

Second Printing

*Before the foundation of
the world God had a
vision of what His people
would be.*

*The Vision
and the
Provision!*

*What
Does
God
Require?*

*The Revelation
of the
Blood of Jesus!*

Message by Leroy Surface

The Vision and the Provision!

The Revelation of the Blood of Jesus

Wherewith shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before the high God? shall I come before Him with burnt offerings, with calves of a year old? Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, or with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul? He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God? Micah 6:6-8

"What does God require of me?" This question has been asked by men of every generation since time began, yet in all man's searching, there are few: that have discovered the answer. The prophet Micah's answer seems simple enough. He gives only three simple requirements: "*do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with God.*" The commandment received at Sinai contained ten requirements, but when Moses sought to answer this same question in Deuteronomy 10:12-13, he gave hundreds of different laws, ordinances, ceremonies, and precepts that the people were to meditate upon day and night and obey in every detail. The Jewish religious hierarchy added hundreds of traditions over the next several centuries insomuch that Jesus spoke this about them: "*For they bind heavy burdens and grievous to be borne, and lay them on men's shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with one of their fingers.*" Matthew 23:4.

If you were to ask most modern day preachers "what does God require," the answer in effect would be simply "nothing!" They would explain that we are not under the law, but under grace, that Jesus shed His blood to "cover" our sins and that God can no longer see our "weakness" and "failures."

Just what does God require? I've often made this statement, and I'll make it again here: "That which God will accept, man cannot produce." There is no man on the face of this earth that has the ability in and of himself to produce that which God will accept. The only thing God will accept in any of us is that which has been wrought by his Son, Jesus Christ. And if it is

not His workmanship, it is totally and absolutely unacceptable to God. We cannot be a product of our own theology or thinking, or our own philosophy or willpower, neither can we be a product of anything of our human ability and be found acceptable to God. It is absolutely impossible!

It is my sincere desire in this short message, by the help of God, to present the gospel of Jesus Christ that is indeed *"the power of God unto salvation."*

The Promise

Paul, a servant of God, and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to the faith of God's elect, and the acknowledging of the truth which is after godliness; In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began; Titus 1:1-2

This present evil world began with the entrance of sin through the disobedience of Adam. *"Before the world began"* speaks of what was here on earth before sin entered to destroy God's creation. Earth itself was a paradise. There was the man Adam and his wife Eve, who were created by God in His own image and likeness. God said, *"Let us make man in our image, and after our likeness."* This was the promise of God before He made man. This was what God predestined, and it was what God would accept. The entrance of sin destroyed all this, but it could not change God's promise nor His predestination. This was the promise of God; a people of eternal life, in the image of God; a people made for God's own good pleasure. Remember that God did make man in His own image and in His own likeness. All this was lost through the transgression of that first man Adam.

When God promised eternal life He was not speaking about eternal existence only. Eternal life is that life which only source is the eternal God Himself. Jesus said *"I've come that you might have life."* In other words, "If I did not come, you're dead in sin, dead in your trespasses, but I have come that you might have life and that you might have it more abundantly." Praise God! That is what eternal life is all about, not only the duration, but also the source and nature of the life. It is that life which is of heaven, that which is of eternity, that which is given by God and only of God. When the scripture teaches that God gives us all things that pertain to life and godliness II Peter 1:3, life and godliness are insepara-

ble, for the life spoken of is eternal life. It is the divine nature spoken of in II Peter 1:4.

God's Vision

The nature of the eternal life that God has promised is what I will call "God's Vision." Just what is God's vision? Let's read a little of it from the scripture:

"According as He hath chosen us in Him before the foundation of the world that we should be HOLY and WITHOUT BLAME before Him in love." Ephesians 1:4

"And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled In the body of his flesh through death, to present you HOLY and UN-BLAMEABLE and UNREPROVEABLE in his sight:"

Colossians 1:21-22

Before God made man, He foreknew and predestined a people in His own image and likeness. They would be *"holy and without blame"* before God. That is exactly what He made Adam to be. This was God's vision. A people, Paul said in Colossians, *"holy, unblamable, and unreprouable in His sight;"* that's God's vision.

Before the entrance of sin and the foundation of the world God had such a people in Adam and Eve. They were everything God promised man would be until Adam disobeyed and sin entered, bringing death and destruction with it. All God's creation was polluted with sin, but God's vision and promise of eternal life was still the same. He would yet have such a people in a new creation. His vision remained the same, but He must make "provision" for man's redemption before His "vision" would be fulfilled in man whom He had created.

"For whom He did foreknow He also did predestinate to be CONFORMED TO THE IMAGE OF HIS SON that He might be the firstborn among many brethren" Romans 8:29

“That He might present it to Himself a Glorious church, NOT HAVING SPOT, or WRINKLE, or ANY SUCH THING; but that it should be HOLY and Without BLEMISH.”

Ephesians 5:27

Jude ends his letter by saying *“now unto Him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you FAULTLESS before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy....”* Present you faultless! Paul, in Colossians 1:28, said *“whom we preach”*--talking about Christ in you the hope of glory *“that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus.”* Present you faultless, present every man perfect. That's God's vision! · Regardless of what modern theology teaches or what bumper sticker religion says, that is God's vision. . That's what He will present to Himself: A Glorious church, a holy people, unblamable, unproveable, and conformed to the image of His son. That's His vision, that's His promise, that's what eternal life is, and that is what He will have."

Paul prayed in Ephesians 1:18 that the eyes of our understanding would be enlightened. Look! See the vision God had of presenting a people to himself, holy, unblameable, unproveable, without blemish, a glorious church, without spot or wrinkle or *“any such thing”*. Consider what this means to each of us. What does it mean to be holy? unblameable? or unproveable? What is a glorious church really like? And will God accept or present to Himself anything less than that which He promised Himself? This final question is the one we must faithfully answer, and the only possible answer is "NO."

