

Hebrews 9:15-28 Sufficient, Part 2

BLOOD! The Christian faith is a bloody faith –
Shed blood is the centerpiece of the story of
REDEMPTION!

A) And yet sometimes we are uncomfortable with the concept – or the idea **OF BLOOD SHED**

B) Remember when the passion of the Christ – came out – it was pretty graphic – a lot of blood.

1) Although it was mild in regards to what really happened.

C) Isaiah conveys the idea in **Ch. 52-53** – Jesus was so **disfigured** that you could hardly recognize it was a man on that cross.

D) The movie – the conversation came up several times – **was it appropriate for a Church to show** that at a service or to use those images. Too graphic?

Some pp making that suggestion – probably went home and watched a movie with killing or played a video with killing – thought nothing about it.

A) The issue was – **IS IT APPROPRIATE FOR CHURCH?**

B) Answer is absolutely! – **OUR FAITH IS A BLOODY FAITH!**

I don't have any gory images for you this morning! –

But I also want you to know – I plan to make you feel a little uncomfortable today –

I might – be a little more graphic than normal.

A) This is why . We can come to the end of a day - put our head on the pillow to say, **“God, I did this and this today,”** listing off the things we did that we knew were not pleasing to Him.

B) We know He knows about them, so there is no use trying to hide them.

1) So we confess them and we know that He forgives them because He has promised to forgive them,

C) We **thank Him and then fall off to sleep** in a few minutes, accepting but not fully appreciating the marvelous grace that made such assurance and peace so easily available to us.

My heart today is that we might appreciate a little greater – what made a way for us to be saved!

A) I also want to high light today – that the power of the gospel is not just in the atoning death of Christ – but also the Rez of Christ – and the fact that Jesus continues to live – and serve us as His followers.

B) That point is made very clear in our text today and the writer is going to use the illustration of a WILL – to make this point!

15 And for this reason He is the Mediator of the new covenant, by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions under the first covenant, that those who are called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance.

16 For where there is a testament, **WILL** there must also of necessity be the death of the testator. **{the person who wrote the will}** 17 For a testament **WILL** is in force after men are dead, since it has no power at all while the testator **{the person who wrote the will}** lives.

Jesus wrote a WILL— we have been calling it the NC!

A) But when a will has been drawn up the will doesn't go into affect until the person who made the will dies!

B) He initiated a NC by means of His death.

C) His death opened up the door for those who would believe to receive the promise of an Eternal inheritance.

1) Abundant life here – sins forgiven – guilt removed – peace with God

D) And the assurance of heaven – glory – incredible eternity!

But when a person dies and there is a will involved usually there is a mediator or an executor of the will that is needed. -

Suppose, my Dad dies and goes to heaven and the family meets to read his will. “Look what I get,” says Albert. “I get the gas grill!” Grammy burgers!

“Wait a minute,” I say, “I get the gas grill”—and an argument ensues. All the while, Dad is up in heaven. He knows what He meant.

Albert is right. He did get something having to do with gas. But it's not the gas grill. It's the gas bill. Because Dad is in heaven, however, He can't do anything about it.

Someone is needed to mediate the will! – Executor of the Will!

A) Here is the point that the writer is making – The Will went into affect when Jesus died –

Aa) And because He rose – He lives – He can be the Mediator or executor of the will.

B) Jesus **is not only the Testator** who gives us the New Covenant—but He is the Mediator who *guides* us in the New Covenant.

1) He lives in our hearts by His Spirit – to Help us carry it out – Enjoy it and live in the Power of it.

C) Now for a will to be Valid and put into affect – there needs to be a signature of the deceased. –

D)The Covenants of the Bible also required a signature – the signature was not made with ink – but in Blood!

1)Point he makes in the verses that follow!

18 Therefore not even the first covenant was dedicated without blood. 19 For 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, 20 saying, "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. 22 And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission.

23 Therefore it was necessary that the copies of the things in the heavens should be purified with these, but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these.

Now this is the point of what He is saying: The old covenant had an inauguration ceremony.

A)When a new president takes office – there is an inauguration ceremony.

B)It is the beginning of a new regime, a new administration.

C)When God instituted the old covenant there was an inauguration ceremony.

1)The sprinkling of blood on the pp and the vessels of the Tabernacle. – Purified = made clean!

D)So too when Jesus – instituted the NC there was also an inauguration ceremony.

The shedding of Christ's blood on the cross of Calvary was the inauguration of the New Covenant ministry of our Lord.

A)It redeemed men from the penalty of their sins, but it did more.

Aa)It **commenced a whole new ministry** in the heavenlies.

B) I believe personally that between the time Jesus died on the Cross and the time He rose again, He sprinkled His blood in the heavenlies

1)Signaled – Now Access into Heaven – Men covered by His Blood – Declared righteous!

C)Peace with God – forgiveness of sins – Guilt removed at the right hand of God, and blood shedding was an essential requirement for its inauguration.

1)The heavenly vessels **were purified** with blood not in the sense of being made clean – already clean – but consecrated for the NC!

