

The Power of The Blood

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Let us pray.

Dear heavenly Father, most gracious, holy and just Lord, I thank you, oh Lord, for this time to come away from the world, Lord. We ask that thou would take us away and thou would lay us at thy feet this morning. Father, I pray knowing that I am in sufficient to speak about the things that thou hast laid upon my soul and my heart this morning. Lord, I know that thou art. I pray, oh Lord, that thou would come with power, that thou would come to the souls of thy dear people. Lord, may you cause us to cry out unto thee and, Lord, may you show us what you have for thy people. Lord, may you show us this day the power of thy blood. I ask, oh Lord, for that power to come upon me that, Lord, I would be a mouthpiece for your glory, for your honor and for you praise and, Lord, that thou would be pleased to prepare the ground, to bring forth, Lord, fruit that only you can. Bless this day, Lord, to thy glory for thy glory and for thy name's sake. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

I want to address this message to sinners. It seems odd to hear that, I know, because there is times in our lives where we don't think much about it. We don't think much about the sins that we commit, past, present or future. But I do want to say that every child of God will be brought to where we will talk today. I pray that it has been the case in your life and I pray that it is the case today. It is painful experience to be shown the reality of sin. I don't mean just sin in the "Lord, I am a sinner," but the reality of your sin, the absolute reality of what you are sinning against, the reality of sinning against the holiness of the Lord, the reality of sinning against a Savior who laid down his life for his children, who went willingly, who was led as a lamb to the slaughter and didn't even cry, didn't call 10,000 angels, didn't put an end to man's plan, because God's plan was greater. And the plan of salvation and the plan of redemption would not be thwarted by man. And, you know, that is something, because in each and every one of the child of God's life they can't thwart it either. They can't stop the power of the efficacious blood of Christ, nor do they want to stop it.

There are times in this life that we live in sin. We live in it without any thought of it. We live in it and we go about our daily tasks and duties and all that we do justifying ourselves, picking up the Word of God and justifying ourselves. But when the Lord comes, when he comes to your soul, when he comes with power to your soul and he

opens up your heart to see the reality of that sin and not just that it is just a three letter word, but the absolute highness, the absolute disgust, the absolute wickedness of what that sin is. And he brings that to part of your soul called the conscience. That is the part of the soul that apprehends sin. That is the part of the soul that deals with the burden of sin. It is your conscience.

And I ask this morning. We know that in the Word of God there is two consciences laid out for us. One that is seared with a hot iron and one that is tender and it is made tender by the blood of the Lamb. And it is made tender by the power of the Holy Ghost. And it is made tender because left to ourselves, that conscience that is seared with a hot iron would be ours. We go about in this life so many times justifying our actions. And, as I said earlier, the child of God has a storehouse of Scriptures to justify himself.

You say, “Well, that is a good thing, right?”

It is a good thing when the Holy Spirit brings them out. It is a good thing when the Holy Spirit applies them with power.

But we can use it wrongfully. We can apply Scripture to ourselves and it could puff us up and it could make us feel totally justified in the actions that we do or the callings we believe we have or the path that we pick for our life. And it is not until the Lord brings us to his feet, it is not until the Lord stops us in our tracks that he shows us the wickedness of sin and lays us at his feet to be instructed of him.

This morning I hope for that instruction. I hope that as the Lord brings you to the end of yourself and he causes you to cry with the prophet Jeremiah... Jeremiah said in 8:22:

“Is there no balm in Gilead?”¹

Jeremiah looked out across the idolatry of the land. He looked out at the wickedness of the people. He looked at how they mocked God and he looked at it and he said:

“Is there no balm in Gilead?”²

The balm, the Gilead tree was one that had this special syrup to it and when it would drip they could put it on any open wounds and sores and it would take away the purification. It would take away all of the infection. It was a powerful balm that you could put on the outer man to heal. It had great healing qualities.

But Jeremiah wasn't talking about a physical healing and I hope that if the Lord brings you to this place to cry out to him, to cry out, “Lord, is there any balm? Is there any place for me to go with my sin?”

The rest of that verse says:

¹ Jeremiah 8:22.

² Ibid.

“Is there no balm in Gilead; is there no physician there?”³

Before the child of God there is a physician, the divine physician. And there is a balm that is open for the child of God and it is the efficacious power and the blood of the Son of God. It is the power in the blood of the Son of God.

“Is there no balm in Gilead; is there no physician there? why then is not the health of the daughter of my people recovered?”⁴

Why is it that we walk in this life and don't have any notion of sin? Why is it that we can walk day after day and continue in the path that we believe is so justified to walk in and not have a sting of that sin?

Something is not going on in our conscience. The Holy Spirit is not coming with his power to show us that thou art the man or the woman.

I want you today, Lord willing, to consider two verses in Hebrews nine. Would you turn with me now to Hebrews nine as I read through the two verses and then make some comments about them?

Hebrews 9:13-14 read this way.

