

Women & More

Covered to the Max

January 31, 2013

Some have charged Christianity with being a ‘bloody’ faith—and they are correct! **Hebrews 9:22b** “...and without the *shedding of blood* there is no forgiveness.” If we have received Christ’s atonement for our sins, God has us covered—in His love—by His own Son’s blood!

“God is good to all in some ways,
and He is good to some in all ways.
...For the substance of Christianity is faith in the forgiveness of sins
through the redeeming work of Christ on the cross.”

J. I. Packer

“Let nothing ever set your heart beating so mightily as love to Him.”

“Spread Thy wings over us, and we, like little chickens, will cower down beneath
Thee, and feel ourselves safe!”

Charles Spurgeon

Prepare by Soaking in Scripture:

Genesis 3:7

THEN—Genesis 3:21 “*The LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them.*”

Exodus 25:17

Job 14:15-17

Psalms 85:2

Psalms 91:4

Scriptures to Memorize:

Romans 4:7-8 (quoting David in Psalm 32:1-2) “*Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. Blessed is the man whose sin the Lord will never count against him.*”

NOTES on Speaking Session:**Questions for Mentor-group Discussion:**

1. “I’ve gotcha covered!” How much confidence do we have in that statement? Doesn’t it depend on who is stating it? If we have received Christ’s forgiveness for our sins, the Lord Jesus has us covered to the max! **Romans 4:7** (Paul quoting David) “*Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.*” Can your forgiven sins ever be uncovered (**Romans 4:8**—second part of Scriptures to Memorize on front side)? _____. What does this mean to you, personally?

2. And when we receive Him, the Lord Jesus Christ also delivers us from the Father’s wrath toward us through His blood-covering—*forever*. **Romans 5:9** “*Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God’s wrath through him!*” The answer is the same for the next three questions.
 - a. If we have been justified through Christ’s blood—made just as if I’d never sinned—can we ever be unjustified? _____.
 - b. If we have been truly saved, can we ever be lost again? _____.
 - c. If we have gained eternity through salvation, can we ever lose it? _____.

3. How long will God’s love endure? _____. Read through the worksheet attachment—page 3—and count the number of times God promised that His love endures forever; keeping in mind that *forever* represents many more times than can be counted!

Psalm 136 includes “*His love endures forever*” _____ times!

Recommended Reading:

The Eternal Security of the Believer, H. A. Ironside
The Greatest Thing in the World, Henry Drummond

The “His Love Endures Forever” Psalm—136

“Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good. His love endures forever.
 2Give thanks to the God of gods. His love endures forever.
 3Give thanks to the Lord of lords: His love endures forever.
 4to him who alone does great wonders, His love endures forever.
 5who by his understanding made the heavens, His love endures forever.
 6**who spread out the earth upon the waters, His love endures forever.**
 7who made the great lights— His love endures forever.
 8the sun to govern the day, His love endures forever.
 9the moon and stars to govern the night; His love endures forever.
 10to him who struck down the firstborn of Egypt His love endures forever.
 11**and brought Israel out from among them His love endures forever.**
 12with a mighty hand and outstretched arm; His love endures forever.
 13to him who divided the Red Sea asunder His love endures forever.
 14and brought Israel through the midst of it, His love endures forever.
 15but swept Pharaoh and his army into the Red Sea; His love endures forever.
 16**to him who led his people through the desert, His love endures forever.**
 17who struck down great kings, His love endures forever.
 18and killed mighty kings— His love endures forever.
 19Sihon king of the Amorites His love endures forever.
 20and Og king of Bashan His love endures forever.
 21**and gave their land as an inheritance, His love endures forever.**
 22an inheritance to his servant Israel; His love endures forever.
 23to the One who remembered us in our low estate His love endures forever.
 24and freed us from our enemies, His love endures forever.
 25and who gives food to every creature. His love endures forever.
 26**Give thanks to the God of heaven. His love endures forever.**