The Apostle Paul, when converted from Judaism, spoke of Jesus when he said, *“...for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, (that were gain unto me) and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ, and be found in Him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith.”* Philippians 3,8-9 In Jesus, Paul saw the righteousness of God far greater than had ever been produced through his abilities in the law, yet he said *“concerning the righteousness of the law I was blameless.”* So many have believed that the law could save a person if they could keep it, but here was a man that was blameless concerning the righteousness of the law. Yet when Paul saw Jesus on the Damascus

road that day, he saw such a righteousness that he counted everything else including his own righteousness to be but dung. In Jesus he saw God's vision. Jesus was everything God had predestined His people to be. Yet, even more important, in Jesus he saw God's provision for every man.

Isaiah saw the vision of the holy God in Isaiah 6:1-7. He saw the Lord high and lifted up. He heard the seraphims crying one to another saying *"Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord of hosts:"* While seeing the vision of the holiness of the Lord, Isaiah cried *"Woe is me! for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips: for mine eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts."* An angel took a coal from off the altar and touched his lips and purged his sin. Isaiah had seen the vision, but now he was to see something even greater. Seven hundred years before Jesus was born to Mary, Isaiah was to receive the revelation of "God's Provision." *"For He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon Him; and with His stripes we are healed."*

The very nature of God's predestined people is such that no man can possibly produce it in or of himself. He cannot do it by obedience to religious law, for Paul said in Galatians 2:21 *"...for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain."* He cannot do it by willpower, for Paul says again in Romans 9:16 *"So then it is not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that sheweth mercy."* It will not come by water baptism or any other ordinance, for Paul says in I Corinthians 1:17 *"For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel..."* Neither will it come by wisdom, for he continued in the same verse *"...not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect."*

FOR HIS HOLY NAME'S SAKE

From Adam until Jesus there was no man found that even approached that which God had predestined. In Hebrews 11, which we call the faith chapter, we are told of the mighty exploits of Old Testament men and women of faith. One walked with God, some pleased God, all obeyed God to the best of their ability, and God rewarded them with the greatest exploits recorded in the Bible.

These were the giants among men, held up before the church today as great examples of what we could be, but that is not the message intended in Hebrews 11. The message intended for us is found in the last two verses of the chapter: "*And THESE ALL, having obtained a good report through faith, RECEIVED NOT THE PROMISE: GOD HAVING PROVIDED SOME BETTER THING FOR US, that they without us should not be made perfect.*" Hebrews 11:39-40

The norm for old testament Israel's relationship with God is well expressed in Psalms 78:34, 36-37, "*When He slew them, then they sought Him ...Nevertheless they did flatter Him with their mouth, and they lied unto Him with their tongues. For their heart was not right with Him, neither were they stedfast in His covenant.*" Psalms 78 and Psalms 106 are two chapters that give a good insight into God's dealings with Israel. In Ezekiel's day, God had striven with His chosen people Israel for over a thousand years. In all those years they had not produced anything to please God. The northern kingdom of Israel had been carried away and scattered by the Assyrians. Babylon had destroyed the temple and the city of Jerusalem. Judah had been slaughtered, and a remnant were carried to Babylon in captivity.

In Ezekiel 36:20 God said "*And when they entered unto the heathen, whither they went, TIIIEY PROFANED MY HOLY NAME...*" Even in captivity the house of Israel had done exactly what God had warned them not to do. They had "*profaned*" His holy name.

"But I had pity for mine holy name, which the house of Israel had profaned among the heathen, whither they went. Therefore say unto the house of Israel, Thus saith the Lord GOD; I do not this for your sakes, O house of Israel, but for mine holy name's sake, which ye have profaned among the heathen, whither ye went. And I will sanctify my great name, which was profaned among the heathen, which ye have profaned in the midst of them; and the heathen shall know that I am the LORD, saith the Lord GOD, when I shall be sanctified in you before their eyes. ...A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them."

Not for Israel's sake, not for my sake or your sake, but God said for His holy name's sake He would do in us that which neither Israel nor any other people could ever do for themselves. We could not sanctify ourselves, so God said *"I shall be sanctified in you,"* Our heart was *"desperately wicked"* Jeremiah 17:9, so God said *"A new heart also will I give you."* All this is the basis for God's provision. Man could never fulfill God's vision, so God made provision to perform His vision in us for His own sake.

God's Provision

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith." Romans 1:16-17

You cannot preach the gospel without preaching the blood of Jesus. It's an absolute truth. Without the blood of Jesus, there is no gospel. The power of the gospel is in the blood of God's Son. The blood of Jesus is God's provision to fulfil His vision. There is no other way. Peter said that we are not redeemed with corruptible things as silver or gold but *"by the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot."* 1 Peter 1:18-19.

And he took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them, saying, This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me. Luke 22:19

Jesus was not teaching transubstantiation, but what He literally said was *"this is not the lamb that was killed in Egypt, this is my body."* He then took the cup and said *"This cup is the new testament in my blood."* Literally, "this is not the blood of an old testament goat, this is my blood, the new testament." *"This do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me."* 1 Corinthians 11:25

The Apostle Paul tells us in Hebrews 13:10, *"We have an altar, whereof they have no right to eat which serve the tabernacle."* The minister at the old covenant altar received a portion of the sacrifice as meat for his of the sacrifice as meat for his household to eat. Je-

sus said in John 6:54 *"Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day."* Again in the 57th verse, *"As the living Father hath sent me, and I live by the Father: so he that eateth me, even he shall live by me."*

Many destroy the power of these verses by interpretation. You may interpret these scriptures to mean word, spirit, or anything you want, but the truth is, the flesh and blood is Jesus Christ. It is the blood that was shed at Calvary. It is the body that was broken at Calvary. This is the meat indeed and drink indeed that gives eternal life to those that believe. This must be understood, everything we will ever need to serve God and be pleasing in His sight is provided for us in the blood of Jesus. It is through our faith in His blood that we are transformed from within.

