

The Wednesday Word, July 9, 2014: Sanctified by the Blood: Part 1

Hebrews 13:12: Wherefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without (outside) the gate.

The blood of Christ is so powerful that it has purged every one of our sins and set us apart unto God. The all-seeing, all-piercing eye of Yahweh could discover no flaw in the blood for it contained no tinge of sin. It was and is the blood of the Lamb without blemish and without spot (1 Peter 1:19). The Lamb's blood was pure, untainted, and clean and, therefore, it alone was exclusively suitable to sanctify us.

When Jesus Christ went to heaven in the ascension, He took us with Him, and positionally seated us there with Him as ransomed, redeemed and sanctified believers (Ephesians 2:6). From that point forward, the Father could never again see us in sin or see sin in us. Our growth in grace and the knowledge of God will be greatly accelerated as we grasp this truth. It is a finished work. Now the big question that occupies our mind is, not what we can do, but what He has done (Colossians 3:1). Our lives are now hidden with Christ in God (Colossians 3:3). We are complete in Him (Colossians 2:10). He will never reckon sin or sins to us. We are washed and sanctified by the blood.

If we sin, and to our shame we say we will, we have the privilege of instantly bringing our wretchedness to our High Priest. Our sins may cause us to cower in alarm as we think of God's great displeasure, but it is the blood that tells us what God really thinks of us. He sees us as set apart and sanctified unto him. Because of the blood, we cannot be taken from Him. Spurgeon tells us;

“The apostle says that we who are the priests of God have a right as priests to go to God's mercy-seat that is within the Vail; but it were to our death to go there unless we were perfect. But we are perfect, for the blood of Christ has been sprinkled on us, and, therefore, our standing before God is the standing of perfection.”

CHS: New Park Street Pulpit: Sermon No. 232: Delivered on Sabbath Evening, January 2nd, 1859.

If, however, we insist on remaining in wilful sin, then, although our standing before God is un-altered, we reap what the sin produces and what the Holy Spirit of God must do to chastise us ---to bring us away from the love of our sin. This does not mean, however, that we are legally separated from the One to whom the blood has already attached us. The Apostle Paul instructs us that; “Neither death nor life nor angels nor principalities nor powers nor things present nor things to come nor height nor depth nor any Creature shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Romans 8:38-39).

Does this give us a license to sin? God forbid (Romans 6:2; Romans 6:15)! The true believer wants to continually fellowship with the Father through the Son. But, if we sin and grieve the Holy Spirit, there is no way we can enjoy fellowship in the plan of God. Therefore, as we grow in grace, the Spirit of God begins to teach us a holy hatred of sin. However, this holy hatred does not separate us unto God any more than the blood has already done. We, as sanctified believers, have continual access with boldness to the throne of grace, and we may come in all our time of need. Because of the blood, we are always perfect and always qualified to come to the His throne, whatever our doubts, whatever our sins.

And that's the Gospel Truth!