

Doctrinal Studies

Blood of Christ

1. The blood of Christ is represented by animal blood in the Old Testament (Heb. 9:6-14; Lev. 17:11). Blood is said to be the seat of animal life—the life of animal flesh is in the blood. The emphasis here is on animals (Lev. 17:14).
2. Animal blood was used in the Old Testament to represent the spiritual death of Christ on the Cross (Lev. Chapters 1-3). In the New Testament, when the blood of Christ is mentioned, it is referring to His spiritual death just as the blood of animals in the Old Testament referred to His spiritual death (Col. 1:20; I Peter 1:2; Heb. 13:20).
3. The Doctrine of Redemption was communicated in the Old Testament by means of animal sacrifices (blood). Heb 9:22—"And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding the blood is no remission."
4. Jesus Christ died by choice—ON PURPOSE—because this was God's plan (John 10:17-18). Verse 17 says "Therefore doth My Father love Me, because I lay down My life, that I might take it again." Verse 18: "No man taketh it from Me, but I lay it down of Myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received from My Father." When salvation was finished, He then dismissed His spirit to the Father (Luke 23:46; Matt. 27:50).
5. The blood depicts four doctrines of soteriology:
 - a. Expiation: Rev 1:5—Christ paid the penalty of sin and frees man. He paid in full God's just demands against man as a sinner.
 - b. Redemption: Eph 1:17; Col 1:14; I Peter 1:18-19—Redemption means the freedom of one paid at a very high price by the one who frees. The Blood of Christ is the coin of the realm of purchasing our freedom from the slave market of sin.
 - c. Justification: Rom 5:9—Vindication by blood. Rom 3:24; Rom 3:28—"Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law."
 - d. Sanctification: Set apart. II Thess 2:13; I Peter 1:2
6. The blood of Christ is the basis for being restored to fellowship (RTF). I John 1:7—"...and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin." We must be His through faith—John 3: 16, 18—in order to be covered by His blood and cleansed from all sin. He paid the price for our sin by His death on the Cross. This is the basis for being restored to fellowship because you cannot be *restored* to fellowship until you have been in fellowship *the first time* (at the point of salvation).

We are human and make mistakes (sin) which takes us out of fellowship with God—I John 1:6—but not out of His family (John 10:28). In order to get back into fellowship, we claim I John 1:9: "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." All sins were judged on the Cross; He forgives our sins when we admit them.