THE BLOOD THAT SPEAKETH

"For ye are not come unto the mount that might be touched, and that burned with fire,...But ye are come unto mount Si-on,...And to Jesus the mediator of the New Covenant, and to the BLOOD OF SPRINKLING, THAT SPEAKETH BETTER THINGS than that of Abel." Hebrews 12:18, 22, 24

The blood of Abel cried out of the ground for vengeance against Abel's murderer. Genesis 4:10 The voice of Jehovah thundered from mount Sinai, speaking the ten commandments; *"thou shalt not..."* Exodus 20:1-17. Over the course of forty years Moses spoke hundreds of precepts, judgments, ordinances, etc., complete with dozens of curses pronounced upon all those that did not obey in every detail. The message of the law of Moses was revealed by Paul in Romans 10:5. *"The man which doeth those things shall live by them,"* in Hebrews 10:28, *"He that despised Moses' law died without mercy..."* and *"For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse."* Galatians 3:10.

The scripture says we are come to the blood of sprinkling that speaketh *"better things" than that of Able.*" The Apostle Paul uses the word *"better"* thirteen times in the book of Hebrews as he teaches the New Covenant. He speaks of a *"better hope,"* a *"better testament,"* a *"better covenant"* established upon *"better promises"* with *"better sacrifices."* He tells of a *"better substance,"* a *"better*

country," and a "better resurrection." The New Covenant promises "some better thing" for us than any of the faith heroes of the Old Covenant received. It is the blood of Jesus that speaks these better things. It is not the blood of Abel or the voice of Jehovah or the law of Moses, but it is Jesus that is the mediator of the New Covenant, and His blood that is speaking of better things. "*See that ye refuse not Him that speaketh. For if they escaped not who refused him that spake on earth, much more shall not we escape, if we turn away from Him that speaketh from heaven:*" Hebrews 12:25.

We are warned not to refuse "*Him that speaketh.*" The preceding verse says it is the blood that speaks. Paul continues to say that the speaking of the blood of Jesus will shake both heaven and earth and everything that is shaken will be moved out of the way. It is on the basis of what the blood speaks that man will be judged. Jesus spoke of the gospel in Mark 16:16, "*He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.*" Again in John 8:32 Jesus says "*And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.*" No other message has ever carried such authority. When Moses gave his law he said "*I have set before you life and death...*" They were to either obey it and live or disobey it and be stoned until dead. When the blood of Jesus speaks, the result is heaven or hell. Believe and be saved; believe not and be damned. For that reason it is through our faith in the blood of Jesus that we are partakers of the better things of the New Covenant.

Mercy

For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore- come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may OBTAIN MERCY, and find grace to help in time of need. Hebrews 4:15-16

The first message the blood speaks is mercy, a message so much better than that of Abel's blood as it cried to God for - vengeance against his murderer. Cain was cursed because of the speaking of the blood of Abel. But we hear the blood of Jesus as it continues to cry throughout the ages for mercy. As Jesus hung on the cross, His

cry was *"Father, forgive them for they know not what they do,"* That is the voice of the blood of sprinkling concerning every sinner, regardless of how great their sin. Why would God give His Son to die and shed His blood to save sinners? *"But God, who is rich in MERCY, for His great love wherewith He loved us, even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ..."* Ephesians 2:4-5.

In the New Covenant, mercy is God doing for us that which we cannot do for ourselves. Mercy is never God overlooking sin. In Mark 10:46-52, mercy is blind man Bartimaeus crying *"Jesus, thou son of David, have mercy on me...that I might receive my sight,"* and Jesus restored his sight. In Matthew 15:22-28, mercy is a woman of Canaan crying *"Have mercy on me, O Lord, thou son of David; my daughter is grievously vexed with a devil,"* and Jesus delivered her child. In Matthew 17:14-18, a man came to Jesus saying, *"Lord, have mercy on my son: for he is lunatic and sore vexed..."*, and Jesus rebuked the devil and cured the man's son. Ten lepers came to Jesus in Luke 17:12-14 asking for mercy, and they were all cleansed. Finally, in Luke 18:10-14, two men went to the temple to pray, one was a self-righteous Pharisee, and the other a publican. The publican would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but smote on his breast, saying, *"God be merciful to me a sinner."* Jesus said that this man went home justified. He was no longer a sinner because mercy had done for him what he could never do for himself.

FORBEARANCE

For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God; Being justified freely by HIS grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Whom God hath set forth to be: a propitiation through faith in His blood, to declare HIS righteousness for the REMISSION of sins that are past, through the FORBEARANCE of God;" Romans 3:23-25

The second message of the blood is forbearance. The word *"remission"* in this text comes from a Greek word that means *"toleration."* (Strong's Exhaustive Concordance) Everywhere else in the New Testament the word *"remission"* comes from a different

Greek word meaning something entirely different. In this text, however, it speaks of "toleration" for past sins through faith in the blood of Jesus. It's talking about my past sins and your past sins. That may differ a little from what we've been taught, but God will tolerate what we've done in the past through our faith in the blood of Jesus. You see, there is a difference between sins past and sins future, and I can show it to you in the scripture. This scripture specifies toleration for sins past; not for sins present or future. If you want to believe that the blood of Jesus is a covering, then let it cover sins past. Notice also that toleration of past sins is "through the forbearance of God." According to Strong's, the word "forbearance" means "self-restraint." In other words, through your faith in the blood of Jesus, God restrains Himself from judging you for past sins. What's done is done. You cannot undo it, but God will tolerate it and restrain His judgment because of your faith in the blood of Jesus Christ. He has promised that He will remember those past sins no more. That's the second message of the blood.

FREEDOM FROM SIN

I'm going, once again, to the authority of Strong's Concordance. I don't know the Greek language, but most people accept Mr. Strong as a pretty good authority on the Greek language. I want to challenge every person who is a student of the word in any degree, if you have a Strong's concordance, to confirm the things I tell you in this chapter.

