

The Power of the Blood of Jesus 2
"Not Without Blood" 1

Not Without Blood Texts

A. **(Heb. 9:7 NKJV)** ⁷*But into the second part the high priest went alone once a year, **not without blood**, which he offered for himself and for the people's sins committed in ignorance.*

1. The High Priest under the Old Covenant could not enter the Holy of Holies on the Day of Atonement without the blood of the sin offering. This was a type of what Jesus, the High Priest of the New Covenant would do when He was raised from the dead and ascended into heaven for us.

2. **(Heb. 9:12 NKJV)** ¹²*Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption.*

3. There is no entrance into the Holiest in heaven without blood.

4. **(Heb. 10:19 NKJV)** ¹⁹*Therefore, brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus.*

B. **(Heb. 9:18 NKJV)** ¹⁸*Therefore not even the first covenant was dedicated **without blood**.*

1. The Old Covenant was enacted through the blood of animal sacrifices in order to teach us that there can be no covenant with God without the shedding of blood.

2. **(Matt. 26:27, 28 NKJV)** ²⁷*Then He took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you. ²⁸"For this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.*

3. The New Covenant was enacted by the shed blood of Jesus.

C. **(Heb. 9:22 NKJV)** ²²*And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and **without shedding of blood** there is no remission.*

1. Remission means the settlement of all claims and debts incurred.

2. Without the shedding of the blood of Jesus the claims and debts of sin could not be settled.

D. There is no salvation...there is no redemption...there is no entrance into heaven...there is no covenant of salvation without the blood of Jesus.

E. That being the case, it only stands to reason that the Scripture would strongly emphasize this truth.

I. Introduction

A. Today, I want you to notice the unique place which is given to THE BLOOD from the beginning to the end of God's revelation of Himself to man, as recorded in the Bible.

B. There is no single scriptural idea, from Genesis to Revelation, more constantly and more prominently kept in view, than that expressed by the phrase-"**NOT WITHOUT BLOOD.**"

C. From the beginning to the end of Scripture; from the closing of the gates of Eden in Genesis, to the opening of the gates of the Heavenly Zion in the Book of Revelation, there runs through Scripture a scarlet thread. It is this phrase, "**NOT WITHOUT BLOOD**" that unites the beginning and the end; that gloriously restores what sin had destroyed.

D. Today I want to take you on a panoramic view of the scarlet thread of the blood of Jesus from Genesis through Revelation.

1. First in the Old Testament.

2. Second, in the teachings of our Lord Jesus Himself.

3. Third, in what the apostles teach.

4. Last, what John tells us of it in Revelation.

II. First in the Old Testament

A. In the Garden of Eden.

1. **(Gen. 3:7, 8 NKJV)** ⁷*Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings. ⁸And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.*

a. Notice that Adam and Eve tried to cover their own sense of shame by sewing fig leaves together. This was the first act of world religion.

b. Also notice, that their attempt to cover their sense of guilt and shame was not sufficient to enable them to stand in the presence of God.

2. **(Gen. 3:21 NKJV)** ²¹*Also for Adam and his wife the LORD God made tunics of skin, and clothed them.*

a. Notice that God rejected their attempt to cover their own sin.

- b. Instead, He clothed them with the skins of animals.
- c. This was the beginning of blood sacrifice.
- d. It is apparent that the blood of these animals was shed.
- e. Anthropologists have discovered that every ancient civilization on the earth practiced blood sacrifice, and it has its origin in the Garden of Eden.
- f. God was teaching them that they could not approach Him without the shedding of the blood of an innocent victim in their place for sin.
- g. He was teaching them that sinful man could not stand in His presence without the shedding of the blood of a Redeemer.
- h. All of these sacrifices were types of what Jesus would do for us at Calvary.

B. The sacrifice of Abel.

1. Abel brought of "the firstlings of his flock" to the Lord as a sacrifice, and there, in connection with the first act of worship recorded in the Bible, blood was shed. **(Gen. 4:3-5 NKJV)** ³*And in the process of time it came to pass that Cain brought an offering of the fruit of the ground to the LORD. ⁴Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat. And the LORD respected Abel and his offering, ⁵but He did not respect Cain and his offering. And Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell.*

2. God respects the blood, Abel's faith, and God's good pleasure in him, are closely connected with the sacrificial blood **(Heb. 11:4 NKJV)** ⁴*By faith Abel offered to God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, through which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts; and through it he being dead still speaks.*

3. His testimony shows that there can be no approach to God; no fellowship with Him by faith; no enjoyment of His favor, apart from THE BLOOD.

C. The sacrifice of Noah.

1. The first recorded act of Noah, after he had left the ark, was the offering of a burnt sacrifice to God. **(Gen. 8:18-21 NKJV)** ¹⁸*So Noah went out, and his sons and his wife and his sons' wives with him. ¹⁹Every animal, every creeping thing, every bird, and whatever creeps on the earth, according to their families, went out of the ark. ²⁰Then Noah built an altar to the LORD, and took of every clean animal and of every clean bird, and offered burnt offerings on the altar. ²¹And the LORD smelled a soothing aroma. Then the LORD said in His heart, "I will never again curse the ground for man's sake, although the imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth; nor will I again destroy every living thing as I have done.*

2. As with Abel, so with Noah at a new beginning. It was "NOT WITHOUT BLOOD."

D. The sacrifices of the patriarchs Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

1. By the divine call of Abram, the miraculous birth of Isaac, and the confirmation of the Abrahamic covenant with Jacob, God undertook the formation of a people to serve Him.