For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh: 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?⁵

Those are powerful verses. I would like to begin in verse 13. It is an amazing statement that the apostle Paul makes here when he says:

“For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh...”⁶

And it did. You know that, don't you, that the Lord had ordained, that the Lord was pleased and had respect to these sacrifices. The two that are mentioned here are, of course, the blood of the bulls and the goats that the priest would take the blood and sprinkle it out upon the people and he would offer those sacrifices for sin. But then there was one called the uncleanness sacrifice, the ashes of the heifer, the red heifer that was chosen that the Lord said, “Set there one with no spot and take it without the camp and put it upon the altar and put it in all of its parts and then I will consume it with fire.”

³ Ibid.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Hebrews 9:13-14.

⁶ Hebrews 9:13.

And all of this was done for purification and all of this was done for to put away sin and God had respect unto it. God had great respect unto it because it pointed to the sacrifice and the perfect sacrifice that would take place on Calvary. That is why God had respect unto it.

For all that was in the old covenant pointed to Christ. All in the old covenant pointed to a better way that would be ushered in in Christ Jesus. And that includes the law. And that includes all the ceremonies. And that includes all the ordinances. And that includes these purifying acts.

And the last part of that verse really struck me this week.

“...to the purifying of the flesh.”⁷

And I thought about that and I thought about religion today. How much of religion today is happy with this, is absolutely happy with doing their penance, doing their whatever it is, whether it is going to worship one time a week, whether it is praying at the end of the night, whether it is open their Bible in the morning, open their Bible at night to do these religious exercises to the purifying of their flesh, because all of those things mentioned without the power of the Holy Ghost, without the anointing of God are nothing. That is what they are. They purify the flesh. They clean the outside of the cup.

The Lord went on this earth and he went teaching and preaching against the outward duty of man, the absolute idea that the outward sin was all that there was. And the Pharisees believed that. And the Pharisees believed that if they kept themselves from the outward sin that they would cleanse within. But they weren't.

And when Jesus said that and when Jesus said, “But I say unto you...” he was rejected. He was rejected for the same reason he is rejected today because man in these two things, these hands believes he can wrought out his own salvation. He believes that he can bring something to God in a Cain like offering and he can bring it to him and come into worship. He could bring it to him in the ways that he treats fellow man. He can bring it to him in the ways that he reads his Bible and his devotions every day. And that is going to be accepted by God. And all that you have done is purified your flesh.

But there is a new and a more perfect way. That is in the old covenant and we still as old as that covenant is, as old as even fulfilled as that covenant is, as it is all and fulfilled in Christ, we still go back to that covenant. We still say, “Lord, do you accept this? Do you accept this in my place? Do you accept this in my person?”

It is a scary place to be. It is a frightening place to be. When the Lord told us that in these times, in these times today, in these times when this was written the Lord spoke through his Son, his Son. That is who I am well pleased in. And if he is well pleased in you, it is because you are accepted in the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁷ Ibid.

But all of this outward duty and all of these things that we just go through life and don't give any thought to them, we go through every day and as the day unfolds we make decisions. We make choices. And we go through and we walk and there is never a thought of God.

Why did you bring this into my life, Lord? What are you showing me here? There is so much that we go and we do to purify our flesh.

But those three verses of verse 14, three words.

“How much more...”

You believe you can bring your duty. You believe that you can bring your good works. The apostle says:

“How much more...”

Do you know what how much more says? How much more comes with power. How much more comes with the power of God behind it to your soul. How much more now, how much more?

Do you know what is being magnified here? Grace. Grace is being magnified over the law. Grace is ... the apostle says, “But how much more in the fulfillment of Christ and what he has done? How much more now?”

Do you mean there is more?

Oh, yeah. And this verse lays out for us something. It lays out the total taking out of man again, the total removing of man from any way, shape or form of his salvation and his life and anything that is acceptable to God. That is what my soul wants to do, because I know when I am left to myself and I know when I go about to do my duty and when I go about to please God and when I hear the words of Scripture and I hear the oughts and I hear the have tos and I go about to fulfill those oughts, nothing ever good comes out of it.

About a couple of weeks ago I had that very situation come into my life. I heard the law. I heard it come to me and it said, “Do this and live.” And do you know what I did? I set out to do it. And do you know what? I [?]. I absolutely [?]. Oh, I performed the duty. I said what I had to do. I did what I had to do. But do you know what I got back? I got the law back, because what you reap, what you sow you will reap.

The Lord is not mocked. He is a faithful Lord to teach his children that his Son has fulfilled the law. And praise be to God that he does. For some reason the carnality of our fallen, this old man, keeps trying to go back to it. It keeps raising its ugly head to go back and do something, to fulfill something, to perform something.

How much more?

“How much more shall the blood of Christ...”⁸

It is the power of the blood. It is the power of the blood that you are going to see that purges us of these dead works. It is the power of the blood that comes upon that conscience, that part that apprehends sin, that part that is under the burden of sin. It is the power of the blood.