In whom [Jesus Christ] we have REDEMPTION through His blood, the FORGIVENESS of sins, according to the riches of His grace." Ephesians 1:7

Forgiveness-#859-aphesis; freedom Strong's

Every place the word forgiveness is used in the New Testament, it comes from the Greek word "aphesis" meaning "freedom." I realize how totally different this may be from what we have traditionally thought. Oh, but we all knew what the meaning of forgiveness was. The problem is, we confused forgiveness with forbearance. My, what a difference it makes when we see the truth of what God is saying. Jesus said, "Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free...Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin...If

the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed."
John 8:32,34,36.

Redemption-#629-apolutrosis; ransom Strong's

The means by which God sets us free from sin is found in the word "*redemption*" which comes from the Greek word "*apolutrosis*" meaning "*ransom*." Jesus said that the sinner is a slave to sin. Jesus paid the ransom with His own blood. Through our faith in the blood of Jesus, sin has no more claim on us because we have been redeemed. We now have "freedom" from sin by the blood of Jesus.

The word "*forgive*" comes from a Greek word which means "*to send*." When we repent to God with faith in the blood of His Son, our sin is removed from us "*as far as the east is from the west...*" Psalms 103:12. It cannot remain because the ransom has been paid in full. I'm not speaking about past sins now, but rather the sin nature that held us in bondage so long. Every sin that a man commits comes from a sin nature, but the people God foreknew in Christ had no sin nature. Listen to me! What religion does (and thank God we're not religious, we're saved), what religion does is this. Sin grows up out of the heart like a tree. It brings forth its fruit, and religion spends all of its energy plucking the fruit. They say, "Well it looks like a nice tree if we can just keep it clean." But the fruit is horrible. And so religion spends all of its time purging the tree, pruning the tree, plucking the fruit off the tree, getting rid of the fruit. Then they say "Oh, we've got it pruned now, got the flesh under control, got the old man subdued. We've got it under control, everything is all right, we're going to be holy now, we're going to be pure now." The blossoms come, "My, just look at the blossoms, beautiful blossoms," and then the fruit appears, and it is sin. This is the tree John the Baptist spoke of when he said "*Now is the axe laid at the root of the tree,*"

In Romans 7:23, Paul spoke saying "*I see a law working in my members, warring against the law of my mind, bringing me into captivity unto the law of sin which is in my members.*" But in Romans 8:2 he said, "*But the law of the spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me FREE from the law of sin and death.*" Praise God. He's not talking about the law that was engraved in stone, he's talking about the law that was warring in his members. He said "I'm

free from the sin warfare by the law of the spirit of life in Christ Jesus." Praise God!

So "*forgiveness of sins*" in every place used in the New Testament is speaking about "*freedom from sin.*" "*If the son shall make you free, you shall be free indeed.*" John 8:36. That's what this is all about. That's what Jesus went to the cross for. That's what He died for. He shed his blood to redeem us and make us free. Free from sin!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because He hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the · poor; He hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach DELIVERANCE to the captives, and · recovering of sight to the blind, to set at LIBERTY them that are bruised, to preach the acceptable year of the Lord. Luke 4:18-19

Deliverance-#859-aphesis; freedom Strong's

Liberty-#859-aphesis; freedom Strong's

Notice briefly that the words "*deliverance*", "*liberty*", and "*forgiveness*" are each translated from the same Greek word "*aphesis*" meaning "*freedom*".

For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the REMISSION of sins, Matthew 26: 28

To Him give all the prophets witness, that through His name whosoever believeth in Him shall receive REMISSION of sins. Acts 10:43

...and without shedding of blood is no REMISSION.

Hebrews 9:22

Remission-#859-aphesis; freedom Strong's

As I have said before, the word "*remission*," in Romans 3:25, means "*toleration.*" In every other instance in the New Testament "*remission*" comes from that same Greek word "*aphesis*" meaning "*freedom.*" It is the same word that was translated "*forgiveness.*" Everywhere you read of "*remission*," except in Romans 3:25, it's meaning is "*freedom.*" "*Repent, be baptized...for the remission of sins...*" or for "*freedom*" from sin. FOR FREEDOM FROM SIN! Hallelujah! And, I must say, it's not water, but the blood of Jesus that makes us free. Throughout the New

Testament it is the same. *"Without the shedding of blood there is no remission [freedom] from sin," "In whom we have redemption by his blood, even the forgiveness (freedom) from sin."* Praise God! Notice how quickly the blood of Jesus lays the axe to the very root of the sin tree to set us free.

JUST HOW FREE IS FREE?

"For when you were servants of sin, ye were FREE FROM RIGHTEOUSNESS." Romans 6:20

How many of you had a struggle with righteousness when you were a sinner? You know, did you try your best to be a sinner, but you kept "falling into righteousness?" Was it a real struggle for you to sin, because righteousness had such a hold on you and laid snares at your feet all the time? When you went to the honky-tonks to have a good time with your buddies, did you keep falling into righteousness? Is that the case? Of course not! Do you know why? Because when you were a servant to sin, you were free from righteousness.

"But now being made FREE FROM SIN, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life." Romans 6:22

The Apostle Paul used the analogy about being free from righteousness in order to bring home a great truth about being free from sin. If righteousness laid no snares when you were a servant to sin, how then shall sin lay snares for those that are free from sin and servants to righteousness? The wonderful truth is, it cannot. Our freedom from sin is just as complete as is the sinner's freedom from righteousness. We are made free from the struggle to keep ourselves, for this also is His work and not ours. *"Now unto Him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy."*

Justification

Therefore being JUSTIFIED BY FAITH, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: Romans 5:1

Much more then, being now JUSTIFIED BY IDS BLOOD, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. Romans 5:9

Justified-#1344-dikaioo; rendered just, Just...#1342-dikaioo; equitable, innocent · Justification-# 1347-dikaiosis; acquittal Strong's

Acquittal-found not guilty American College Dictionary

You will notice that Romans 5:1 says we are justified by faith, while 5:9 says we are justified by His blood. These two scriptures do not contradict themselves. It is through faith in His blood that we are justified.

