

# CHEMISTRY OF THE BLOOD – PART 3

## Leviticus 17:11

**11 For the LIFE of the flesh is IN THE BLOOD:**

Our first chemistry lesson is taken directly from this verse.

## CHEMISTRY LESSON # 1: The Blood Is LIFE

If blood is the source of life, then it shouldn't surprise us that Christ's blood is the source of *eternal* life!

## John 6:53

**53 Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and DRINK HIS BLOOD, ye HAVE NO LIFE IN YOU.**

Jesus gave His life (blood) in exchange for ours. Those who believe (receive) this, shall have eternal life.

The blood is ALSO the basis of our relationship with God.

## CHEMISTRY LESSON # 2: The Blood COVERS

One of the properties of blood is that it stains (or covers) whatever it touches. Moreover, it's this "covering" caused by the blood that enables us to come before God without fear or condemnation!

## Exodus 24:8

**8 And Moses took the blood, and SPRINKLED IT ON THE PEOPLE,**

"Sprinkling" the people with blood points to the Day of Atonement when the high priest would *sprinkle* blood upon the mercy-seat. This sprinkling of blood is what secured *propitiation* for the people. Meaning, the sprinkling of blood removed the obstacles that kept the people from coming to God.

## Exodus 24:9–10

**9 Then WENT UP Moses, and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel: 10 And THEY SAW THE GOD OF ISRAEL: and *there was* under his feet as it were a paved work of a sapphire stone, and as it were the body of heaven in *his* clearness.**

Notice that these men (Aaron, Nadab, Abihu and the seventy elders) "went up" to meet with God AFTER they were "sprinkled" with blood!

This is significant because prior to this (in chapter 20) these *same* men were *afraid* to meet with God! Thus, it was the “sprinkling of blood” that gave these men the courage to approach God with confidence.

### Hebrews 10:22

**22 Let us DRAW NEAR with a true heart in full assurance of faith, HAVING OUR HEARTS SPRINKLED from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.**

Notice, it's the “sprinkling” of blood that gives men the courage to draw near to God with confidence (i.e. “in full assurance of faith”)!

Now, there are some sins the blood will NOT cover.

### Hebrews 10:26

**26 For if we SIN WILFULLY after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth NO MORE SACRIFICE for sins,**

Notice, the blood does not cover willful sin. This means, we can't continue to commit willful sin without punishment. As we grow in knowledge, God will hold us more and more responsible. In other words, God's expectation grows as we grow!

This principle is rarely understood by people. It's also the reason why many people struggle with the God of the Old Testament.

*For example, many people find it hard to understand how God would permit, and in some cases order, the killing of innocent women and children in the Bible. First of all, we must understand that the people God ordered Israel to kill in the Old Testament weren't innocent. In fact, the inhabitants of Canaan were very brutal and regularly engaged in immoral acts like bestiality, incest and even child sacrifice! Therefore, ordering Israel to kill the inhabitants of Canaan was, in one sense, a form of punishment for their sins. Now, some people still might object to women and children being 'targeted' by the Israelites. But, the Israelites didn't 'target' women and children. In other words, their death did not come because of some hatred Israel had for them. Instead, women and children died in the context of war, a war which was a consequence of God's judgment. And this form of judgment that was executed on the Canaanites was also executed upon the Israelites. Meaning, their women and their children were subjected to death when the nation was punished!*

*But, there's a crucial part to all this that no one is talking about. In other words, there's a redemptive side to many of the things we see in the Old*

*Testament. However, we won't see it UNTIL we compare what God permitted and often required Israel to do with what was the norm in that day. For example, in that day it was normal for an invading army to rape the women that were taken in war. However, Israelite were forbidden to do this. If an Israelite soldier found a woman desirable that was taken in war, they had to marry her first! There were other rules that set Israel apart from other nations.*

What this teaches us is that even though God permitted His people to do things we might regard with contempt today, they were things that were acceptable in that day. Moreover, the things God required His people to do was considerably more ethical and good than the other nations. And from this we can conclude...

- *God holds people responsible only for what they know.*
- *God's expectation of people grows slowly and incrementally.*

The problem comes when people interpret God's *tolerance* with an *endorsement* of sin. God (and the Bible) are regularly accused of endorsing things like violence, polygamy and even slavery. But, this is only because people have assumed that God's tolerance of these practices in Scripture is a kind of endorsement. They fail to understand that God rarely forces His will upon a culture. Instead, He will slowly move a society towards His divine standard. Moreover, this inability to properly distinguish between *truth* and what men are *responsible* for, has led to individuals judging God (and others) unfairly!

People assume that God holds everyone responsible for everything written in the *Bible*. The truth is, He only holds us responsible for what's written on our *heart*!

### **2 Corinthians 3:3**

**<sup>3</sup> Forasmuch as ye are manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ ministered by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; not in tables of stone, but in FLESHLY TABLES OF THE HEART.**

We're only responsible for the things written on our hearts. Everything else is *covered by the blood*.

*Incidentally, we ought to be doing the same out of love!*

### **1 Peter 4:8**

**<sup>8</sup> And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for CHARITY SHALL COVER THE MULTITUDE OF SINS.**

We should also add that access to this "coverage" is really only available to those who are *converted*!

### James 5:20

**<sup>20</sup> Let him know, that he which CONVERTETH THE SINNER from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall HIDE A MULTITUDE OF SINS.**

### Hebrews 10:26–27

**<sup>26</sup> For if we SIN WILFULLY after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, <sup>27</sup> But a certain fearful looking for of JUDGMENT AND FIERY INDIGNATION, which shall devour the adversaries.**

Why does God judge us for willful sin?

One reason God judges willful sin is to keep us from abusing grace.

### Hebrews 10:29

**<sup>29</sup> Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and HATH DONE DESPITE UNTO THE SPIRIT OF GRACE?**

Another reason He judges willful sin is to sanctify the Body.

### 1 Corinthians 5:6–7

**<sup>6</sup> Your glorying *is* not good. Know ye not that A LITTLE LEAVEN LEAVENETH THE WHOLE LUMP? <sup>7</sup> Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even CHRIST OUR PASSOVER is sacrificed for us:**

Just one act of willful sin is enough to defile (leaven) an entire congregation. (We should point out that willful sin can also expose a “body” to God’s judgment, which is why Paul mentions the *Passover*.)