

THE BLOOD-BOUGHT BODY

1. Text: Acts 20:27-31
2. This lesson deals with two marvelous concepts which are both troubling to moderns.
3. First is blood. We don't like to talk of it: too gory, primitive, repulsive, old fashioned. But blood is important idea in Scripture (occurs 362 times in Old Testament; 99 times in New) and life was connected to it. Leviticus 17:11 "The life of the flesh is in the blood and I have given it to you to make atonement for your souls." Hebrews 9:22 "Without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness."
4. Second is the church, which is undermined, under estimated, unjustly attacked. Common to speak of salvation and then as afterthought the church which is seen as aberration, optional, almost trivial.
5. But text (verse 28) says Christ purchased church with His own blood. So let's see the tie of blood and church where the blood has its effect.

I. **We Are Justified By The Blood.**

1. To justify: to deem, pronounce one righteous.
2. Romans 5:8-10 Christ died for us; we're justified by His blood.

II. **We Are Saved By The Blood.**

1. Again Romans 5:9 Justified and saved used of same thing.
2. Save: deliver, rescue (Matthew 8:25 In storm, save us.)
3. Where saved? Ephesians 5:23 Christ is Savior of body. (Ephesians 1:22-23 says body is church) So saved in church, so if we want saving and justifying by His blood, you'll be in His church.

III. **We Are Reconciled By The Blood.**

1. See Colossians 1:20 "By Him (Christ) to reconcile all things to Himself, having made peace through the blood of the cross." (Romans 5:10 also)
2. Reconcile: to bring together again, estranged made friends.
3. Ephesians 2:13-19 Brought near by His blood, reconciled in the one body (Ephesians 1:22-23 the church) or household of God (church in I Timothy 3:15). So if outside body, not reconciled to God.

IV. **We Are At Peace With God By The Blood.**

1. Again Colossians 1:20 "Having made peace through the blood of His cross."
2. Again Ephesians 2:13-17 Blood is in verse 13, then verse 16 has all reconciled in one body (the church). So where is peace found?

V. **We Are Sanctified By The Blood.**

1. Hebrews 13:12 Jesus sanctified the people with His own blood.
2. To sanctify: to set apart, make holy, separated by His blood.
3. I Corinthians 1:2 says sanctified are in the church. Ephesians 5:25-26 Christ gave Himself for church to sanctify it.

VI. **We Are Redeemed By The Blood.**

1. Ephesians 1:7 "We have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness (remission) of sins."
2. Redeem: to buy, release, set free (as a slave).
3. Titus 2:14 Christ gave himself for us to redeem and purify us. Ephesians 5:25 Christ gave Himself for church. So redeemed by blood in church.

VII. **We Are Cleansed By The Blood.**

1. I John 1:7 We are cleansed by blood of Christ.
2. Ephesians 5:26 Christ gave Himself to cleanse the church.

Conclusion: Ephesians 1:7 Remission plus Acts 2:38 Remission plus Acts 2:47 The church plus Matthew 26:28 The Lord's Supper.

A Sermon preached by Monte Ginnings
Northwest Church of Christ - Sunday Morning, May 27, 2007