Spiritual justification is the miraculous work of the blood of Jesus upon the heart of man that makes him JUST. It is not merely "the way God sees us," as many wrongfully teach, but it is a very real work of the grace of God through the blood of Jesus which end result is "righteousness." Romans 3:26 says, "...that He [Jesus] might be JUST, and the JUSTIFIER of him which believeth in Jesus." If Jesus is both the "Just" and the "Justifier," then the "justified" will be "Just" like Jesus. And all this is accomplished through faith in the blood of Jesus. Romans 3:27-28 continues, "Where is boasting then? It is excluded By what law? of works? Nay: but by the law of faith. Therefore we. conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law."

Justified in the modern sense of the word is this; "made to balance, equal, equitable." That's justified. The act of justification is to cause two items to balance. A bookkeeper will know more about justification than most; justifying the books, making the debit and the credit to balance. When everything balances out, that's justification. Through faith in the blood of Jesus, justification does two things: We all know that we were sinners because Adam's sin was put to our account, and we were born in sin. If you could have been born into this world and never committed a sin in your life, you'd still be lost. Born in sin because of Adam's sin, you inherited a sin nature, you were tied to Adam's sin. It was on your account and in your heart. God didn't say "I know you're not really a sinner, I only see you as a sinner." You were a sinner because Adam's sin was put on every man's account, and that is the reason man sins.

Justification by faith in Jesus' blood will, number one, sever us from that tie with Adam and take his sin off our account, but it does something else, it ties us to Jesus, putting His righteousness on our account, and we are made righteous. God doesn't say "I see you as righteous, even though you're still filthy, living in sin and committing abominations." He does not say "The blood of Jesus has got it all covered and I cannot see it." The blood of Jesus does not hide us from God, it brings us to God.

True righteousness is a city set on a hill that cannot be hid. It is not a candle under a bushel. It is not going around confessing "I'm the righteousness of God through Jesus Christ, I'm the righteousness of God through Jesus Christ." I'm saying that righteousness, as a city set on a hill, cannot be hid. It was prophesied of Jesus, "*I have not hid thy righteousness within my heart.*" Psalms 40:10. What are you talking about Jesus? What do you mean you haven't hid it? Aren't we supposed to hide His righteousness in our hearts? No! If we are righteous, the whole world will see His righteousness. It cannot be hid. Righteousness is a light, not under a bushel, but by the blood of Jesus it is ours. We are justified by his blood. His righteousness is put to our account and we are now made free from sin to serve God.

SANCTIFICATION

"Be not carried about with divers and strange doctrines. For it is a good thing that the heart be established with grace; not with meats, which have not profited them that have been occupied therein. We have an altar, whereof they have no right to eat which serve the tabernacle. For the bodies of those beasts, whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest for sin, are burned without the camp. Wherefore Jesus also, that he might SANCTIFY THE PEOPLE WITH HIS OWN BLOOD, suffered without the gate."

Hebrews 13:9-12

"For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins. Wherefore when He cometh into the world, He saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared me: In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin thou hast had no pleasure...Then said He, Lo, I

come to do thy will, O God...By the which will WE ARE SANCTIFIED THROUGH THE OFFERING OF THE BODY OF JESUS CHRIST once for all.” Hebrews 10:4-6, 9-10

I looked for a common denominator for both the day of Pentecost and the turn of the century revival. Our forefathers believed a doctrine they called "sanctification by grace." Although the Holy Ghost was poured out upon several different groups at almost the same time around the year 1900, there was one common denominator with each group: they all believed and preached "sanctification by grace." The masses of religion should ask, "What's that?" It's simply believing that the blood of Jesus Christ will clean you up! That's what sanctification by grace is, the blood of Jesus cleans you up. It's not a work of man. It's not of the ability of man, not a labor of man, not by the struggles of man, but the blood of Jesus will clean you up! It'll sanctify you and make you holy. That's true covenant! I said "That's true covenant!" The fire fell on the day of Pentecost; the fire fell at the turn of the century.

Holy men went out preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ, and shook the world in the first decade of this century as well as at the day of Pentecost. Most people date modern Pentecost back to the Azusa Street revival which began in 1906, but in the six years before that revival, the Holy Ghost had fallen on four of the seven continents. Contrary to what many think, the greatest revival since the day of Pentecost took place in the first few years of this century.

I'm third generation Pentecost. My grandmother received the Holy Ghost in 1904, my daddy received it about 1924, and I received it in 1958. One of my Aunts lived in the early days of the Pentecostal revival. She had a scrap book with numerous newspaper clippings about the move of God in that day. I've read the reports and seen the pictures of the revivals that swept this nation. In one city in Oklahoma the Barnum and Baily circus had to close after only three days because the people were at the revival meetings. Huge warehouses were filled to capacity with hungry souls. There would be stacks of crutches, braces, and canes reaching almost to the ceilings as God moved in such a miraculous way. This was before the so-called "healing revival" of the forties and fifties. Few realize that the greatest healings and miracles ever seen in the church were

before the "healing revival." Raymond T. Richey held a crusade in Houston, Texas, during the early days of the depression. In that revival, a great number of paralytics, polio victims, cripples, people in wheel chairs and on stretchers were healed. At the close of the revival, they loaded the crutches, braces, canes, stretchers, wheel chairs, etc., into several large trucks and had a parade through downtown Houston.

