

# WE HAVE REDEMPTION THROUGH HIS BLOOD

READING: Ephesians 1:7

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Sermon No. 412

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# One of the powerful images of the Cross is the blood that was shed for us

- His blood had to be shed

Hebrews 9:22

THE VOICE 22 Under the law, it's almost the case that everything is purified in connection with blood; without the shedding of blood, sin cannot be forgiven

- We are eternally benefited by the atoning blood sacrifice of the sinless Lamb

Hebrews 10:9

He effectively takes away the first—*animal sacrifice*—in order to establish the second, *more perfect sacrifice*

## We have redemption through His blood –

Ephesians 1:3-10

<sup>3</sup> Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly *places* in Christ, <sup>4</sup> just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, <sup>5</sup> having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, <sup>6</sup> to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved.

<sup>7</sup> In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace <sup>8</sup> which He made to abound toward us in all wisdom and prudence, <sup>9</sup> having made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself, <sup>10</sup> that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth—in Him.

- To say we are richly blessed in Christ would be an understatement
- Sometimes it is hard to fully comprehend just how blessed we are

- Consider . . .

John 3:16

<sup>16</sup>For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

- How can we not get excited about all the blessings that are ours in Christ?
- But sometimes . . . we miss out on all the blessings
- By this we mean . . . we are grateful for our salvation . . . but we are yet to receive the full benefits of all that Christ accomplished on the Cross
- If we fail to fully appropriate the benefits it would be like . . .

Ω Knowing there is a big cheque coming . . . but being too lazy to go out and check the mail

Ω Or turning the shower on . . . but not bothering to get in

A pastor's story:

My mother loved to tell about a little boy (whom I will not name) whom she once told to take a bath. So he filled the bathtub with water; but when she checked, he was sitting on the side of the tub dangling his feet in the water. She informed him that, to receive any good thing from a bath, you have to get in!

He wanted the benefit of a bath without doing what you have to do to take a bath!

- For the lost that is the tragic mistake that so many make
  - Ω They want the benefit of 'something' after life but are not willing to do what you have to receive eternal life
- Sometimes we may make similar mistakes
  - Ω I wonder, how many of us are like the boy dangling his feet in the water!

Ω Saved . . . but at risk of missing out on so many added blessings

## How do claim that we have the benefits of Jesus' death . . . ten things to consider

- This list is not exhaustive . . . there is so much to learn in the Christian Faith
- This list doesn't imply that some of you have already taken these steps

### 1. We must repent . . . to know the Gospel and not repent is the child on the edge of the bath

Acts 2:38

NKJV <sup>8</sup> Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

NLV <sup>8</sup> Be sorry for your sins and turn from them and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ, and your sins will be forgiven

THE VOICE <sup>8</sup> Reconsider your lives; change your direction. Participate in the ceremonial washing of baptism in the name of Jesus God's Anointed, *the Liberating King*. Then your sins will be forgiven, and the gift of the Holy Spirit will be yours.

### 2. We must ask His forgiveness . . . to repent and then not ask His forgiveness is the child on the edge of the bath

1 John 1:9

<sup>9</sup> If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness

Ω When you asked GOD to forgive . . . He did that straight away

Ω We must embrace it and accept it immediately . . . and not live with the guilt

### 3. We must be willing to surrender and to follow Him . . . to say that you are following Christ but you are not willing to surrender is like the child on the edge of the bath

Mark 10:28

Peter began to say to Him, "See, we have left all and followed You."

Peter wasn't motivated by the personal benefits of following CHRIST . . . he genuinely wanted to follow Christ

### 4. We must be willing to forgive others . . . to say that you are forgiven but are unable to forgive others is to be like the child on the edge of the bath

Ephesians 4:32

Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

### 5. We must continually seek unity and harmony . . . to know GOD and not seek unity is to be like the child on the edge of the bath

- Jesus said that the world would know that we were His disciples by the love that we have for one another . . . John 13:35

<sup>35</sup> By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another

Colossians 3:14 But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection

- The NT speaks about us being unified in Christ

- In response to Christians who follow after individuals rather than Jesus, Paul says that Christ is not divided ([1 Cor. 1:12-13](#))

## 6. We must be willing to spend serious time in the Word of GOD . . . to have the Word of GOD and not read it is to be like the child on the edge of the bath

- 1 Corinthians 1:18,23,24 - The *word* (message) of the *cross* - the *preaching* of Christ's death - is foolishness to some people, but to the saved it is the *power* of God
- Seems foolish to many . . . interesting story . . . but it either never happened or isn't really God's way of saving us from sin

1 Corinthians 15:1-8

<sup>1</sup> Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand, <sup>2</sup> by which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you—unless you believed in vain.

<sup>3</sup> For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, <sup>4</sup> and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures, <sup>5</sup> and that He was seen by Cephas, then by the twelve. <sup>6</sup> After that He was seen by over five hundred brethren at once, of whom the greater part remain to the present, but some have fallen asleep.

<sup>7</sup> After that He was seen by James, then by all the apostles. <sup>8</sup> Then last of all He was seen by me also, as by one born out of due time.

## 7. We must seriously consider every aspect of the Word of GOD . . . to never stop and consider what the Word of GOD says is to be like the child on the edge of the bath

- John 8:24 - Jesus said, "If you do not believe that I am He, you will die in your sins"
- We have two choices: believe so we can be saved from sin, or disbelieve and die in sin

- Romans 10:17 - Faith comes from hearing God's word

8. We must follow the LORD in believer's baptism . . . to have followed Christ but not be willing to be baptized is to be like the child on the edge of the bath

- One who hears, believes, repents, and confesses must then be *baptized*
- Mark 16:15,16 - The gospel says that whoever believes and is baptized will be *saved*.

9. We must be serious about church . . . to know of churches but to not attend is to be like the child on the edge of the bath

- Some think the church has nothing to do with Jesus' blood
- They say: "We are saved by Jesus' blood, not by the church." "We should preach Christ, not the church." "As long as you've been saved, you can join the church of your choice."
- But consider what the Bible says about the church.

a) Jesus Purchased the Church with His Blood

The church was so important to Jesus that He died to make it His

Ephesians 5:25

<sup>25</sup> Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her

If the church is not essential, why did Jesus give His life for it?

b) Jesus is the Head of the Church

Ephesians 5:23

<sup>23</sup> For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Saviour of the body

Not only did He die for the church . . . He is the Head

Does that mean we have to join one denomination or another?

Jesus never wanted there to be denominations

10.0 We must be willing to live an obedient life . . . to have Christ and then to constantly live the way you want is to be like the child on the edge of the bath

- Living a faithful daily life seems unnecessary

The final purpose of Jesus' blood in our lives is not just that we might be forgiven and added to the church

That is just the beginning. Once saved, we must live an acceptable life

a) Died to Make Us Zealous of Good Works - Titus 2:11-14

<sup>1</sup> For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, <sup>12</sup> teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, <sup>13</sup> looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, <sup>14</sup> who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself *His* own special people, zealous for good works.



b) Jesus Died for Us so We Would Live for Him - 2 Corinthians 5:14,15

"It's my life. I'll live it the way I want."

If Jesus died for us, we owe it to Him to live for Him

If He has forgiven our sins, we no longer belong to ourselves

We were purchased by His blood

If we want His blood to cleanse us and make us His, then we must allow Him to use us for His purposes

## Fundamentally – Jesus Christ came to give His life as a ransom for all

Ephesians 1:3-10

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