

CHEMISTRY OF THE BLOOD *Lesson 2*

Last week we introduced to you a new sermon series entitled, CHEMISTRY OF THE BLOOD. We said to you that our *first* chemistry lesson is: “the blood is life.”

CHEMISTRY LESSON NUMBER 1: The blood is *life*

Leviticus 17:11a

¹¹ For the LIFE OF THE FLESH IS IN THE BLOOD: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an ATONEMENT FOR YOUR SOULS...

Because “the blood is life,” God has ordained that it should be used to atone or *in exchange* for man’s life. For example, on the Day of Atonement God required that two goats be taken. One was to be given in exchange for the other. The goat that was not killed was “released” into the wilderness and *set free*.

Again, this is a picture of how Christ gave His life in exchange for our life, so that we might be *redeemed* or set free!

Revelation 5:9

⁹ And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast REDEEMED US TO GOD BY THY BLOOD out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation;

But, the blood of Jesus is just given in exchange for our life, it ALSO covers.

CHEMISTRY LESSON NUMBER 2: The blood *covers sin*

Leviticus 16:14

¹⁴ And he shall take of the blood of the bullock, and SPRINKLE IT with his finger UPON THE MERCY SEAT eastward; and before the mercy seat shall he sprinkle of the blood with his finger seven times.

Here the blood was *physically* sprinkled upon the mercy seat in order to ‘cover’ the Ark (which represented the people) from the presence of God that appeared above the Ark. Now, why would God require that the Ark/people be ‘hid’ from the presence of God? He did this in order to keep judgment from breaking out upon the people because of their sins! (It’s similar to why the blood was put on the door during the Passover—to keep the judgment of God that was breaking out in Egypt from falling upon the people.)

We have a similar “covering” today through the blood of Jesus.

Romans 3:24–25a

24 Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: 25 Whom God hath set forth to be a PROPITIATION through faith in his blood...

Christ’s blood not only provided us with redemption, but it was also set forth to be a “propitiation”. The word “propitiation” means a covering for sin. (It comes from a word that refers to the mercy seat or ‘covering’ of the Ark.)

Unfortunately, many view this “propitiation” (*covering*) as a license to do what they want without penalty. They forget that the atonement (blood) *only* given to cover *errors*.

Hebrews 9:7

7 But into the second went the high priest alone once every year, not without blood, which he offered for himself, and for the ERRORS OF THE PEOPLE:

The word “errors” refers to sins committed in *ignorance*. As long as our sins are committed in *ignorance*, we have atonement (a covering) for our sins. As long as we have a “covering” for our sins, we do not come under judgment from God.

Romans 7:18

18 For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but HOW TO PERFORM that which is good I FIND NOT.

Although Paul knew *what* he needed to do to please God, he did not know *how* to perform it. As a result, he did not come under condemnation!

Romans 8:1

1 There is therefore now NO CONDEMNATION to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

As long as we are in *ignorant* of what is sin or *ignorant* of how to overcome sin, we will receive propitiation or a covering. As long as we have propitiation or a covering for our sin, we will not come under judgment/condemnation from God!

The problem comes when we try to ‘remain’ under this propitiation (or covering) *permanently*, even after we have received knowledge. The reason this is a problem is because the blood DOES NOT COVER ALL SIN!

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,**

Once we receive the “knowledge of the truth,” there’s no more *sacrifice* for those particular sins. No, this does not mean that we will not be *forgiven* if we commit sins willingly. God may still forgive us for sinning willfully. He just won’t *excuse* us for sinning willfully. He will hold us *accountable*!

Exodus 34:6–7

6 And the Lord passed by before him, and proclaimed, The Lord, The Lord God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth, 7 Keeping mercy for thousands, FORGIVING INIQUITY and transgression and sin, and that will BY NO MEANS CLEAR THE GUILTY; visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, and upon the children’s children, unto the third and to the fourth generation.

Notice, God will not “clear” or excuse the *guilty*. (The “guilty” are those who sin *willfully*!)

Psalm 19:13 New International Version

13 Keep your servant also from WILLFUL SINS; may they not rule over me. Then I will be blameless, INNOCENT of great transgression.

If we want to be “innocent” (not guilty), then we must avoid willful sin.

Hebrews 10:26–27a

26 For if we sin WILFULLY after that we have received **THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE TRUTH,** there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, **27 But a CERTAIN fearful looking for of judgment...**

Notice, judgment against willful sin is CERTAIN. Therefore, the question isn’t IF we will be judged? The question is TO WHAT EXTENT will we be judged?

(We should point out that this judgment doesn’t come to destroy us. Instead, it comes to destroy the *adversaries*, or the thing causing us to sin.)

Hebrews 10:27

27 But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, WHICH SHALL DEVOUR THE ADVERSARIES.

In one sense, God’s “adversaries” are the *carnal mind* and the *flesh*!

Romans 8:7

7 Because THE CARNAL MIND IS ENMITY AGAINST GOD: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.

The reason God judges us for willful disobedience is so we (and others) might learn to *reverence* His name.

2 Samuel 12:13–14

13 And David said unto Nathan, I have sinned against the Lord. And Nathan said unto David, The Lord also hath PUT AWAY THY SIN; thou shalt not die. ¹⁴ HOWBEIT, because by this deed thou hast given great occasion to the enemies of the Lord to BLASPHEME, the child also *that is* born unto thee SHALL SURELY DIE.

Think about it, if God allowed us to continue to sin willfully, we will develop a vain or worthless view of His holiness. Besides, if we continued to sin willfully, we would never LEARN where the 'line' is.

1 Timothy 1:18–20

18 This charge I commit unto thee, son Timothy, according to the prophecies which went before on thee, that thou by them mightest war a good warfare; ¹⁹ Holding faith, and a good conscience; which some having put away concerning faith have made shipwreck: ²⁰ Of whom is Hymenaeus and Alexander; whom I have DELIVERED UNTO SATAN, that they may LEARN not to blaspheme.

The good news is, whatever 'judgment' that we're forced to receive because of our sin, it will always be *less* than what we really deserve!

Ezra 9:13

13 And after all that is come upon us for our evil deeds, and for our great trespass, seeing that thou our God hast PUNISHED US LESS THAN OUR INIQUITIES *DESERVE*, and hast given us *such* deliverance as this;