

Nothing but the Blood of Jesus

Hebrews 9:11-14 New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

¹¹ But when Christ came as a high priest of the good things that have come,^[a] then through the greater and perfect^[b] tent^[c] (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation), ¹² he entered once for all into the Holy Place, not with the blood of goats and calves, but with his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption. ¹³ For if the blood of goats and bulls, with the sprinkling of the ashes of a heifer, sanctifies those who have been defiled so that their flesh is purified, ¹⁴ how much more will the **blood of Christ**, who through the eternal Spirit^[d] offered himself without blemish to God, purify our^[e] conscience from dead works to worship the living God!

Giving honor to God, Jesus the Christ, and the Holy Spirit. Giving honor to the men, women, and children of God. Good morning to my fellow brothers and sisters in Christ. As we look at today's text; Hebrews 9:11-14, it's encouraging to know that "There is Nothing like the Blood of Jesus."

Beloved, when we look at the text; it's important to understand that Hebrews was written for Hebrews. The Jewish Christians who had been converted from Judaism to Christianity, had recently accepted Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior, and were now living under the faith. I'd like to tag this text with the topic: Nothing like the Blood of Jesus.

Now there are Theologians who have been arguing for years about who the author was of the book of Hebrews is. Some say the Apostle Paul. Others say that when you look at the language of the book; it was so different in verse, style, and language that it could not have been the Apostle Paul. Some suggest that it was written by Aquilla and Priscilla. Others feel that it was written by that man of African descent whose name was Apollos. And there are various names that were also suggested about who the writer of this book is. My point is that regardless of who the writer was; beloved, we all know who the author of the book is. For All Scripture is given by the inspiration of God's Holy Spirit. As we reflect, I can imagine that many young believers; not young in age, but young in Christianity were trying to relate the teachings of sacrifice as shared in the Pentateuch (The 1st 5 books of the bible: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy) and the reality of Jesus being the sacrificial lamb who atoned for the sin of humanity. In 2 Corinthians the scripture teaches us that "God made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God." Many theologians agree that the Old Testament concealed is the New Testament revealed. I came to remind you that in the Old Testament we see the sacrifice of the blood of animals and in the New Testament we see who John the Baptist called "The Lamb of God who cometh to take away the sins of the entire world." So, you see Jesus was the Messiah who was the totality

of the sacrifice for the atonement of sin for humanity. Jesus was the one that the scripture spoke about. In Isaiah 53:3-7, the word says ³He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not. ⁴Surely he hath borne our griefs and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. ⁵But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. Around about Hebrews 7:26, Such a high priest truly befits us--One who is holy, innocent, undefiled, set apart from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. Are you with me? Can someone shout Hallelujah!!!

The scripture is God breathed. God's spirit breathed into someone. (Genesis 2:7). Breathed into some man or some woman. To give us this Word. One of the things that this book deals with is the Apostacy. Apostacy means the abandonment or renunciation of a religious belief. Simply put "The falling away." This letter of Hebrews is written to encourage those who have been saved. Those who were converted to Christianity from Judaism. ***In this setting some were talking about going back to their old lifestyles. Can anybody identify with falling down or getting off track?***

Many were contemplating going back to their old ways. The old ways of sin and the old ways of life. Many were on the fence and were seriously considering leaving Christianity. The setting is in the first century and keep in mind many of the Christians were being persecuted. There was too much pain in the process of persecution; and I can only imagine that many were afraid, hurting, tired, and were thinking of giving up and throwing in the towel. ***Maybe today, I'm preaching to somebody who is thinking about turning back.*** Maybe the trial is too tough. Even when persecution comes, you've got to hang on in there. But, does anybody know that ***"All things work together for your good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."*** (Romans 8:28) Oftentimes we must remember that our Blessing is in the Pressing. It is the struggle that allows us to rise to the occasion of a new level of Blessing.

The people began to look at what Judaism offered and what Christianity offered. They felt that it was not a rising up, but a step down. They began to brag and boast about all the things that Judaism offered.

I believe that Christ is the substance of the shadow that Judaism offered. Many of the things that we see in the Old Testament, the Apostle Paul says that they are Shadow of the Things to Come. The law is a shadow of the Good Things to Come. That Good thing is Jesus Christ!!!

Hebrews Chapter 10 states that the law is only a shadow of the things to come.

They didn't accept Jesus as the Messiah. They began to compare the Judaism with Christianity and they said that Christianity can't be as great as us. Look at what we have.

They started to talk about all the pomp and pageantry that they had. The beautiful temple that had. The outer courts and the inner courts. That veil that separated the holy place from the holiest place. They had things like the Ark of the Covenant. They had Aaron's rod. The Cherubim's and Seraphim's. They had alters of gold. Then they said look at what Christianity had.

Christianity in the 1st century, they didn't have churches like we have today. They didn't have buildings. They worshipped in each other's home. They broke bread together. They went from house to house in fellowship and were worshipping the Lord.