Famous Atheists Dying Words

- “I can see the old devil in the bedroom!” exclaimed A. T. **Adams** as he passed.
 - Caesar Borgia**—“While I lived, I provided for everything but death; now I must die, and am unprepared to die.”
- Thomas Carlyle**—“I am as good as without hope, a sad old man gazing into the final chasm.”
 - Charteris**—“I would gladly give one hundred and fifty thousand dollars to have it proved there is no hell.”
- Charles Churchhill**—“What a fool I have been!”
 - Ghandi**—“All about me is darkness; I am praying for light.”
- Edward Gibbon**—author—“All is lost, finally, irrevocably lost. All is dark and doubtful.”
 - Thomas Hobbs**—political philosopher—“I say again, if I had the whole world at my disposal, I would give it to live one day. I am about to take a fearful leap into the dark.”
- Robert Ingersoll**—American politician and agnostic orator—“O God, if there be a God, save my soul, if I have a soul...from hell, if there be a hell!”
 - Honore Gabriel Raqueti Mirabeau** said, “My sufferings are intolerable; I have within me a hundred years of life but not a moment’s courage...Give me more opium that I may not think of eternity and what is to come!”
- Sir Francis Newport**—“I know I am lost forever! Oh, that fire! Oh, the insufferable pangs of hell.”
 - Thomas Paine**—“I would give worlds, if I had them, that the ‘Age of Reason’ had never been published. Oh God, save me; for I am at the edge of hell alone...Stay with me, stay with me, for God’s sake! I cannot bear to be left alone!”
- Sir Walter Scott**—“Until this moment I thought there was neither a God nor a hell. Now I know and feel that there are both, and I am doomed to perdition by the just judgment of the Almighty.”
 - Severus**—Roman Emperor—“I have been everything, and everything is nothing.”
- Tallyrand**—French statesman—“I am suffering the pangs of the damned.”
 - Voltaire**, said to be the most influential atheist of all time, said these words upon his death: “I am abandoned by God and man...I shall go to hell.”

♥A famous believer’s dying words—while being stoned to death for his faith in the Lord Jesus Christ in Acts 7:55-56—“*But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. 56 ‘Look,’ he said, ‘I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.’*”

Blood is mentioned so often in the Bible, and in so many different contexts: in particular, there is the **shedding** of blood, **sacrifice** of blood and the **salvation** of it. Using these three categories, below are some Scripture passages to look at.

► **Shedding of blood**—occurs very first time when Cain kills Abel

Genesis 4:10 *“The LORD said, ‘What have you done? Listen! Your brother’s blood cries out to me from the ground.’”*

•**PUNISHMENT** for Cain by God Himself: **Genesis 4:11** *“Now you are under a curse and driven from the ground, which opened its mouth to receive your brother’s blood from your hand.”*

•**CAPITOL PUNISHMENT** then instigated by God: **Genesis 9:5-6** *“And for your lifeblood I will surely demand an accounting. I will demand an accounting from every animal. (WOE! Did we know that?) And from each man, too, I will demand an accounting for the life of his fellow man.”*

⁶*“Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed; for in the image of God has God made man.”*

•**LIFE** is in the blood—**Leviticus 17:14** *“...because the life of every creature is in its blood. That is why I have said to the Israelites, ‘You must not eat the blood of any creature, because the life of every creature is its blood; anyone who eats it must be cut off.”* **Deuteronomy 12:23** *“But be sure you do not eat the blood, because the blood is the life, and you must not eat the life with the meat.”*

•**COMMANDMENT**—one of the ten—NOT to shed blood in **Deuteronomy 5:17** *“You shall not murder.”*

► **Sacrifice of blood** to God began early in the Pentateuch (meaning 5 books)

•**COMMANDMENT** NOT to eat ‘fat’ or blood: **Leviticus 3:16-17** *“The priest shall burn them on the altar as food, an offering made by fire, a pleasing aroma. All the fat is the LORD’S (Ref: Leviticus 7:23-25). ¹⁷*This is a lasting ordinance for the generations to come, wherever you live: You must not eat any fat or any blood.”* **Leviticus 7:26** *“And wherever you live, you must not eat the blood of any bird or animal.”* **Leviticus 17:12** *“Therefore I say to the Israelites, ‘None of you may eat blood, nor may an alien living among you eat blood.”* **Leviticus 19:26** *“Do not eat any meat with the blood still in it.”* **Deuteronomy 12:16, 25** *“But you must not eat the blood; pour it out on the ground like water. Verse 25 Do not eat it, so that it may go well with you and your children after you, because you will be doing what is right in the eyes of the LORD.”**

•**PUNISHMENT** for eating blood: **Leviticus 7:27** *“If anyone eats blood, that person must be cut off from his people.”* **Leviticus 17:10** *“Any Israelite or any alien living among them who eats any blood—I will set my face against that person who eats blood and will cut him off from his people.”*

FYI: So very interesting; did we know?—**Leviticus 17:3-5** *“Any Israelite who sacrifices an ox, lamb or a goat in the camp or outside of it instead of bringing it to the entrance to the Tent of Meeting to present it as an offering to the LORD in front of the tabernacle of the LORD—that man shall be considered guilty of bloodshed; he has shed blood and must be cut off from his people. ⁵*This is so the Israelites will bring to the LORD the sacrifices they are now making in the open fields. They must bring them to the priest, that is, to the LORD, at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting and sacrifice them as fellowship offerings.”**

