

3. The **wrath of God against our sin has been appeased** by the blood of Jesus
4. We have been **justified** by the blood of Jesus
5. We have **redemption** through the blood of Jesus.
6. We have been **brought near to God** by the blood of Jesus
7. We have **peace with God** through the blood of Jesus
8. Our **Consciences can be purified and washed** by the blood of Jesus
9. We have been **sanctified** by the blood of Jesus.
10. We are the elect of God, **chosen for eternity** in the blood of Jesus
11. We have been **ransomed** by the blood of Jesus
12. We have been **cleansed from our sins** by the blood of Jesus
13. We are **freed from the power of sin** by the blood of Jesus

No wonder the enemy doesn't want me to preach about the blood We are bought, paid for, cleansed, purified, sealed, and kept by the blood of Jesus - *or we are lost, with no hope, separated from God awaiting judgement.* Men need to hear this message or they will continue trying to atone for their own sins.

Men need to know this truth or they will continue to bargain with God through their good works Men need to respond to this message or they will continue to be separated from God without hope.

Now let me conclude with a couple of observations from our text in Exodus 12

1. **The source of the blood** - only the blood of a spotless, perfect lamb would deter the Death angel. The blood of just any old lamb would not do. You need to know that the blood that atones for sin is the blood of the Son of God, the God-Man Jesus Christ who was given in payment for our sins. The blood of goats and lambs and bulls was only a temporary covering until the fulness of time had come, and Son of God could lay down his life for your sins.
2. **The application of the blood** - the shedding of blood was not sufficient. The blood had to be applied to the door post to be effective. If they had collected the blood and left it sitting in a basin outside the door - the Death Angel would have entered and death would have come. The blood had to be smeared over the door posts and on the sides. It is not enough for you to know ABOUT the blood. It is not enough for you to GO TO CHURCH, or PRAY PRAYERS or READ SCRIPTURES - you must personally apply the blood to the doorpost of your heart.

- b. The blood is applied by the acknowledgement and confession of sin
- c. The blood is applied by repentance from sin
- d. The blood is applied by continually coming before the Lord and asking him to cleanse your heart from sin.

3. **The Abiding in the Blood** - you must trust in the blood of Jesus and nothing else to deliver you from your sin. Once the Hebrews had smeared the blood over the doorposts of their homes they entered in, shut the door and did not come out. If they had lost faith in the blood to meet their needs; if they had failed to trust in the blood to protect them and keep them in health; if they had run out into the streets looking for help, looking for another deliverer - they would have met the death angel. There is no cure for your sin in psychology, there is no help for your sin in self-justification, there is no healing from your sin in blaming others, and there is no lifting of sin by any other source than the blood of Jesus. You must abide in the blood, plead the blood over your family and life, you must trust in the blood to keep you in the days to come.

4. **The Power of the Blood** - when the death angel spread his wings over the land of Egypt there was no escape and there was no hiding. There was no place to run, there was not place of safety - as his shadow spread over the land - all who fell beneath it were doomed - EXCEPT THOSE UNDER THE BLOOD. When the bowls of wrath are poured out, when the vials of plagues are opened, when the horsemen of famine, pestilence, war, and death are turned loose, when the angels of the harvest begin to reap the earth - there will be no place to hide but in the blood, no place to run but to the cross, no refuge to turn to but Jesus.

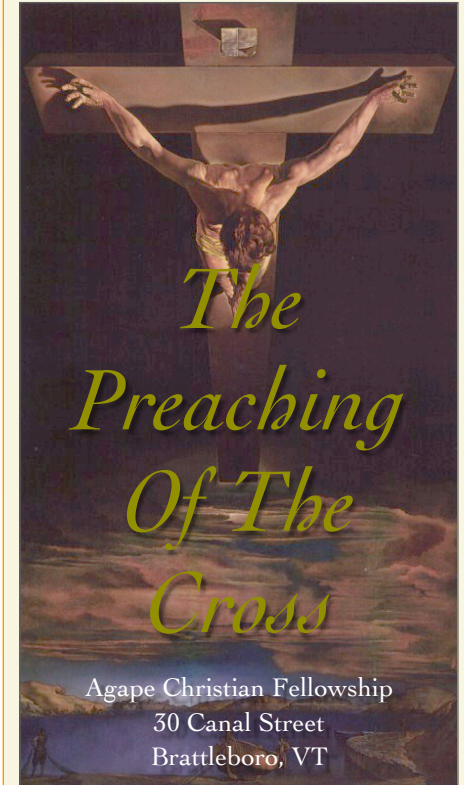
When you go home today - put your hand over your door and on the doorpost and declare, "I place my home under the blood of Jesus."

Place your hands upon the hearts of your children and declare, "I place the hearts of my children under the blood of Jesus."

Put your hand upon you own heart - and declare, "Lord Jesus sprinkle you blood upon my heart, and my life. Sanctify me, purify me, cleanse me daily - by your blood!"

# AGAPE

## PULPIT SERIES



## The Preaching of the Cross

Part II

## The Power of the Blood

Exodus 12 / Ephesians 2

Rev. Michael Gantt

The Hebrews suddenly began acting in a very strange, urgent way. Fathers and sons searching through their flocks with keen eyes as if they were search for a particular lamb among many. Finding it, they took it in the house and kept it as a pet for four days. The children played with it, petted it, and grew in fondness for it as children are prone to do with furry little animals.

