

PRAYER:

Thank you Father for what you have done, for an amazing world, for the truth of your Word, but above all for the gift of your Son our Lord Jesus, and the covering of our sinful lives through his blood. We thank you, and we praise you.

Bless us, and our worship time; may it be to your glory. Amen

HYMN: AHB 320 "Breathe on me" Edwin Hatch 1835—1889

1. Breathe on me, breath of God, fill me with life anew,
That I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.
2. Breathe on me, breath of God, until my heart is pure,
Until with thee I will one will to do and to endure.
3. Breathe on me, breath of God, till I am wholly thine,
until this earthy part of me glows with thy fire divine.
4. Breathe on me, breath of God, so shall I never die,
But live with thee the perfect life of thine eternity.

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MESSAGE

Sometime back we were Church searching and I went to the Semaphore Salvation Army. There was shield inside and the words on it were BLOOD and FIRE. Blood for the Salvos represents the sacrificial atoning blood of Jesus on the cross as it does for all Christians, while fire is the empowering of the Holy Spirit. The shield has not changed since the founding of the Salvos in 1865 by a Methodist minister William Booth and his wife Catherine. What a Witness!!

1. GENESIS 8:20
After being saved from the flood, Noah builds an altar to God and sacrifices offerings on it. God's response is to promise to never again destroy living things in this way.
2. EXODUS 12:12-13
Blood as protection V.7 Then they are to take some blood and put it on the sides and top of the door frames of the houses (the top and sides, an early sign of the cross).
3. LEVITICUS 17:11
Blood as an atonement Life is in the blood, and blood means life.
4. ISAIAH 53:5
The Messiah (promised one) will take up our sins and will be crushed for them. He will be pierced and wounded. **The shedding of his blood will bring healing** to us.
5. JOHN 1:29
Look, the lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

6. MATTHEW 26:28

While they were at the table Jesus took the cup, gave thanks and said drink from it all of you. This is my **blood of the covenant**, which is poured out for many for **the forgiveness of sins**.

7. HEBREWS 9:12

He entered the most holy place once and for all by his own blood, thus securing eternal redemption.

8. Hebrews 9:22 **"Without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness."**

The Old Testament readings give an unmistakeable journey of God requiring the restoration of the people through the blood sacrifice. In particular, the daubing of the door frames in Egypt with a cross outline to protect and FREE them is a clear example that God still required the blood sacrifice. But in Jesus it's a once and for all --- Hebrews 9:12 "He entered the most holy place once and for all by his own blood, thus securing eternal redemption."

I hope the challenging title "Blood Bath" gives us the situation report for our lives under the eternal blood covenant in Christ.

In conclusion, Revelation 7:14 "They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the lamb."

The Bible's blood trail tells one consistent story:

- Sin is real
- Justice matters
- Mercy is available
- God provides the sacrifice

REVELATION 12:11

They have defeated him by the blood of the lamb and **by their testimony**.

From Genesis to Revelation the message is not "try harder", it's "look closer" :

- God did not overlook sin – he overcame it
- God did not excuse guilt – he erased it.
- God did not demand payment from you – he paid himself.

SONG: *by Robert Lowry (1826–1899)*

1. What can wash away my sin? Nothing but the blood of Jesus
What can make me whole again? Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

*Oh precious is the flow that makes me white as snow.
No other fount I know, nothing but the Blood of Jesus.*

2. For my pardon this I see, nothing but the blood of Jesus.
For my cleansing this I plea, nothing but the blood of Jesus.
3. This is all my hope and peace, nothing but the blood of Jesus.
This is all my righteousness, nothing but the blood of Jesus.

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CLOSING PRAYER

Father, thank you for the unstoppable story of redemption interwoven through your word, page by page. Thank you that you did not leave me in sin and shame, but you provided a Saviour which was always in your plan for me. Help me see the cross, not as a symbol of defeat, but as the place of triumph, where love was victorious, mercy flowed, and my debt was paid. Anchor my life in what Jesus has done--- not in what I can do.

In Jesus name I pray, Amen

BLESSING:

May our Lord Jesus (The Paschal lamb) whose blood sacrifice frees us all bless you and keep you now and always.

Amen

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