

## CHAPTER 5

### *Blood*



NOW THIS MAN RESTS IN SILENCE GIVING US REFLECTIVE TIME. The truths we have just heard settle into our minds. With dawning insight we begin to realise God's incredible plan of salvation. But at the same time we become painfully aware of our own mix of good and evil, the choices we have made in our own lives.

Now This Man casts a searching look at each of us, as if preparing us for something we may think extraordinary. And so he continues...

"Taking the next step in the plan of salvation to rescue the human race, the Son of God unfolds to Adam and Eve the sacrificial system.

This system of sacrifice shall continue until the innocent Son of God dies for all of humanity's sins, an innocent sacrifice. And thus foreshadowing His death, the system of sacrifice involves the slaying of innocent animals, as an act of faith in God's rescue plan.

Even now, choice remains for Adam and Eve. Believing in God, choosing to participate, sacrificing by faith, shall bestow God's forgiveness and pardon for sin. And believing in the true sacrificial death of the Son, and remaining faithful to God, the sentence of eternal death shall be lifted from each believer's life!

And so, death is about to enter the new world for the first time and indeed for the first time in the entire universe.

The Son of God instructs Adam to select a lamb from the flock - a perfect lamb without blemish or defect.

*Your lamb shall be without blemish... Exodus 12:5*

*And it shall be, when he is guilty in any of these matters, that he shall confess that he has sinned in that thing; and he shall bring his trespass offering to the LORD for his sin which he has committed, a female from the flock, a lamb or a kid of the goats as a sin offering. Leviticus 5:5-6*

Adam selects a lamb from the perfect flock of God's creation and brings it before the Saviour.

Now the Son explains to Adam and Eve, 'This lamb represents My perfect life without blemish of sin or defect of character - a worthy offering for sacrifice. I am ...*the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. John 1:29*

*...a lamb without blemish and without spot. 1 Peter 1:19*

Now to Adam and Eve the Saviour says, “Lay your hands upon the lamb’s head and confess your sin before God your heavenly Father.”

*And he shall lay his hand on the head of his offering... Leviticus 3:2*

As Adam and Eve lay their hands on the head of the sacrificial lamb and confess their sin, symbolically their sins are transferred from their sinful lives to the innocent lamb. Thus says the Saviour, ‘I have taken your sin upon my innocent life and I will bear them in sacrificial death for you.’

*All we like sheep have gone astray;  
We have turned, every one, to his own way;  
And the LORD has laid on Him  
the iniquity of us all. Isaiah 53:6*

*For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. 2 Corinthians 5:21*

And now the Saviour says to Adam, ‘You must kill the lamb. For its death represents My death to take away your sin and the sins of the world.’

*Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! John 1:29*

Adam lifts his hand to slay the innocent lamb. Suddenly, a deathly realization hits him like the blow he is about to administer to the lamb: His sin is to take the life of God’s precious Son. Adam’s heart fills with sorrow and remorse floods his condemned soul.

Now with trembling hand Adam slays the lamb and with this first death in the new world, the symbolic sacrificial system has begun. The sacrificial system is to continue down through time until the death of God’s dear Son upon the cross.

Many, many altars will be built over the centuries and uncountable animals sacrificially slain and burnt upon the altars as a sin offering to God.”

We see a reflective thought flash over This Man’s mind and he enlightens our minds a little further.

“By natural selection the animals for sacrifice were always the very best of the flock - genetically vigorous - and therefore if allowed to live, those animals would increase the flock’s performance and yeild financial gain. More heart wrenching, some of the animals destined for sacrifice were family pets specially named and lovingly cared for by all.

Yes, the sacrificial system involved painful choices and lessons for young and old. In this way, the people understood more vividly the supreme sacrifice of the great King in giving up His only begotten Son to death. There could be no one else to replace Him

in the Father's heart of love. For the Son's life is the entirety of the divine flock, the one and only lamb of God offered up once for all.

