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By His blood Pt 1 Justified by, and washed in His blood

Following last weeks teaching on redemption which included being redeemed by His blood, we will continue with the theme of blood, and focus on the phrase- By His blood. To enable us to capture all that encompasses "by His blood" we will look at other phrases- "by blood", "through blood", "with blood", and "in blood". In this study we will cover three points- (i) we are justified by His blood, (ii) Christ made peace through the blood of His cross, (iii) Christ has washed us from our sins in His own blood.

It is from our search of the scriptures that we establish our points-

1. We are justified by His blood

"Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him" (Rom.5: 9).

2. Christ made peace through the blood of His cross

"And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven. [21] And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled" (Col 1:20, 21).

3. Christ has washed us from our sins in his own blood

"And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, [and] the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood" (Rev.1: 5).

Illustration

The Old Testament priests washed themselves because they were unclean, they physically sprinkled blood on the altar to sanctify it, and make it holy. Roman Catholics adopt this physical cleansing when it comes to their sin. They believe that at baptism their sins are forgiven, and those sins committed after baptism are forgiven when receiving the Eucharist- because Jesus said eat my body and drink my blood - Jn.6: 54- "Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life..."

Questions of the scriptures

Are we justified, our sins washed away by water? And does the wine at the Lord's supper turn into the blood of Christ which then cleanses us of our weekly sins?

Answers from the scriptures

NO- As we touched on last week- we are redeemed not with corruptible things, BUT by the precious blood of Christ- 1 Pet.1:19- "But with the precious blood of Christ".

The question I had put to me by a Roman Catholic was- "How can Christ's blood that He shed two thousand years ago wash away our sins of today?" He could not understand how this was possible!. My answer-

* "With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible" (Matt.19: 26).

* I am "fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform" (Rom 4:21)

Hence, when we believe, by faith that His blood cleanses us, then it is applied to our account and our sins are forgiven...it is by "faith in his blood" (Rom 3:25).

Let us remember that God does NOT apply Christ's blood that He shed on the cross to our account until we believe Him, His word, where He says have "faith in his blood"- then we are justified, redeemed, sanctified and washed by His blood. Amen!