The BloodLine Of The Bible

Life Is Sacred To God, And Blood Is The Carrier Of Life

Genesis 9:3 Everything that lives and moves about will be food for you. Just as I gave you the green plants, I now give you everything.

4 “But you must not eat meat that has its lifeblood still in it.

5 And for your lifeblood I will surely demand an accounting. I will demand an accounting from every animal. And from each human being, too, I will demand an accounting for the life of another human being.

6 “Whoever sheds human blood,  
   by humans shall their blood be shed;  
   for in the image of God  
   has God made mankind.

God Instituted Substitutionary Atonement: The Blood Of Sacrificial Animals Represented A Life Given As A Substitute Punishment For Man’s Sins

Leviticus 17:10 “I will set my face against any Israelite or any foreigner residing among them who eats blood, and I will cut them off from the people. 11 For the life of a creature is in the blood, and I have given it to you to make atonement for yourselves on the altar; it is the blood that makes atonement for one’s life. 12 Therefore I say to the Israelites, “None of you may eat blood, nor may any foreigner residing among you eat blood.”

Adam & Eve: The First Substitutionary Death

Genesis 3:21 The LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife, and clothed them.

Abraham And Isaac: The Preview Of The Ultimate Substitute Sacrifice

Genesis 22:9 Then they came to the place of which God had told him; and Abraham built the altar there and arranged the wood, and bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. 10 Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. 11 But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, “Abraham, Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” 12 He said, “Do not stretch out your hand against the lad, and do nothing to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me.” 13 Then Abraham raised his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him a ram caught in the thicket by his horns; and Abraham went and took the ram and offered him up for a burnt offering in the place of his son. 14 Abraham called the name of that place The LORD Will Provide, as it is said to this day, “In the mount of the LORD it will be provided.”
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The Passover Lamb

**Exodus 12:12** “On that same night I will pass through Egypt and strike down every firstborn of both people and animals, and I will bring judgment on all the gods of Egypt. I am the LORD. 13 The blood will be a sign for you on the houses where you are, and when I see the blood, I will pass over you. No destructive plague will touch you when I strike Egypt.

The Day Of Atonement

**Leviticus 16:15** “He shall then slaughter the goat for the sin offering for the people and take its blood behind the curtain and do with it as he did with the bull’s blood: He shall sprinkle it on the atonement cover and in front of it. 16 In this way he will make atonement for the Most Holy Place because of the uncleanness and rebellion of the Israelites, whatever their sins have been.

Jesus: All Sacrifices Culminated In Jesus

Ultimately, Jesus paid the full and final price for sin by dying on the cross. The sacrifice of animals provided a temporary covering of sin in anticipation of the final sacrifice of Christ on the cross. The sacrificial system functioned as a tutor to prepare the human race to understand and to benefit from the death of Jesus on the cross.

**John 1:28** These things took place in Bethany beyond the Jordan, where John was baptizing. 29 The next day he saw Jesus coming to him and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!

**John 19:34** But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately blood and water came out.

**Hebrews 9:12** He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but he entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption. 13 The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkled on those who are ceremonially unclean sanctify them so that they are outwardly clean. 14 How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God!

**Revelation 5:11** Then I looked and heard the voice of many angels, numbering thousands upon thousands, and ten thousand times ten thousand. They encircled the throne and the living creatures and the elders. 12 In a loud voice they were saying:

“Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!”
Discussion Guide

How do you react in the presence of blood?

- I'm relaxed
- I recoil
- I feel ill
- I'm a vampire so I get thirsty

Has the Old Testament system of blood sacrifices ever troubled you?

Discuss how these two Scriptures help you to understand blood sacrifices:

- Genesis 9:3-6 teaches that life is sacred to God, and since blood is the carrier of life God chose blood to represent life.
- Leviticus 17 teaches that God instituted substitutionary atonement: the blood of sacrificial animals represented a life given as a substitute punishment for man’s sin.

In the light of this, explain the significance of God clothing Adam and Eve in animal skins.

How does substitutionary death help us understand the Passover Lamb?

How does substitutionary death help us understand why Jesus had to die on the cross?

Genesis 22:1 says that God tested Abraham’s faith by commanding him to sacrifice Isaac. What was the test?

In verse 2, what is God emphasizing as he describes Abraham’s relationship with Isaac? Why this way of breaking the news?

Put yourself in Abraham’s skin:

- How would you react?
- What motivated Abraham to obey God? Remember that the journey to the appointed mountain took three days.
- Hebrews 11:17-19 says that Abraham reasoned that God could raise the dead. Did this make the slaying his son any easier?

What memorable lessons do you take away from this study?