*...for this He did once for all when He offered up Himself. Hebrews 7: 27*

But there is a way the people can reduce the number of sacrifices to spare the innocent flock - simply by living a holy life in obedience to God's commandments.

Less sin equals less sacrifice. This is God's merciful hope.

*Has the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices,  
As in obeying the voice of the Lord?*

*Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice,  
And to heed than the fat of rams.*

*1 Samuel 15: 22*

As gruesome as this bloodletting may seem to us today in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, the sacrificial ceremony was absolutely necessary to keep a constant realization before the people that the penalty of disobedience is death.

Most strikingly, the sacrificial ceremony enlivens the people's minds with the hope and faith of the coming Saviour who will die the true sacrificial death to release them from the penalty of sin.

And taking an active part in the ceremony each person acknowledges before God that His Son is to come down to earth and have humanity's sins laid upon His innocent life. Then He shall be slain as. *...the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.'*  
*John 1:29*

Yes, His innocent death will pardon the sentence of eternal death for all remorseful believers', and open the way for them to receive His eternal life!

And so through Old Testament times, sin is forgiven through the symbolism of shedding animals' blood, representing the blood of Jesus Christ the Son of God.

*In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to  
the riches of His grace... Ephesians 1:7*

And why blood? Because blood carries life.

As you breathe air into your lungs, something amazing is happening. Red blood cells wait in the lungs to collect oxygen from the air filling the lungs.

From the lungs the oxygenated blood will be pumped to the heart and then throughout the human body, delivering oxygen and nutrients to the trillions of cells, giving new life to the body.

But this is not all. Just as importantly, blood carries carbon dioxide and other wastes away from the cells to the lungs and other organs for elimination from the body.

Can you see that blood is the only way for fresh life to be given to the total human

being?

*...for it is the life of all flesh. Its blood sustains its life...for the life of all flesh is its blood. Leviticus 17:14*

Can you see how God has given blood as a living symbol to save lives from sin?

*For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it to you upon the altar to make atonement for your souls; for it is the blood that makes atonement for the soul. Leviticus 17:11*

Making atonement means making amends for wrong. *And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission. Hebrews 9:22*

Just as our red blood cells carry cleansing oxygen and fresh life to our cells, at the moment we accept the Son's sacrifice miraculously the Son's blood transfuses new life into our lives, cleansing our souls from sin.

And so the Son's lifeblood must be shed in death to make atonement for sin, committed against God's law.

Back in Eden, the rising smoke from Adam's and Eve's first burning sacrifice mingles with their prayers of repentance and ascend heavenward to God the Father as a sweet spiritual aroma.

*And the lord smelled a soothing aroma. Genesis 8:21*

Participating in this symbolic ceremony, Adam and Eve are brought back into a spiritual relationship with God and once again they are filled with His spirit of life.

Being 'justified' before God or being 'made right with God again', they walk in His Spirit and sustain their relationship with Him, by living again within the love boundaries of His law.

*There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death. For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh, that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. Romans 8:1-4*

Walking according to the Spirit is walking in the commandments of life which yield the fruits of righteousness, or goodness, in the soul.

*...the law is spiritual... Romans 7:14*

*...the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, faithful-*

**B**LOOD, “...IS THE LIFE OF ALL FLESH. ITS BLOOD SUSTAINS ITS LIFE...the life of all flesh is its blood.” Leviticus 17:14

If blood is the substance which sustains our life, then our blood needs to be the best quality it can be. To sustain life, each person’s blood travels all over his or her body delivering nutrients and collecting waste products for detoxification. But how do we define high quality blood? Medical research can tell us.

Dr J Hoffman in his book, “The Missing Link in the Medical Curriculum which is Food Chemistry in its Relationship to Body Chemistry” says to avoid disease, blood should be:

- Alkaline (not acidic)
- Clean
- Free flowing
- Free from toxins
- Well oxygenated<sup>1</sup>

If you want high quality blood circulating around your body, then the choice is yours! The foods you eat, the liquids you drink, the air you breathe, the substances you absorb through your skin, whether you are physically active or sitting down all day, and even your thoughts and beliefs can affect the quality of your blood.

