

The Wednesday Word, April 22, 2026: More on The Cleansing Blood!

D G Miles McKee

The blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanses us from all sin. – 1 John 1:7

In this verse we glimpse something of the love of God. Let's not forget that if our Lord had chosen not to rescue us, He would have remained altogether glorious.

He owed us nothing.

If He had left us to die in our sins, He would have been entirely justified yet He chose, by an act of His own free will, to cleanse us from all trespass and sin. What mercy! It is astonishing to see that the God whom we had attacked and offended would come to this earth in the person of His Son and pour out His blood for us. It is astounding to see Him descending from heaven to be buried in and by the hatred of men (Philippians 2:5 ff).

How He must love us.

How he must love us to have sought us out even when we hated Him and loved our sin (John 7:7; 3:19). Yet, when we were His enemies the Lord Christ, graciously went to the cross and cleansed us in His own blood!

We are dealing with sublime truths here, truths that when received give a peace that passes understanding (Philippians 4:7). False religion cannot give us a peace based on God's righteousness. False gods teach that we can get rid of our sin by trying harder or by being good or by being suitably religious. The One true and living God says, however, that without the shedding of blood there is no remission (Hebrews 9:22). Without Him we didn't stand a chance. Knowing our helpless state, Yahweh in His great compassion united His infinite love and almighty power in one mammoth, victorious campaign to save and rescue us by His blood.

Notice how in our text (1 John 1:7) there is no mention of rites and rituals cleansing us from sin. Notice how also there is not one drop of water in the text. It is the blood alone that cleanses from all sin. Nothing less than the blood will do, but nothing more than the blood is required. There is no talk here of how the blood plus baptism cleanses us from all sin. There is no mention of the taking of Church sacraments or the making of confession to receive cleansing from all sin. Why? Because it is the blood alone that cleanses us from all sin.

There's a story told of an old Irish woman who, as she lay sick, heard for the first time the gospel of her salvation. She was told of God's love and how the blood of Christ alone cleansed from sin. God opened her heart and she looked by faith to the crucified and risen lamb and was saved. Then putting her hand beneath her dressing gown, she took out a little crucifix which she had always worn on a chain around her neck, and said to the preacher, "Pastor, I now believe the Gospel and I no longer need nor want this."

The message that God sent from heaven about our sin is a message He will not change.

What message?

Here's the message.

"There is no hope of salvation other than by Christ and His cleansing blood. That means there is no other way to heaven but by Christ alone."

Jesus Christ, in His glorious once for all act at Calvary, paid our purchase price, ransomed us from destruction and cleansed us entirely by His blood.

And that's the Gospel Truth!