The lame, the halt, and the blind that God had healed in that one crusade marched in the parade giving praise to God. They marched to Memorial Park and there made a bonfire of the crutches, etc. and had one last great outdoor service. Newspaper reporters witnessed the miraculous and could say nothing against it. Today if you hear of an occasional miracle somewhere it is big news. What made the difference for our forefathers? The blood of Jesus "cleaned them up." They preached that the blood would sanctify you holy, that Jesus suffered that He might "*...sanctify the people with His own blood.*"

The next generation came on the scene and taught that sanctification is a co-operative work; "progressive sanctification." They said we believe it's by grace, but it's progressive, it takes a period of time." Listen, the blood will sanctify you in less time than it takes to snap your fingers! Oh, hear me; hear me! You that struggle with temptation, you that struggle with sin, you that struggle trying to please God, you that have a struggle trying to live for God, He will clean you up in the twinkling of an eye. He'll sanctify your spirit and set you free; He'll set your heart free! But, they began to preach "progressive sanctification," you do your part, and God will do His part.

There came another generation that said "No, you've got to sanctify yourself," so they entered the struggle of trying to sanctify themselves through manmade standards and laws which can never please God. Then the present generation arose that basically believes that man can't be sanctified, but only covered; that the blood of Jesus "covers" sin. In less than one century, the church made a complete turnaround, from a people that were sanctified holy by the blood of Jesus, unto this generation where there is an unclean people that claim to be the people of God.

PURIFICATION

For if the blood of bulls and goats, and the ashes of a heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh: HOW MUCH MORE SHALL THE BLOOD OF CHRIST, who through the eternal spirit offered Himself without spot to God, PURGE YOUR CONSCIENCE from dead works to serve the living God." Hebrews 9:13-14

Conscience--#4893-suneidesis; moral consciousness Strong's Moral consciousness--innermost thoughts and feelings American College Dictionary

"That which cometh out of the man, that defileth the man. For FROM WITHIN, OUT OF THE HEART of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness: ALL THESE EVIL THINGS COME FROM WITHIN, and defile the man." Mark 7:20-23

"And God, which knoweth the hearts, bare them witness, giving them the Holy Ghost, even as He did unto us; And put no difference between us and them, PURIFYING THEIR HEARTS BY FAITH. Now therefore why tempt ye God, to put a yoke upon the neck of the disciples, which neither our fathers nor we were able to bear? But we believe that through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved, even as they." Acts 15:8-11

There are three things over which man has no real control. You may get control over your actions. You may get control over the places you go and the things you do. But there are three areas man cannot control: his thoughts, his imaginations, and his dreams. And he has less control over his dreams than any of these. Jude spoke of certain ungodly men in the church who "...turned the grace of God into lasciviousness." Jude 4. These were those who went "...in the way of Cain, ran greedily after the error of Balaam for reward, and perished in the gainsaying of Core." Jude 11. He called them "filthy dreamers." Jude 8. They were men of defiled consciences: unclean thoughts, filthy dreams and dirty imaginations, with eyes filled with adultery. The church today has many people plagued

with these very problems. Religion has often taught that because these things are beyond the control of the individual, there is no reason to be concerned. Some have even compared their filthiness of thought and imagination to the temptations of Jesus. Others have sought to give principles whereby you could control the thoughts and imagination.

All these approaches are wrong, for Jesus taught that all these things were symptoms of a defiled heart. Listen to the words of Jesus in Matthew 5:27-28; *"Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery: But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart."* Was Jesus lighthearted concerning the uncleanness of man's thoughts and imaginations? Listen to the next verse; *"And if thy right eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell."* Jesus let it be known in no uncertain terms that the uncleanness of the heart, manifest in the thoughts and imaginations, would cause the whole body to be cast into hell. Yet, to physically mutilate the body is not the answer to the problem of an unclean imagination. The only answer is the purification of the heart by the blood of Jesus.

In Acts 15 there was a council meeting held in Jerusalem in order to determine whether, or how, a Gentile could be saved. The common belief was that a Gentile would have to become a proselyte, be circumcised, become a Jew, keep the law of Moses, and then believe upon the Messiah. Peter testified of his experience with Cornelius saying, *"And God, which knoweth the hearts, bare them witness, giving them the Holy Ghost, even as He did unto us; And put no difference between us and them, PURIFYING THEIR HEARTS BY FAITH."* Acts 15:8-9. Let's bring faith once again, right back to the blood of Jesus Christ. What did God do? He purified their hearts by the blood of Jesus, through faith in that blood. He has washed us from our sins and purified our hearts by the blood. Everything that defiles a man comes from his heart. Out of the heart comes adulteries, fornications, and evil thoughts. Out of the heart a man is defiled, but the blood of Jesus purifies the heart.

Peter finished his testimony in Acts 15: 11 saying, *"We believe that through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we [Jews] shall be saved, even as they [Gentiles]."* Notice he didn't say "I'm persuaded the Gentiles can be saved even as we" because that would mean they must become a proselyte, be circumcised, obey the law of Moses, and then believe upon the Messiah, but he said *"I'm persuaded that we shall be saved even as they."* How? By faith in the shed blood of Jesus Christ, without the ordinances, without the ceremonies, without the laws, without the traditions, but by the blood of Jesus Christ plus nothing. Purified, purged, washed, and cleansed by the blood of Jesus.

THE GOOD AND THE EVIL

"A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things." Matthew 12:35

An evil man out of the evil treasure of the heart brings forth evil. Everything that comes out of the evil heart is unclean. Someone said "but I don't have an evil heart." The word "good" in the New Testament is an intrinsic word. Jesus said *"there is none GOOD but God."* We set our values, and according to man's values we have good people and bad people. Good people give a lot to charity, and good people are honest and pay their bills, and good people... You know they may not be saved, but they're good people. I can relate to that kind of thinking. Evil people are pushing drugs, and evil people are into perversion and fornication and all of that, but Jesus spoke to his disciples before His blood was shed for their redemption, and said, *"If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your father which is in heaven give GOOD things to them that ask Him?"* Matthew 7:11. Notice, in this text it was the disciples He called "evil." We need to understand that everything below a crucified Christ is not a savior and everything below the almighty God is evil, fleshly, carnal, and unacceptable unto God. God's standard of what is evil is everything beneath Himself. Yet, Jesus spoke of a good man... How does an "evil" man become a "good" man? His heart, purified by the blood of Jesus, becomes a good treasure house, filled with good, filled with the Holy Ghost, which are synonymous terms.