Right now, your body is producing new red blood cells. Each red blood cell will work tirelessly in your body for the next 3-4 months. If you eat mostly high quality natural foods (as close to nature as possible), drink plenty of clean chemical free water, breathe clean air, use natural skin and hair care products (coconut oil is great), and choose to be thankful, finding ways to avoid anger, worry and chronic stress - then your chances of having high quality blood are much better!

If one of these lifestyle factors seems to jump out of the page and into your heart right now, pray to our heavenly Father for His advice and guidance. One small change can mean a giant step towards better health with God guiding you.

*“Heal me, O LORD,  
and I shall be healed;  
Save me, and I shall be saved,  
For You are my praise. Jeremiah 17:14*

**1. Griffin and Griffin, Let’s Eat for Strength - Fat or Fiction?.**

*ness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. Galatians 5:22-23*

*...(for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth), finding out what is acceptable to the Lord. Ephesians 5:9-10*

*...if you want to enter into life, keep the commandments. Matthew 19:17*

*...he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does. James 1:25*

Yet in God's rescue plan of salvation there are more lessons for Adam and Eve to learn.

*Also for Adam and his wife the LORD God made tunics of skin, and clothed them.  
Genesis 3:21*

The Son of God fashions the skin of the sacrificed lamb into garments, and He clothes Adam and Eve.

Before Adam and Eve sinned, their bodies were clothed with God's pure light of righteousness, shining with all His goodness. But the darkness of sin blotted out this holy veil producing nakedness of body and soul.

Now Adam's and Eve's lost innocence is covered and in a practical way the garments will also provide warmth against the cooler climate soon to affect their lives.

And here is another lesson, for in a spiritual way the bloodstained garments represent the garment of salvation, the Son's robe of righteousness.

*I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,  
My soul shall be joyful in my God;  
For He has clothed me with the garments of salvation,  
He has covered me with the robe of righteousness... Isaiah 61:10*

As the Son clothes Adam and Eve with the skin garments, he explains how their destitute souls also need to be covered with His spiritual robe of righteousness.

For in the sight of God, the goodness they received from Him at creation is now like filthy rags draping their souls.

*But we are all like an unclean thing,  
And all our righteousnesses  
are like filthy rags;  
We all fade as a leaf,  
And our iniquities, like the wind,  
Have taken us away. Isaiah 64:6*

And so in the place of their unrighteousness, Adam and Eve receive the Son's righteousness.

*...and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but*

*that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith...  
Philippians 3:9*

*Little children, let no one deceive you. He who practices righteousness is righteous,  
just as He is righteous. 1 John 3:7*

*Therefore, as through one man's offense judgment came to all men, resulting in condemnation, even so through one Man's righteous act the free gift came to all men, resulting in justification of life. For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so also by one Man's obedience many will be made righteous. Romans 5:18-19*

As the Son's righteousness permeates Adam and Eve's lives, the fragrance of His perfection ascends to God the Father.

And as the Father beholds Adam and Eve clothed in his Son's righteousness, He accepts them again. Thus Adam and Eve walk before their Heavenly Father in spiritual renewal.

*Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away;  
behold, all things have become new. 2 Corinthians 5:17*

Yes indeed, only through the Son's righteous life can a person be accepted by God the Father. The Son said, 'I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.' John 14:6

*...you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins. Matthew 1:21*

*'Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given  
among men by which we must be saved.' Acts 4:12*

*For if by the one man's offense death reigned through the one, much more those who  
receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the  
One, Jesus Christ... Romans 5:17*

*...God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even  
when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you  
have been saved), and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly  
places in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of  
His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus For by grace you have been saved  
through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God... Ephesians 2:4-8*

And so, having received the gift of salvation in Christ the Son, Adam and Eve are reunited with God again. But nevertheless they shall bear the consequences of their sin for the rest of their lives."