

THE BLOOD OF CHRIST
Hebrews 9:13-15

INTRODUCTION:

A. Christ entered into the holy place

- 1) He did not enter with animal blood vs 12a
- 2) He entered by His own blood vs 12b

B. This blood obtained eternal redemption for us vs 12c

- 1) This fact will give us confidence
- 2) This fact will give us joy
- 3) This fact will give us motive

I. The Old Covenant Spoke To The Flesh

A. *"For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean,..."* vs 13

- 1) *Leviticus 16:14-15*
- 2) *Numbers 19:1-10*
- 3) Epistle To The Hebrews, Kent, Baker, page 172

The sacrificial blood of animals had primary relevance to ceremonial purity. Goats and bulls were the sacrifices on the Day of Atonement (Lev. 16). Ashes of a heifer refer to the ceremony of the red heifer (Num. 19), in which this animal was slain, burned completely, and then the ashes were stored for future use. Whenever a person contracted ceremonial defilement by touching a dead body, or entering the tent of one who had died within it, or touching a human bone or a grave, he could be cleansed by being sprinkled with water in which the ashes of the heifer had been mixed. Perhaps this particular practice was selected because it illustrates so clearly the largely ceremonial nature of the purity provided by Old Testament sacrifices. In the cases needing this sprinkling, the defilement was purely ceremonial, and the cleansing provided restoration to the congregation of Israel (Num. 19:13, 20). It really had nothing to do with spiritual defilement. We must not think that the conscience was not involved at all, since a defiled person who failed to obtain this purification would have a bad conscience. But the point is that the ceremonial cleansing satisfied the Jew's conscience regarding that physical matter only.

B. "...sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh:"

- 1) *αγιζω* = "to set in a state as opposed to common", "to make ready to worship, to restore"
- 2) "purifying" = *καθαροτης* = "cleanness", "pureness in the Levitical sense"
- 3) Such action eased the conscience but never entirely or for any period of time.

II. The New Covenant Speaks To The Heart

A. "How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God..."

- 1) "How much more surely"
- 2) "Who through the Spirit eternal"
- 3) "offered" = *προσφερω* = "to bear or to bring near to or towards any place, hence to present, to offer"
- 4) "spot" = *αμωμος* = "without blemish, or bodily defect"

B. "...purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?" works of "done many wonderful works"

- 1) "purge" = *καθαριζω* = "to make clean from filth" as grain by winnowing, a tree by pruning, sin by atonement.
- 2) "conscience" = *συνειδησις* = "a knowing with one's self, being one's own witness; a man's conscience never condemns what he believes to be right.
- 3) "And fit us for the service of the living God!" TENT
- 4) Love and that which springs from it is a good conscience, a pure heart, and sincere faith. *I Timothy 1:5*

III. The Blood of Christ Was Necessary To Secure The Salvation of Those Who Lived Under The Old Covenant vs 15

A. "And for this cause he is the mediator of the New Testament..."

- 1) "And that is why", "And for this cause"
- 2) "mediator" = *μεσιτης* = "a go-between", "one who intervenes between two parties"

- 3) "New" = καινός = "newly made", "not merely recent but different from that which had been formerly"
- 4) "Testament" = διαθήκη = "a last will and testament", This was the classical Greek usage. Here it is used to translate the Hebrews "berit" meaning, covenant.

B. *"...that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament..."*

- 1) "Now that a death has occurred which redeems them..." MOF
- 2) "redemption" = απολυτρωσις = "releasing on the receipt of a ransom"
- 3) "transgressions" = παραβασις = "a stepping aside as from that which is right"
- 4) "testament" = διαθήκη = "covenant here"

C. *"...they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance"*

- 1) "called" = κάλεω = "to invite", "to summon"
- 2) "inheritance" = κληρουομια = "that which makes one a sharer in the lot or portion of land."
- 3) The Old Testament saints were saved by faith, faith in the blood. The blood of bulls and of goats could not save them. Their salvation required the blood of Christ.

