

The Normal Christian Life

The Blood of Christ

Our Dual Problem: Sins and Sin

- The first eight chapters of Romans form a self-contained unit.
 - Chapters 1:1 – 5:11 speak of **sins**.
 - Many and can be enumerated.
 - Chapters 5:12 – 8:39 speak of **sin**.
 - A principle working in man.
- We need **forgiveness** from what we have done, and **deliverance** from what we are.

God's Dual Remedy: The Blood and the Cross

- In the first eight chapters of Romans **two aspects of salvation** are presented.
 - Chapters 1:1 – 5:11 mention the **Blood of the Lord Jesus**.
 - The Blood deals with what we have done and disposes of our sins.
 - Chapters 5:12 – 8:39 mention having been “**crucified**” with Christ.
 - The Cross deals with what we are and strikes at the root of our capacity for sin.

The Problem of Our Sins

- **Rom. 5:19** – For just as through the **disobedience** of **one man** the **many** were **constituted sinners**, so also through the **obedience** of the **One** the **many** will be **constituted righteous**.
 - Sin enters as disobedience to create a **separation** between God and man.
 - That sin in man gives rise in him to a sense of **guilt**—of estrangement from God.
 - Sin provides Satan with his ground of **accusation** before God.
- Our sins had to be dealt with, our guilt has to be dealt with, and the attack of the enemy has to be met.

The Blood is Primarily for God

- The **Blood** is for **atonement** and has to do first with our **standing before God**.
 - Our sins are forgiven not because God overlooks what we have done but because **He sees the Blood**.

God is Satisfied

- God is the One who demands that the **Blood be presented**, in order to **satisfy His own righteousness**, and it is He who says: ‘When I see the blood’, I will pass over you.’
- The Blood of Christ **wholly** satisfies God.
- The Blood is first for **God to see**.
 - We then have to accept **God’s valuation** of it. In doing so we shall **find our valuation**.
- **1 Pet. 1:18, 19** – Knowing that *it was* not with corruptible things... *that* you were redeemed... But with **precious blood... the blood** of Christ...
 - We have to believe that the Blood is precious to God because **He says it is so**.

The Blood and the Believer’s Access

- The Blood has a second value that is manward – **cleansing our conscience**.
- As soon as we find our **conscience is uneasy** our **faith leaks away** and immediately we find **we cannot face God**.
- Our approach to God must be based on the fact that the **Blood has been shed**, and that God **looks on that Blood and is satisfied**.
 - The Blood has never changed and never will.
 - We must approach God in **boldness** through the Blood.

Overcoming the Accuser

- The **Blood** operates against Satan by **putting God on the side of man** against him.
- We may at times **think** that there are sins which are almost unforgivable.
 - **1 Jo 1:7** – ... the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from **every sin**.
 - The blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from **every sin** because in the first place it satisfies God.
- Our need is to recognize the **absolute sufficiency** of the precious Blood.
- Our salvation lies in **looking away to the Lord Jesus** and in seeing that **the Blood of the Lamb has met the whole situation** created by our sins and has answered it.

(The Normal Christian Life – Chapter 1)