► **Salvation blood—1) Deliverance from Egypt in the Old Testament**

•**PREPARATION—Exodus 12:5-8** “The animals you choose must be year-old males without defect, and you may take them from the sheep or the goats. 6Take care of them until the fourteenth day of the month, when all the people of the community of Israel must slaughter them at twilight. 7Then they are to take some of the blood and put it on the sides and tops of the doorframes of the houses where they eat the lambs. 8That same night they are to eat the meat roasted over the fire, along with bitter herbs, and bread made without yeast.”

•**PASSOVER—Exodus 12:11** “This is how you are to eat it: with your cloak tucked into your belt, your sandals on your feet and your staff in your hand. Eat it in haste; it is the LORD’S Passover.

12“On that same night I will pass through Egypt and strike down every firstborn—both men and animals—and I will bring judgment on all the gods of Egypt. I am the LORD. 13The blood will be a sign for you on the houses where you are; and when I see the blood, I will pass over you. No destructive plague will touch you when I strike Egypt.”

And **Exodus 12:22-23** “Take a bunch of hyssop, dip it into the blood in the basin and put some of the blood on the top and on both sides of the doorframe. Not one of you shall go out the door of his house until morning. 23When the LORD goes through the land to strike down the Egyptians, he will see the blood on the top and sides of the doorframe and will pass over that doorway, and he will not permit the destroyer to enter your houses and strike you down.”

AND—2) New Covenant in Jesus’ blood in the New Testament

•**PREPARATION—**Lord’s supper cup before His death—**Matthew 26:28** “This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.” **Mark 14:24** “This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many,’ he said to them.” **Luke 22:20** “In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, ‘This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you.’”

♥**John 6:53-59** (symbolism) “Jesus said to them, ‘I tell you the truth, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. 54Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day. 55For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. 56Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in him. 57Just as the living Father sent me and I live because of the Father, so the one who feeds on me, will live because of me. 58This is the bread that came down from heaven. Your forefathers ate manna and died, but he who feeds on this bread will live forever.’ 59He said this while teaching in the synagogue in Capernaum.”

•**JESUS’ REDEMPTIVE death and resurrection—**He purchased us with His blood! **Acts 20:28** “Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which he bought with his own blood.” **Romans 3:25 and 5:9** “God presented Him as a sacrifice of atonement, through faith in his blood.” And 5:9 “Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God’s wrath through him!”

Jesus Christ is God's 'Love' Letter to Man!

Charles Spurgeon: “The saints honor the justice of God, which now secures their salvation. It is a liberty which has been dearly purchased. Christ speaks it by His power, but **He bought it by His blood**. ...He saves us just as we are and all without our help or merit. Love the person of your Lord!”

Matt 26:28	“This is my blood of the covenant,”
Mark 14:24	“This is my blood of the covenant,”
Luke 22:20	“This cup is the new covenant in my blood ,”
1 Cor 10:16	“a participation in the blood of Christ?”
1 Cor 11:25	“This cup is the new covenant in my blood ”
1 Cor 11:27	“be guilty of sinning against the body and blood ”
Eph 1:7	“In him we have redemption through his blood ”
Eph 2:13	“near through the blood of Christ”
Col 1:20	“by making peace through his blood”
Heb 9:20	“He said, ‘This is the blood of the covenant’”
Heb 9:22	“without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness”
Heb 10:19	“the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus,”
Heb 13:12	“to make the people holy through his own blood .”
Heb 13:20	“the blood of the eternal covenant brought back”
1 Peter 1:2	“to Jesus Christ and sprinkling by his blood .”
1 Peter 1:19	“but with the precious blood of Christ,”
1 John 1:7	“and the blood of Jesus, his Son,”

God is Holy:

- He will not share space with sin;
- He will punish sin, and
- He will pardon sinners **ONLY** if they receive Jesus blood payment!

Charles Spurgeon—“We love him, who, when Sodom and Gomorrah were full of iniquity, would not destroy those cities until he had made a personal visitation of them.” Isaiah 45:22 *“Turn to me and be saved, all you ends of the earth; for I am God, and there is no other.”* God to Israel and us in 46:8-9—

1. *“Remember this,*
2. *fix it in mind,*
3. *take it to heart, you rebels. I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me.”*

*“His pleasure is not in the strength of the horse, nor his delight in the legs of a man;
the LORD delights in those who fear him, who put their hope in his unfailing love.”*

Psalm 147:10-11