

We saw Mariah yesterday in Palo Alto. But, while she is back in the hospital to reduce fluid build-up, it's only for a day or two. Francisco expects to be back at the clown's house in a couple of days.

Mariah is getting stronger, walking around, eating lunch with us and looking great. And, did you know that she has a new heart? Truly Amazing!

GOODNEWS LETTER

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POINTS OF TRUTH

POINT #1: Blood of the Tabernacle

[Missionary Baptists have always believed that one is saved forever. A saved person never can be lost, again; thus, never needs to be saved, again.]

From the Old Testament's economy of salvation, as presented in the Tabernacle picture, we see and, must also realize, that the journey of the blood of the Covenant did not end once it was offered on the **ALTAR** of sacrifice. That was only the beginning of the blood's atonement.

The intent of animal blood was to show that the sacrifice covered a particular sin but, it was the Day of Atonement and within the **religious year** that Israel made the blood application.

The blood had to be taken into the Holy of Holies and sprinkled on the Mercy Seat, according to God's Law. "Then shall he kill the goat of the sin offering...and bring the blood within the veil...and sprinkle it upon the mercyseat eastward;...seven times," Leviticus 16:15.

Also, recorded in Exodus 30:10, "And Aaron shall make an atonement upon the horns of it once a year with the blood of the sin offering of Atonements."

But, it has always been that covenant blood has to be applied. Not just sacrificed, but applied. One example is the nation, Israel. She was to throw off Her bondage in Egypt and gain freedom by **applying** the Passover blood of the lamb to the door post of each house; securing all in the house and the first born continued to live, as well.

Certainly, it is no different in the New Covenant. When Jesus, our Passover Lamb shed His blood, we see that its application was to the true Tabernacle in the heavens.

Hebrews 9:7 explains the restrictive work of a priest in the Old Testament. "But into the **second** (compartment of the Tabernacle) **only the high priest enters, once**

a year, not without taking blood, which he offers for himself and for the sins of the people committed in ignorance."

Hebrews 9:9 adds, "which is a symbol (the Tabernacle) of the present time."

Then, Hebrews 9:11 teaches us of the **once-for-all work of Jesus**. "But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things to come, He entered through the greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this creation.

Hebrews 12 makes it abundantly clear that the blood was to be applied. "...and not through the blood of goats and calves, but through **His own blood**, He entered the holy place **once for all**, having obtained eternal redemption.

The writer of Hebrews continues to say that the blood of animals did sanctify the Old Testament people, (but) "How much more will the blood of Christ...cleanse you conscience from dead works to serve the living God" (v13 & 14).

Without application of blood upon the Mercy Seat, a blood offering is much like Abel's blood shed. Although innocent, his blood was without any real purpose; it crieth out from the ground saying, 'vengeance, retribution or, may be "Why."

Therefore, if the blood of Christ no different than that of Abel's, God's salvation would have come up short. But, we are told, the blood of Christ speaks of better things.

The blood of Christ speaks of forgiveness and grace. His blood gives real purpose to the people of the New Covenant. It gives us principles of His life to live by.

Notice, how the blood was applied under the Old Covenant. It was the duty of the priests to catch the blood of the animal and carry it through the two portions of the Tabernacle to the **MERCY SEAT**. There, the blood was sprinkled and application was made, completing the atonement (the covering).

With Christ, we see the same acts completed as were pictured in the Old, but there is a difference. When Moses said, "**THIS IS THE BLOOD OF THE COVENANT WHICH GOD COMMANDED YOU**" (Heb. 9:20), he sprinkled all the Tabernacle and all the vessels of ministry with blood (v21).

While the copies needed to be cleansed with animal blood, "...the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these" (animal sacrifices), Heb 12:23.

The difference between Moses' sacrifices and that of Jesus is clear. The Bible speaks of a better, new and living way, now; for Christ has entered "...but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us," Hebrews 9:24. Moses had no power to do the same.

The new and living way began when Christ died at Calvary. His blood enacted the New Covenant, unleashing all its laws to man's spirit.

Hebrews informs us: "For where a covenant is, there must of necessity be the death of the one who made it" (9:16). This is no different that a will in which the parents leave all their property to their children-heirs. But, not until a death occurs.

When Jesus died, it meant it's time to read the will. All the New Covenant is now enacted, at the death of Jesus Christ. "For a covenant is valid only when men are dead" (Heb. 10:17).

Everyone should be aware of the difference between Old and New Covenant blood sacrifices; not just know that a difference exists. We must learn them just as they are explained in the book of Hebrews.

One difference is stated that "The Law was only a shadow...and not the very form" (Heb. 10:1). It was a type, symbol; but, it was not of the true.

Further, "The Law...can never...make perfect those who draw near" (Heb. 10:1); because, "Otherwise, they would have ceased to be offered" (Heb. 10:2).

There is expiation (true forgiveness) in Christ's blood but not in the Law. Further, Christ's blood is efficacious but, not O. T. blood. "For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins" (Heb. 10:4).

The blood of Jesus saved us eternally and, because of the power of His offering, the New Covenant was enacted.

Now, all the laws are based upon the blood of Christ. Reconciliation, justification and sanctification (see Romans 5:6-10) are applied by the Holy Spirit once the blood of Christ is applied to a believer's heart.

Since Christ's death, the Holy Spirit's power begets everyone by (and, I love the way it's said) "not a seed which is perishable but imperishable... through the living and abiding word of God," I Peter 1:23.

Of course, the death and life of God's Son is all important. God expects every believer to honor this new and living way. However, service does not come, automatically; for "If we walk in the light as He is in the light we have fellowship with one another and His BLOOD cleanses us from all unrighteousness," I John 1:7-9. We must walk in the light.

The walk, recorded in I John 1, harmonizes with Paul's meaning on the doctrine of baptism. We raise up to, "walk in the newness of life," Rom 6:4.

So, there is much difference between the two covenants. But, the points of truth are exactly the same. Only, one is physical, of the Law and a copy of the true; while, the New is spiritual, of the Spirit and is the true and living way through Jesus Christ.

Look closely, however, in both covenants, and you'll see that we do - in spirit - exactly what Israel did in their history and historical types.

NOTICE: Both Covenants have the same Points of Truth

- 1). They were sold into bondage just as Adam sold us.
- 2). They were redeemed from bondage by the blood of the lamb just as we were redeemed by God's Lamb.
- 3). They crossed the water, becoming God's people just as we were baptized becoming members of the body of Christ and His people, the Church.
- 4). They walked in the wilderness, physically just as we do, spiritually.
- 5). They crossed over Jordan just as we have spiritually, already in Christ but, will do physically, in the resurrection. We're getting a new body.
- 6). They were given a working land, all prepared just as Jesus went away to prepare a place for us (John 14:2-3).
- 7) They inherited the Promised Land and we have been promised to inherit the earth (Mt 5:5).