notice the two verbs highlighted in this passage: the first one "partaken" comes from the Greek word "KOYNONEHO" which means, " to share fully", while the second one "shared" comes from the Greek word "METECHO" which means "to take part but not all". ¹

Note of interest: ancient mythology believed that ICHOR, a light fluid, flowed in the veins of the gods. This fluid consisted in a mixture of blood and water. When the roman soldier pierced Jesus' side, water and blood came out of it. It was then that he cried: "truly this was the Son of God!" It was uniqueness of Jesus blood that convinced him that Jesus was the Son of God. ²

3. **The Miracle of the New Birth** The Word and the Spirit are the agents of the new birth also. Jesus Himself told Nicodemus that no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again of **water** and of the **Spirit** (John 3:5). The water is the Word (Eph.5: 26 "...*That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of **water** by the **word**.*" (Emphasis added) The Word is also the "seed", or "sperm" of God, therefore the Apostle Peter declares: "...*having been born again, not of corruptible **seed** but incorruptible, through the **word** of God which lives and abides forever...Now **this is the word** which by the **gospel** was preached to you.*" 1 Pet 1:23-25 (Emphasis added).

When a repentant sinner believes the truth of the Gospel preached, the seed of God's Word enters his/her heart (womb) and Eternal Life begins within. With that Life the power of the spotless blood of Jesus is made available to us to cleanse, sanctify and transform us until we are once again made into His Image.

Laura Pedota

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The chemistry of the Blood by M.R. DeHaan

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The Power of the precious blood by Gwen Shaw