WHY BLOOD? { here is where we will get a little graphic }

A)The Old Covenant sailed on a sea of blood, for two vast reasons.

#1 To emphasize the seriousness of sin! – The wages of sin is death!

A)The sinner would bring his animal sacrifice to the tab/ temple. **Lay his hand on the head** – identify – my sin – my punishment.

B)Then he would watch as the priest would slit the throat of the animal and the blood would run out – { **THAT SHOULD HAVE BEEN ME** }

C)The wages of sin is death!

The Bible takes sin seriously, more than any other religion.

A)Why is God so deadly serious about sin? It's not because He's prudish and can't handle violence or sex? No! - It's because He knows what sin does.

**Mathematics of Sin is always the same:
Sin will add to your sorrow, subtract your joy,
Multiply your problems, and divide your heart!**

B) Sin alienates man from God

C)Sin kills. It kills happiness, joy, health, and life. It kills kids, families, societies, and cultures.

D) Sin is rooted in the hearts of humanity. /Sin cannot be vindicated by any self-help program

1)**The wages of Sin is death!!!!**

So every day – every animal slit throat blood pouring out – put on the altar the sinner would – watch – reminder – This is what sin does – destroys!

A)But blood was also used to **MAGNIFY THE COST OF FORGIVENESS!**

B)There is no such thing as forgiveness lite! – Forgiveness comes only through Blood – His blood!

C)But the **beauty and power of His sacrifice** is that it only needed to be offered once!

24 For Christ has not entered the holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us;

25 not that He should offer Himself often, as the high priest enters the Most Holy Place every year with blood of another — 26 He then would have had to suffer often since the foundation of the world; but now, once at the end of the ages, He has appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself.

Every sacrifice for sin made in faith under the Mosaic command was an IOU cashed in at the cross.

A)OC – Sacrifice after sacrifice – day after day! HP Day of atonement year after year.

B)Jesus offered Himself – ONCE –

1)He is not offered up again and again – at communion as some teach.

C)He offered Himself up once – Putting away sin! –

D)But just because – He is not crucified over and over again, doesn't mean that we should lose sight of the magnitude of His sacrifice!

1)Careful not to forget about the costliness of forgiveness! Take it for granted

E)Sin so easily! – Little boy – jr. high my sin

1)Lord help me –

For my sin you left heaven,

For my sin you became a baby in a womb,

For my sin you became a man, subjecting yourself to human weakness.

For my sin you were beaten beyond recognition,

For my sin you went to the cross,

For my sin you were separated from your father.

In a rural village lived a doctor who was noted both for his professional skill and his devotion to Christ.

After his death, his books were examined. Several entries had written across them in red ink: **“Forgiven—too poor to pay.”**

Unfortunately, his wife was of a different disposition.

Insisting that these debts be settled, she filed a suit before the proper court.

When the case was being heard, the judge asked her, **“Is this your husband's handwriting in red?”** She replied that it was. “Then,” said the judge, “not a court in the land can touch those whom he has forgiven.”

Jesus writes in bold crimson letters across our lives, “Forgiven!”

“Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. 34 Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.
(Romans 8:33, 34).

The sufficiency of Christ's atoning death is the centerpiece of our salvation.

Why did Jesus do that? Love for You

That is what makes you and me ready to stand before God! What He did!

27 And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment, 28 so Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many. To those who eagerly wait for Him He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation.

A)Though it was not really the point of the writer to the Hebrews to discuss reincarnation, he certainly and completely *denies* it here.

B)We do not die and live and die and live and some number of lives down the road face an eternal reckoning. Cleopatra – King Arthur

C)Hey This life is it, and then we face judgment!

D) *there are no second chances beyond the grave.*

Now there are two ways to appear before God –

A) You can appear before Him on the basis of your sins being forgiven thru Christ

B) Or you can appear before Him on the Basis of your own Merit

1) Your GOOD WORKS - Not my Choice - For unbeliever - not a day to look forward to!

C) Choir as kid - mouth words - a lot of people today are like the guy in the choir - mouthing the words

1) Judgment day - **sing solo before God**

D) Thoughts and intents - motives of heart will be revealed!

But for Believer we look forward to that day v.28 3rd appearing - wait eagerly!

Our Hope! Absolute expectation of coming good!

A.) When a scheduled jet comes from NY arrives in SD International the air traffic controller knows all details of flight pattern

B) He Knows of various stages in flight - when departed, when it will arrive!

1) But because that is his job - not much anticipation - just another flight - another day!

C) Some believers are like the flight controller – Jesus is coming back – yawn – another day -

But contrast the traffic controller w/ the gal whose fiancée is on that plane! Picture of Eager !!!!!!!!!!!!!

A) She knows nothing of details of the flight but she only knows approximate time of arrival

B) She is there –she is excited; eagerly anticipating!/ Best outfit

C) That is how Lord wants us to be - at airport, ready, watching

1.) occupy until I come! Life count eternally add to inheritance

D) Who ever has this hope purifies.... Pure!

E) MIGHT BE TODAY!!!

Don't know Christ?

Now is the time to choose for Jesus Christ, because when we die, it is simply, after this the judgment.