

Doctrine of Blood

1. Blood (Hebrew *dam*; Greek *haima*) refers to the circulatory life fluid of the body.
2. All of humanity is made of one blood.
 - *Acts 17:26 And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation;*
3. The blood is considered sacred in the Bible because life is united to it.
 - *Genesis 9:4 But flesh with the life thereof, which is the blood thereof, shall ye not eat.*
 - *Leviticus 17:11 For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul.*
 - *Leviticus 17:14 For it is the life of all flesh; the blood of it is for the life thereof: therefore I said unto the children of Israel, Ye shall eat the blood of no manner of flesh: for the life of all flesh is the blood thereof: whosoever eateth it shall be cut off.*
4. Because of the sacredness of the blood, it was not to be consumed, upon penalty of death.
 - *Leviticus 7:27 Whatsoever soul it be that eateth any manner of blood, even that soul shall be cut off from his people.*
5. The sacredness and the honoring of blood by not consuming it, is continued in the New Testament era when the church was no longer under the law.
 - *Acts 15:27 We have sent therefore Judas and Silas, who shall also tell you the same things by mouth. 28 For it seemed good to the Holy Ghost, and to us, to lay upon you no greater burden than these necessary things; 29 That ye abstain from meats offered to idols, and from blood, and from things strangled, and from fornication: from which if ye keep yourselves, ye shall do well. Fare ye well.*
6. While there are sound medical hygienic reasons why blood should not be consumed, it is the spiritual dimension of blood that primarily concerns the student of Scripture.
7. Blood was decreed by God to be used for protection. On the night God determined to visit the land of Egypt with death, a lamb was to be slain in each household. The blood of the lamb was to be used to mark the doors of the houses of the Hebrews so that the Angel of Death might pass over and the first born son be spared.
 - *Exodus 12:22 And ye shall take a bunch of hyssop, and dip it in the blood that is in the bason, and strike the lintel and the two side posts with the blood that is in the bason; and none of you shall go out at the door of his house until the morning.*

8. Blood was decreed by God to be the basis for atonement. The word atonement means to cover. God covers His people with blood.

- *Leviticus 17:11 For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul.*

9. Blood is used in Scripture in a figurative sense.

- Blood is used for life. *Matthew 27:25 Then answered all the people, and said, His blood be on us, and on our children.*
- Blood is used as a symbol of a great slaughter. *Isaiah 34:3 Their slain also shall be cast out, and their stink shall come up out of their carcasses, and the mountains shall be melted with their blood.*
- Blood is used as a symbol of a great victory. *Psalms 58:10 The righteous shall rejoice when he seeth the vengeance: he shall wash his feet in the blood of the wicked.*
- Blood is used as a symbol of an apocalyptic judgment with cataclysmic changes in the universe. *Revelation 6:12 And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood;*

Revelation 8:8 And the second angel sounded, and as it were a great mountain burning with fire was cast into the sea: and the third part of the sea became blood;

Revelation 14:20 And the winepress was trodden without the city, and blood came out of the winepress, even unto the horse bridles, by the space of a thousand and six hundred furlongs.

10. Turning to the New Testament, much is said about the blood of Christ.

- The blood of Christ was shed for many for the remission of sins. *Matthew 26:28 For this is my blood of the New Testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.*
- The blood of Christ is innocent blood. *Matthew 27:4 Saying, I have sinned in that I have betrayed the innocent blood. And they said, What is that to us? See thou to that.*
- The blood of Christ is symbolic of partaking of His life by faith. *John 6:53 Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you. 54 Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day. 55 For my flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed. 56 He that eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, dwelleth in me, and I in him.*

- The blood of Christ was flowing blood. *John 19:34 But one of the soldiers with a spear pierced his side, and forthwith came there out blood and water.*
- The blood of Christ has purchased salvation. *Acts 20:28 Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.*
- The blood of Jesus Christ is the basis for the justification of sinners. *Romans 5:9 Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.*
- The blood of Christ is celebrated in the cup of blessing. *1 Corinthians 10:16 The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ?*
- The blood of Christ brings redemption. *Ephesians 1:7 In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;*

Colossians 1:14 In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:
- The blood of Christ brings reconciliation with God. *Colossians 1:20 And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven.*
- The blood of Christ is unique blood. It did not come from Adam but was created by the Holy Spirit. The flesh, the body may have come from Mary, but the blood came from God the Holy Spirit. *Hebrews 10:5 Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared me:*
- The blood of Christ can purge the conscience. *Hebrews 9:14 How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?*
- The blood of Christ brings the remission (forgiveness) of sin. *Hebrews 9:22 And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.*
- The blood of Christ is sanctifying blood. *Hebrews 13:12 Wherefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate.*
- The blood of Christ is a perfecting blood. *Hebrews 13:20 Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant,*
- The blood of Christ is precious, or highly esteemed. *1 Peter 1:19 But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:*

- The blood of Christ is cleansing blood. *1 John 1:7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.*

Revelation 1:5 And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood,

“Have you been to Jesus for the cleansing pow’r?
Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb?
Are you fully trusting in His grace this hour?
Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb?

Are you washed in the blood,
In the soul-cleansing blood of the Lamb?
Are your garments spotless? Are they white as snow?
Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb?”

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- The blood of Christ produces a new song. *Revelation 5:9 And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation;*
- The blood of Christ is conquering blood. *Revelation 12:11 And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.*
- The blood of Christ has been decreed by God to be a transforming blood. *Revelation 7:14 And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.*
- The blood of Christ is avenging blood. *Revelation 19:2 For true and righteous are his judgments: for he hath judged the great whore, which did corrupt the earth with her fornication, and hath avenged the blood of his servants at her hand.*

11. Because of the value of the blood of Christ, it should not be trampled on.

- *Hebrews 10:29 Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?*

12. One of the most vivid images in the Revelation is that of Christ, clothed with a vesture dipped in blood.

- *Revelation 19:13 And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God.*