Just as the animal became a part of the family the father took it, placed it on a table, and with a knife cut its throat. As the blood gushed out of the jugular he held a basin beneath the table to catch the precious liquid. As soon as the blood flow ceased, he gave the body of the little lamb to his wife and she began to prepare it for cooking. Father and perhaps the oldest son took the basin of blood outside the house. The Egyptians watched in wonder and bemusement as they took a broom made from hyssop, dipped it in the blood filled basin and began to swipe it up and down the door post and across the lintel, the header, at the top of the door. All the while they were smearing the blood around their doors the father looked furtively toward the sky as if he were expecting some calamity to come upon them, wanting be sure they finished their grisly task in time. Task done, the man and the boy rushed inside the house, shut the door - and would not come out.

Some of the Egyptians were unnerved by this activity. After all they had recently endured nine terrible plagues, allegedly sent upon them by the strange God of the Hebrews - Jehovah. His prophet Moses had come out of the wilderness of Sinai declaring to Pharaoh - "Let my people go!" Each time, Pharaoh resisted and each time he resisted another plague came. The Nile was turned to blood, the land was infested with flies and frogs, the cattle died from a terrible blight, the people were infected with boils, and killing hail mixed with fire fell from the sky - a stifling darkness engulfed the land - each plague more terrible than the last.

Something was up - they were sure of it - this behavior was unnerving to the Egyptians. Some of them went pounding on the doors of the Hebrews, begging to be let inside. Because they remembered that the Hebrews were altogether unaffected by the previous plagues. They were afraid.

That very night as darkness settled in over the land of Egypt - the death angel came. Spreading his wings over every house, hovel, and palace of Egypt and as his shadow passed through the land - the first born of

every household of the land died. A wail of sorrow went up all over the land as household after household realized that their heritage had suddenly been cut off. Even the house of Pharaoh was not spared.....the agonized cry of the most powerful man in the land could be heard echoing through the palace.

But when the shadow of the death angel came near a house where blood had been spread around the door posts he turned away and did not enter, sparing the first born and all that were in the household. In the morning the stench of death had already begun to fill the air as the enormity of what had befallen Egypt began to sink in - and Pharaoh relented.

This scene as real and as horrible as it is - is more prophetic than historical. Oh yes, it really happened and real people were affected by it. Yet it is just a shadow, just a picture of a day yet to come. The book of Revelation speaks of bowls of wrath and vials of destruction being poured out upon the human race in the last days. We see images of the four horsemen of the apocalypse being released upon the earth - war, famine, pestilence, and death. We hear of angels bearing reaping knives loosed upon the earth and striking a third of the population of the earth in a single swath of destruction.

And as it was in Egypt - every household that bears the mark of the blood of the Lamb will be spared. Like Egypt the world mocks and laughs, and like Pharaoh - the enemy roars his vengeance upon the people of the blood - but mark my words - every household that is covered in the blood will be spared in the great and terrible day of the Lord.

And every household that does not bear the blood will know suffering that can scarcely be imagined.

It is no surprise that the enemy of our souls has raised up religion that despises the blood and laughs at the cross.

It is no surprise that so called preachers have exchanged the cross for good works and traded the blood in on good intentions. There are hymnbooks that have removed all reference to the blood and sermon books that never mention the cross.

Jesus is not the lamb of God to them, no - he a prophet, a seer, a community organizer, a social reformer, a great man, and a philosophical giant - but sacrificial lamb, payment for sin - we have no need of that Jesus.

You don't have to get saved - God is so loving he wouldn't destroy you  
You don't have to confess sin - who is to say what sin is anyway  
You don't have to feel guilt - that is outmoded and archaic

But men and women, I believe the Bible and the Bible says that you and I are sinners and the wages of sin is death.....

The Bible says that we were alienated and separated from God without hope - but we have been brought near by the blood of the lamb.

The Bible says that without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sins.

The Bible says that "whosoever believeth on Him will not perish but have everlasting life.

The Bible says that liars, and adulterers, and murderers, and haters, and backbiters, cheats, and the perverted, and those that shed innocent blood, abortionists, and pedophiles, corrupt, slanderers, wrathful, hard hearted, jealous, envious, covetous, disobedient, rebellious, those who practice witchcraft and sorcery, those who worship idols and pray to the dead, ---have I gotten to you yet? How about self-righteous, hypocritical, those trusting in good works, preaching a false gospel, exchanging the truth for a lie, leading the lambs astray, deceiving the elect of God, using the gospel for their own gain, robbing from widows....the list is pretty long and very inclusive.

There is no mountain you can hide under  
There is no religion you can hide behind  
No good works can save you  
No financial contribution can buy your way out  
No idol can protect you  
No incantation can deliver you  
No good intention can remove your guilt  
No soap can wash the stain of your shame  
You are lost  
You are condemned  
You are bound for destruction EXCEPT.....for the blood of Jesus.

1. We are brought into a **covenant relationship** with God through the blood of Jesus
2. We have been **purchased** from the slave market of sin by the blood of Jesus