Jesus spoke of the religious order of His day *"This is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil."* John 3:19. Their deeds were evil, their works were fleshly, they were carnal, they were of man's abilities. He wasn't speaking about the thief or the whoremonger. He wasn't talking about the woman caught in the act of adultery. He was speaking of the religious elite of the day, the high priest, the Sanhedrin court, the Pharisee and the Sadducee. They hated the light because their works were carnal; they were fleshly; they were evil. *"He that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be manifest, that they are wrought in God."* John 3:21. Hallelujah! There is no work of man that will be acceptable to God regardless of how good it may appear in the sight of man. There is no work, there is no product of the flesh which God will honor. The flesh profits nothing, it is the spirit that quickens. The words I speak, Jesus said, *"they are spirit and they are life, but the flesh profits nothing."* It is impossible for they that are in the flesh to please God. The only work that is going to stand is that which the everlasting covenant makes you perfect in every good work [every GOD work] *to do His will, working in you..* *"For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus....,"* not evolved, but created in Christ Jesus. Someone said, "Preacher, give me time." Let me tell you something, if you don't have it, if you ever get it, you'll get it in a moment of time, ...a creation. "Oh preacher, you take away our hope." There is no hope in your flesh. It is by the blood of Jesus. "Preacher what can I do?" First, you can catch the vision of God. Catch a vision of God presenting a people to Himself, holy, unblamable, unproveable, glorious, without spot, blemish, any such thing. Realize that regardless of what modern theology teaches, God will accept nothing less. Then receive God's provision and place your faith in the shed blood of Jesus. *"Now unto Him that is able to keep you from falling, and present you faultless...."* Jude 24.

PERFECTION IN CHRIST

"Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto PERFECTION;" Hebrews 6:1

“If therefore PERFECTION were by the Levitical priesthood, what further need was there that another priest should rise after the order of Melchisedec....” Hebrews 7:11

“For THE LAW MADE NOTHING PERFECT, but the bringing in of a BETTER HOPE DID; by the which we draw nigh unto God.” Hebrews 7:19

“For THE LAW...CAN NEVER with those sacrifices. which they offered year by year continually MAKE THE COMERS THEREUNTO PERFECT.” Hebrews 10:1

“For by one offering HE HATH PERFECTED FOREVER them that are sanctified.” Hebrews 10:14

“Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, MAKE YOU PERFECT IN EVERY GOOD WORK to do his will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ...”

Hebrews 13:20-21

The message of the book of Hebrews can be summed up in these few words; "If perfection had been by the law, Jesus would not have come." You say but "Brother Surface, perfection means thus and so." It doesn't matter what it means; it is still in the Bible. If it means maturity, then there is no maturity by the law. If it means completion, then there is no completion by the law. Whatever it means, the law couldn't do it. Whatever it means, the Levitical priesthood couldn't do it. Whatever it means, Moses couldn't do it. Whatever it means, you cannot do it, but the blood of Jesus was shed to perfect a people in Christ. I will not apologize for that. This word will stand when everything else is on fire. Praise God.

*“..the blood of the everlasting covenant, **make you perfect in every good work to do His will, working in you** that which is well-pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ.”*

The blood of Jesus "...working in you." Can you realize this is more than just saying "God forgive my sins." "Now I'm covered, now I'll strive for perfection the rest of my life, or now I'll just "go with the flow." No! The blood will work in you that which is well-

pleasing to God. None of our works, regardless of how good they are, will ever stand before God.

I'm persuaded that the best definition of "*perfection*" is in Hebrews 7:26, as applied to our high priest; "...*holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and higher than the heavens.*" The blood of Jesus will do that for you and God will accept nothing less. Yet you can strive with it, you can labor with it, struggle with it, you can try all of your life to produce it, but you can never do it. Look to the provision! In the words of John the Baptist, "*Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world,*"

RESTORING THE BLOOD COVENANT

Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should EARNESTLY CONTEND FOR THE FAITH which was once delivered unto the saints. For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, TURNING THE GRACE OF OUR GOD INTO LASCIVIOUSNESS, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ."

Jude 3-4

There is much urgency in the words of Jude's short letter as he writes in the closing hours of the church's first generation: "...*earnestly contend for the faith....*" That's the gospel, the gospel of Jesus Christ, the faith that was once delivered to the saints. The 4th verse tells why he wrote with such urgency. He said, "*For there are certain men crept in unawares...ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness....*"

Heresy begins with the preaching of another gospel. Error begins with another gospel. Paul warned in II Corinthians 11:4, "*For if he that cometh preacheth ANOTHER JESUS, whom we have not preached, or if ye receive ANOTHER SPIRIT, which ye have not received, or ANOTHER GOSPEL, which ye have not accepted....*"

It's in the land today. Another gospel has swept across our nation. Another spirit has possessed the religious masses. Peter also warned of these in II Peter 2:14-15, 17-18 saying, "*an heart they*

have exercised with covetous practices; cursed children: which have forsaken the right way, and are gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of Bosor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness. These are wells without water, clouds that are carried with a tempest; to whom the mist of darkness is reserved for ever. For when they speak great swelling words of vanity, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, through much wantonness, those that were clean escaped from them who live in error."

These think the grace of God to be a doctrine of fleshly liberty and uncleanness; giving permission to continue in sin that grace may abound. Paul said "*God forbid. How shall we that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?*" Romans 6:2

Elijah lived in a generation very much like this one. Israel had forsaken the covenant, thrown down the altars of God, and killed the prophets. They were a very religious people, but they were Baal worshippers.