The writer of Hebrews shares that Christianity may not have all the Cherubim, Seraphim, Gold, Silver, or Bronze. Christianity may not have all the things that other religions have, but Christianity has **Jesus**. My brothers and my sisters, I'm convinced that Jesus is the Very Best Thing that has happened to you and to me. Jesus is better than anything anyone else can offer. I would rather have Jesus than Silver and Gold.

Some of us know folks that think that they have progressed so far that they don't need Jesus. They feel that because they make so much money, or perhaps they live in that large house, or because they have that degree, or they got that promotion, or they got that job, or that they drive that big fancy car, that they just don't need Jesus anymore. Does anybody know that you can't make it without Jesus? So, the writer of Hebrews takes Jesus and compares Him to every area of Judaism to prove to you that Jesus is better, greater, and is the ultimate sacrifice.

In the book of Hebrews, the writer proves in Chapter:

1-2 – Jesus is Better than the Angels; 3 – Jesus is Better than Moses

4- Jesus offers a Better Rest, 5 – Jesus is Better High Priest

8 – Jesus is Better Covenant, 9 & 10 – Jesus is a Better Testament; **Jesus is a Better Sacrifice.**

No matter what you compare Jesus to, I came to remind you that Nothing is Better than Jesus, because God has exalted Him and given him a name above every name.

In the bible people never came to worship without an offering. Because the offering was the worship. In Hebrews, Chapter 9, the writer is reflecting on the Day of Atonement. Beloved, I came to remind you that Jesus is a Better Sacrifice. One day a year, known as Yom Kippur or what we call "The Day of Atonement," the high priest would go into the Holy Place and bring a sacrifice. Once a year. The veil was there, but the high priest would go on the other side of the veil. Remember, without the shedding of blood, there is no remission of sin. The high priest would go to the other side of the curtain to offer a sacrifice. They would literally tie a rope around the high priest, just in case he died, so they could pull him out.

The wages of sin is death. *** All has sinned and come short of the Glory of God. Since we all sin and the penalty for sin is death. **Something has to DIE.**

So, he would slay one animal... Shed the Blood for the Sins of the People

1 animal for the priest (Because preachers sin too)

1 animal for the sins of the people (to cover the sins of the people to receive forgiveness)

Every year he would come back and offer sacrifices because the people would sin again.

The wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life. *** Something must DIE...

IN HEBREWS Chapter 9- Jesus went into the Heavenly, Holy of Holies, but Not the tabernacle, or places made by hands. Jesus went in... and He did not shed the Blood of ANIMALS, But Jesus shed His Own precious Blood. When Jesus died on the Cross, so that whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord (Jesus Christ) shall be saved.

The Blood of Goats was a ceremonial cleansing, but the blood of Jesus cleanses inwardly. The Blood of Jesus is so awesome that His blood gets inside and cleanses our conscience. How many of y'all know that's what we need?

1. Check your conscience at the door. There are some folks that can't sleep at night because they have a dirty seared conscience. *Con which means "with knowledge" The knowledge I have about myself. There is some stuff about me that I won't tell y'all. (Don't look at me funny). Because there's some things about you all that you won't tell me. Last week I watched the movie Judas and the Black Messiah and I wondered how somebody could live with themselves after murdering somebody who was made in the image of God. Then go home and sleep at night. It's something wrong with their conscience. You have knowledge of God and the calling on your life. Your CON-Science knows it.

Come On... We can come in looking good with bibles, church clothes, and you know it. We must understand that others can't see what's on the inside of you, but God surely can. The blood of Christ changes us on the inside. Years ago, I broke my hand playing football; but the ability of the blood reaching that bone brought about healing and restoration of the broken bone. Even the more, if you allow the blood of Jesus to reach your heart, it will bring about healing and restoration in your life.

In closing,

Robert F. Smith is a billionaire tech investor and philanthropist who founded and serves as CEO of Vista Equity Partners. Smith made headlines in May 2019 as a commencement speaker at Morehouse College. The graduation class of 1994 (A graduating class of 25 years earlier),

allegedly raised more money than any other class had raised for the students who were graduating, because they knew that there were some students who were coming out that simply could not afford to pay it. They raised a large amount of money; however, it did not come close to paying of their debt. They simply owed more than they could pay. Mr. Smith announced during his commencement address at Morehouse College that he would pay off the student debt of the entire graduating class.

It must have been a sight to see, when he paid all of their debt. But I came to tell you this morning; that it doesn't even come close what Jesus did. Big Bethel, it doesn't even compare to what Jesus did for us. We had a debt that we simply could not pay. O' Yes. When you think about the man that died for you and me, way back on Calvary. Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah.

Yes, they hung him high, they stretched him wide, they pierced his side, the chastisement of our peace was upon him, and by his stripes, we are healed. O' precious is that flow, that makes me white as snow, no other help I know, **Nothing but the Blood of Jesus.**

If you have not received Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior; don't delay. Receive Him today. According to John 3:16-17, ¹⁶ For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. ¹⁷ For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. Hallelujah, to the Lamb of God. Amen.