2. But this purpose was not accomplished apart from the shedding of THE BLOOD. **(Gen. 22:9-14 NKJV)** ⁹*Then they came to the place of which God had told him. And Abraham built an altar there and placed the wood in order; and he bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, upon the wood. ¹⁰And Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. ¹¹But the Angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" So he said, "Here I am." ¹²And He said, "Do not lay your hand on the lad, or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me." ¹³Then Abraham lifted his eyes and looked, and there behind him was a ram caught in a thicket by its horns. So Abraham went and took the ram, and **offered it up for a burnt offering instead of his son.** ¹⁴And Abraham called the name of the place, The-LORD-WILL-PROVIDE; as it is said to this day, "In the Mount of The LORD it shall be provided."*

3. In Isaac's symbolic resurrection from the dead we see that he and the people who sprang from him, live before God "NOT WITHOUT BLOOD."

4. In fact, God's covenant with Abraham was a blood covenant. The land of Canaan and the blessings of Abraham were not secured without blood. **(Gen. 15:7-20 NKJV)** ⁷*Then He said to him, "I am the LORD, who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to inherit it." ⁸And he said, "Lord GOD, how shall I know that I will inherit it?" ⁹So He said to him, "Bring Me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old female goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." ¹⁰Then he brought all these to Him and cut them in two, down the middle, and placed each piece opposite the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. ¹¹And when the vultures came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away. ¹²Now when the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram; and behold, horror and great darkness fell upon him. ¹³Then He said to Abram: "Know certainly that your descendants will be strangers in a land that is not theirs, and will serve them, and they will afflict them four hundred years. ¹⁴"And also the nation whom they serve I will judge; afterward they shall come out with great possessions. ¹⁵"Now*

as for you, you shall go to your fathers in peace; you shall be buried at a good old age.¹⁶ "But in the fourth generation they shall return here, for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet complete."¹⁷ And it came to pass, when the sun went down and it was dark, that behold, there appeared a smoking oven and a burning torch that passed between those pieces.¹⁸ On the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying: "To your descendants I have given this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the River Euphrates—¹⁹"the Kenites, the Kenezites, the Kadmonites,²⁰ "the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Rephaim,²¹"the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Girgashites, and the Jebusites."

E. The sacrifice of the Passover Lamb.

1. Through deliverance from Egyptian bondage, Israel was to be recognized as God's first-born among the nations. Here, also, it is "NOT WITHOUT BLOOD." (Heb. 11:28 NKJV) ²⁸By faith he kept the Passover **and the sprinkling of blood**, lest he who destroyed the firstborn should touch them.

2. **The blood not only had to be shed, but the blood had to be applied.**

3. What THE BLOOD accomplished on Mount Moriah for one person, who was the Father of the nation, must now be experienced by that nation.

4. **Life was possible for them only through THE BLOOD of a life given in their place, and appropriated by "the sprinkling of that blood."**

F. The establishment of the Old Covenant.

1. At Mt. Sinai, God had given His Law as the foundation of His covenant.

2. That covenant must now be established, but as it is expressly stated in (Heb. 9:7), "NOT WITHOUT BLOOD."

3. The Sacrificial BLOOD must be sprinkled, first on the altar, and then on the book of the Covenant, representing God's side of that Covenant; then on the people, with the declaration, "This is THE BLOOD OF THE COVENANT" (Heb. 9:18-22 NKJV) ¹⁸Therefore **not even the first covenant was dedicated without blood**. ¹⁹For when Moses had spoken every precept to all the people according to the law, he took the blood of calves and goats, with water, scarlet wool, and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book itself and all the people, ²⁰saying, "This is the blood of the covenant which God has commanded you."²¹ Then likewise he sprinkled with blood both the tabernacle and all the vessels of the ministry. ²²And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission.

4. It was in that BLOOD that the Old Covenant had its foundation and power.

5. **It is by THE BLOOD alone, that God and man can be brought into covenant fellowship.**

6. Without BLOOD there could be no access by sinful man to a Holy God.

7. On Moriah, Isaac's life was redeemed by the shedding of the blood. In Egypt it was sprinkled on the door posts of the houses; but at Sinai, it was sprinkled on the persons themselves. The contact was closer, the application more powerful.

8. Here again, the blood had to be shed, but the blood also had to be applied.

G. The dedication of the Tabernacle.

1. Now they were to enjoy the full blessedness of having the God of the Covenant abiding among them so they were instructed to "make me a sanctuary that I may dwell among them" (Exod. 25:8).

2. **THE BLOOD is the reason and central purpose of the tabernacle.**

3. Draw near to the vestibule of the earthly temple of the Heavenly King, and the first thing visible is the ALTAR OF BURNT OFFERING, where the sprinkling of blood continues, without ceasing, from morning till evening.

4. Enter the Holy Place, and the most conspicuous thing is the golden altar of incense, which also, together with the veil, is constantly sprinkled with the BLOOD.

5. Ask what lies beyond the Holy Place, and you will be told that it is the MOST HOLY PLACE where God dwells. If you ask how He dwells there, and how He is approached, you will be told "NOT WITHOUT BLOOD."

6. The golden throne where His glory shines, is itself sprinkled with THE BLOOD, once every year, when the High Priest alone enters to bring in THE BLOOD, and to worship God. The highest act in that worship is the sprinkling of THE BLOOD.

7. If you inquire further, you will be told that **always, and for everything, THE BLOOD is the one thing needful.**

8. At the consecration of the House, or of the Priests; at the birth of a child; in the deepest penitence on account of sin; in the highest festival; always, and in everything, the way to fellowship with God is through THE BLOOD alone.

9. This continued for fifteen hundred years. At Sinai, in the desert, at Shiloh, in the Temple on Mount Moriah it continued till our Lord came to make an end of all shadows by bringing in the substance by shedding His own blood and establishing a fellowship with the Holy One, in spirit and truth.