Having been deceived by the prophets of Baal, they sincerely believed Baal to be the true God. Sadly, they did not know the difference between Jehovah and Baal. Elijah said they were halted between two opinions. Elijah gave the challenge, "*Let the prophets of Baal pray to their gods, and I will pray to Jehovah, and we will serve the God that answers by fire,*" and the people said "*It's well spoken.*"

The prophets of Baal offered their sacrifice and prayed for seven or eight hours, "*O Baal, hear us!*" They leaped upon their altar, they cried aloud, and cut themselves with knives until their own blood flowed, but the scripture records "*...there was neither voice, nor any to answer, nor any that regarded,*": They prayed all morning and an afternoon until the time of the evening sacrifice, in all about seven or eight hours. Let me tell you something, prayer is good, but if you are not in the covenant of the blood of Jesus that sets people free, prayer will not do you a dimes worth of good. The prophets of Baal can pray night and day for an eternity, and the fire of God will never fall on their altar.

The Bible says "*the effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.*" James 5:16. The key to this scripture is the word "*righteous.*" Many today are teaching the power of prayer. In fact,

there is no power in prayer, but rather in the God that answers prayer. And, it is the righteous person that prevails with God. If you haven't been through the blood of Jesus, you can pray for a thousand years, and there will be none to answer, none to regard, none that even cares that you are praying. Jesus taught us not to pray as the heathen prays, "...for they think they shall be heard for their much speaking." The prophets of Baal prayed for seven or eight hours, and there was none to answer, or even anyone to care. "It looks like God would have felt sorry for them and given them a little bit of fire." No! They were the prophets of Baal.

At the time of the evening sacrifice, Elijah first repaired the altar of the Lord that was fallen down. Now the altar of the Lord speaks of sacrifice, and the Old Testament sacrifice speaks of Jesus Christ. Next, he took twelve stones and built an altar in the name of the Lord. This second altar is for you and me. Mark it down! There is an altar for you and me, as Paul said, to "...present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, and acceptable unto God..." You know the rest of the story, how he put the wood in order, cut the bullock in pieces, laid him on the wood, dug a trench around the altar, poured twelve barrels of water over the sacrifice, until water flowed in the trench, and then prayed a sixty-three word prayer. Twenty-five seconds into Elijah's prayer the fire of God fell from heaven. That's covenant! He restored the covenant! He restored the evening sacrifice! In Exodus 29:42-43 God promised concerning the evening sacrifice, "*I will MEET WITH YOU, I'll SPEAK TO YOU and the TABERNACIB SHALL BE SANCTIFIED by my glory,*" Praise God! That's what Elijah did. He restored the covenant, and twenty-five seconds later the fire of God was on the altar. If the covenant of the blood of Jesus were restored in the hearts of the people of God across America, I can guarantee, the fire would be on the altar.

Obtaining the Glory

"God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth: Whereunto he called you by our gospel, to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ." II Thessalonians 2:13-14

I had preached so hard against sin in 1988. Many religious broadcasters were saying, "But we're all sinners, we sin every day." I would say, "No! The redeemed are not sinners." Even as Lot, I vexed my righteous soul listening to preachers defend their right to sin. You can let bitterness come into your heart by simply listening to such teaching. Do you understand what I am saying? Their favorite scripture at that time seemed to be Romans 3:10, "*As it is written, there is none righteous, no, not one:*" If you identify with this scripture, then of necessity you must also identify with the rest of what Paul quoted; "*There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no not one. Their throat is an open sepulchre; with their tongues they have used deceit; the poison of asps is under their lips: Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness: Their feet are swift to shed blood: Destruction and misery are in their ways: And the way of peace have they not known: There is no fear of God before their eyes.*" Romans 3:11-18.

Paul's conclusion concerning these verses taken from the law is this: There is not one righteous person under the law, but there is a righteous people in Jesus Christ. Paul said, "*I do not frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness come by the Law, then Christ is dead in vain.*" Galatians 2:21.

I read these words in Romans 3:23 one day, "*For all have sinned...*" And I said "thank God I'm redeemed!" I continued reading, "*...and come short of the glory of God;*" and an arrow pierced my heart. We've related sin and coming short of the glory to be the same thing. It is not. You remember there is a sin unto death and a sin not unto death? One word for sin is to miss the mark. If you go out and commit adultery, you didn't miss the mark, you weren't even aiming. You didn't come short of the glory, you weren't reaching for the glory. But you can reach for the glory with all of your strength and still come short of it. You can strive and you can struggle with all of your might, but you'll still come short of the glory of God. I thought, "My God, I've come short of the glory." You see, Jesus will be glorified in His saints. That's the vision of God. But when we realize that however sincere we've been, however diligent we've been, if it has not been His workmanship, if it

has not been by the working of His blood in us, then we also have come short of the glory of God. All of our works, labors, abilities, talents, have all come short of the glory of God, but that which Christ works in us by His blood will bring the glory of God. It will bring true Pentecost. If you lack, look to Jesus. "Lord, give me eyes that see, ears that hear, and a heart that understands."

Conclusion

Do you believe that the blood of Jesus Christ is all sufficient to make you holy, pure, clean, sanctify you, wash and purify you? The blood and the blood alone? Do you believe that? In the words of a precious old song, "Just as I am without one plea, but that thy blood was shed for me..." The blood is so all sufficient in its work that there is no room for any to boast in the flesh. All excuse is taken away, because the work is the Lord's and not our own. *"Not of works, lest any man should boast. · FOR WE ARE HIS WORKMANSHIP, CREATED in Christ Jesus unto good works..."* Ephesians 2:9-10. Oh, how wonderful it is. The moment your heart understands and lays hold on the message of the blood the work is finished, the battle is over, and the victory is won. The blood of Jesus is still speaking. Believe its message! Receive its blessing!

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