The Precious Blood of Jesus

Today I want to talk about a subject that is the foundation of what we believe and who we are. Yet we don't often hear messages much directly on this subject... The blood of Jesus.

I have titled this message the precious blood of Jesus. I chose the adjective precious because I want to respect and bring honor to the Lord on this topic.

Precious means - costly, valuable, of great worth.

This is what the blood of Jesus is.

But, while I was seeking the Lord for this message and I was thinking on this word precious the Holy Spirit spoke so clearly to me. He said "Yes the blood is is precious... But Audra it is powerful!

So I say to you it is the precious, powerful blood of Jesus!

Hebrews 9:12-15 (NIV)

12 He (Jesus) did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but he entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption. 13 The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkled on those who are ceremonially unclean sanctify them so that they are outwardly clean. 14 How much more, then, will the (precious, powerful) blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God!

Atonement means - reconciliation, agreement

Leviticus 16:34 ³⁴ "This is to be a lasting ordinance for you: Atonement is to be made once a year for all the sins of the Israelites."

The Day of Atonement was one of the most important festivals the Israelites observed on a yearly cycle.

Yet that still wasn't enough. They were still 4 other sacrifices to preform, 5 total, throughout the year. Two that were mandatory and three that were voluntary.

- 1. <u>Burnt offering</u>- voluntary act of worship, atonement for unintentional sin, expression of devotion, a commitment and complete surrender to God.
- 2. <u>Grain offering-</u> voluntary act of worship, recognizing Gods goodness, provision, and our devotion to God.
- 3. <u>Peace offering-</u> voluntary act of worship, thanksgiving and fellowship including a communal meal, vow offering, free will offering.

- 4. <u>Sin offering-</u> Mandatory atonement for specific unintentional sin, confession of sin, forgiveness of sin, cleansing from defilement.
- 5. <u>Trespass offering-</u> Mandatory atonement for sin requiring restitution, cleansing from defilement, make restitution.

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For by one offering He has perfected for all time those who are sanctified.

The Blood of Jesus is so powerful! So much so that that His blood was the ultimate sacrifice. Meaning that never again would we need the blood of animals to cover our sins. Because our sin has been washed away forever by the perfect sacrifice. The perfect Lamb of God.

When we think of the blood of Jesus and what it provides for us we often think of Redemption and Forgiveness.

Redemption-an act of redeeming or atoning for a fault or mistake, or the state of being redeemed. 2. deliverance; rescue.

Titus 2:14 New (NIV)

14 who gave himself for us to <u>redeem</u> us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own,(so that we may be) eager to do what is good.

Forgiveness- 1.

to grant pardon for or remission of (an offense, debt, etc.); absolve.

to grant pardon to (a person).

to pardon an offense or an offender.

Ephesians 1:7 NIV In him we have $\underline{\text{redemption}}$ through his blood, the $\underline{\text{forgiveness}}$ of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace

Redemption and forgiveness is just the beginning of understanding the power of the blood of Jesus. This amazing power of the blood is ours, a gift given to us freely, but we must apply it.

1 John 1:6-9

- **6** If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. **7** But if we <u>walk in the light</u>, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.
- **8** If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. **9** If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Romans 10:9-10

If you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved;

for with the heart a person believes, <u>resulting in righteousness</u>, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation

The blood is the atonement that gives us the gift of redemption and forgiveness. But it also gives us *ability*. Jesus gives us ability and power through the blood.

2 Corinthians 3:4-5 Such confidence we have through Christ before God. Not that we are competent in ourselves, but our competence comes from God.

Not our power... His power. So that we can live righteously. So we can serve Him, so that we are eager to do what is right, so that we can walk in the light, so that we can withstand temptation.

Just like Hebrews 9:14:b

God, cleanse our consciences(cleanse our minds, renew our minds) from acts that lead to death (acts that will kill us), so that we may serve the living God!

Just like Titus 2:14

who gave himself for us to <u>redeem</u> us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own,(so that we may be) eager to do what is good.

Just like 1 John 1:7 But if we <u>walk in the light</u>, as <u>he is in the light</u>, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.

Just like 1 Corinthians 10:13

No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.

Do you know how we desire to do good, to serve, to walk in the light, in righteousness and withstand temptation? By applying the blood of the Lamb.

We couldn't do this walk without the blood of the Lamb.

Jesus is referred to as the Lamb of God in several places in the New Testament.

John 1:29

The next day John the baptist saw Jesus coming to him and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!

So in the beginning of Jesus ministry we see John declaring Jesus The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

Revelation 12:11

And they overcame him (satan) by the blood of the Lamb and because of the word of their testimony, and they did not love their life even when faced with death.

Do you know what our testimony is? It is simply what the blood of Jesus has done for us. When we share our testimony we are coming into agreement with what the Lord has done for us and its powerful.

Rom 3:25

For God sent Christ Jesus to take the punishment for our sins and to end all God's anger against us. He used Christ's blood (the blood of the lamb) and our faith (our agreement) as the means of saving us from his wrath

Jesus came to be the anti-dote for the poison of the enemy. He came to be the cure for what the enemy wants to kill you with.

Once again like in

Hebrews 9:14 God, cleanse our consciences(cleanse our minds, renew our minds) from acts that lead to death (acts that will kill us), so that we may serve the living God!

Satan (the serpent) wants to kill us. But Jesus has given us His power and authority.

I studied out how sheep react to snakes and I learned a couple of things.

- 1. They avoid snakes. If a sheep notices a snake nearby it will go out of its way to stay far away from it.
- 2. If a snake gets into a pin or in the middle of a herd the sheep began to trample it.

Luke 10:19 ESV

Behold, I have given you authority (power) to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall hurt you.

The verb Tread means to trod purposefully, to march, to stomp, to trample.

Side note to the anti-venom that a sheep naturally produces for snakes, it also produces a anti-venom for scorpions.

Beth Moore:

Gods blood empowers us to live it. Our God is holy. Every drop of His Son's blood was crimson gold to Him, costly beyond human calculation. Our God is also wise. He knows what sets our souls up to prosper and we do not prosper in sin. At, first sin appears to befriend us, but, over time, it drops the mask to reveal a demanding bully blackmailing and betraying us. The Godconfidence we need to advance in our walk gets undermined and we backtrack into the same old doubt. We hand a mic to our accuser who taunts and interrogates us. "How can you be a real Christian? You are such a hypocrite. Who are you to serve God?" I learned the hard way Gods insistence on our turning from sin is not at the opposite end of the divine spectrum from His attribute of mercy. It is a mercy all its own. God is not trying to cheat us out of worldly pleasures. He's trying to keep worldly pleasures from cheating us. The perimeters of His will are not in place to limit us. They are to keep our flesh and our unseen foe from limiting us. Where Gods will appears to confine us we are actually and ultimately freed.

Closing:

What do you need to tread on today?

What area do you need to testify of?

Jesus has given us the soap.

Isaiah 1:18

"Come now, let us settle the matter," says the LORD. "Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool.

The power of the blood of Jesus is so powerful no one can stop it.