I want you to hold your finger there and I want you to turn over to Zechariah 12. I want you to start with me up in verse 10 in Zechariah 12 and I want you to... I pray the Holy Spirit prepares us to see something in the next five verses.

“And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications.”⁹

Now you must understand that. There is no way to go forward. There is no way to understand what is about to take place unless you understand that it is by the grace of God and the pouring out of his Spirit that you are brought to this place, because you are not going to come here on your own. This is that place where our heart is open to understand sin. This is that place where we are shown the reality of what sin is. But you can't get there in your duty. You can't get there in your feelings. You can't get there in your reasoning. The Lord says:

“And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced.”¹⁰

You shall look upon the Lord Jesus Christ whom you have pierced. This is the work of the Holy Spirit. This is the Holy Spirit that is sent to convince the world, the elect world of sin. And unless you have ever been brought here to be convinced that you are a sinner, you have never felt the power of the blood. The power of the blood is not something that we walk around and claim and say, “Oh, I apply it myself.” If you believe that today, you are not a sinner. You might be one in your own mind, but it hasn't traveled down to here in the inner man.

The Lord says, “It is by grace and it is by the power from above that I bring my children to this place. And I bring them in total need and in total want and I lay them at feet. And I lay them with no armor and I lay them with no reason and I lay them with no works of their own, because I have destroyed them all and I have showed them just like I showed my apostle that they are all waste.”

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Zechariah 12:10.

¹⁰ Ibid.

And everything that you hang your hat on and everything you have done in your life and everything you have done for God, it is all waste.

And that is a terrible thing. That is a terrible thing to be shown that, to be everything that you have built in your life upon, if it is not on the foundation of the blood of Christ, it is nothing.

“...and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him.”¹¹

This is the reality of your sin. This is the reality that your sin pierced him on the cross. This is the reality that the sins present, past, the sins of the youth that David said that were so horrible and I agree. The sins of the horrible thoughts that come into our mind that we entertain and go down.

“...and they shall mourn for him.”¹²

And they shall do it under his power.

“...as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn.”¹³

Bitterness of soul, bitterness over losing your first born, bitterness. These are things that hopefully you can identify with as you sit here how sad and how mournful they are. Do you mourn over sin this way? And if you do, there is no reason that you have done it. The Lord has brought you to see how wicked it is. And there is a reason for that, because it is the same reason he brought Jeremiah to see. There is balm in Gilead and that balm is my blood. And there are those that walk in idolatry and there are those that walk after the ways of themselves and they walk to seek themselves and to build up themselves. But do you know what? I am going to bring them here and they are going to see that it is that sin that pierced me. It is that sin that put me on the cross. And then I am going to break down that pride and I am going to break down that what I have done for God and I am going to lay him at my feet and I am going to strip him and leave him half dead until my Son comes with the power of his blood, the power of the blood to come on that conscience and to say that you are forgiven.

I can't tell you that. Children, your mom and dad can't tell you that. Your spouse can't tell you that. Your pastor can't tell you that. But I know one who can and it isn't one who can. It is one who does. And that will never be thwarted.

The Lord knows those who are his. He is the seeking Savior. He comes and he seeks those lost sheep. And he lays them at his feet and then he puts that balm on them and he washes them in that blood and, you know, here is the beauty of it.

¹¹ Ibid.

¹² Ibid.

¹³ Ibid.

Well, we won't get ahead of ourselves.

Let's read the rest of this.

In that day shall there be a great mourning in Jerusalem, as the mourning of Hadadrimmon in the valley of Megiddon. And the land shall mourn, every family apart; the family of the house of David apart, and their wives apart; the family of the house of Nathan apart, and their wives apart; The family of the house of Levi apart, and their wives apart; the family of Shimei apart, and their wives apart; All the families that remain, every family apart, and their wives apart.¹⁴

Do you know what he is saying? It doesn't matter where you are in this world today.

I thought about that last week when the pastor brought that forth in the beginning of that message, how beautiful that was to in that moment when the Holy Spirit touched my soul, to feel a oneness with people that I have never met, with people that I know are the people of God all over this world. And do you know what? Here is that oneness again. It doesn't matter what tribe they are in. It doesn't matter what country they are in. The Lord does it the same way. He brings them to the end of himself and he brings them there and they lay there.

And you say, "Well, this is horrible. I don't want to be there."

But the child of God does, because he knows what he wrestles with in this life. He knows the depravity of his heart when he is shown and he knows how wicked he is and he knows those thoughts that come in and it causes him to mourn. But he says, he looks and he says, "Lord, what can I do? I keep having them."

But the faithful Lord brings him to the end of himself. It is not what you can do. It is what I can do as your perfect Savior. It is what I have done in my perfect redemptive work on the cross.

In all of these ones all over the world today they have battled the same enemies we do. They battle the old man. They battle Satan. They battle the principalities of there. They battle the burden of the law. They have been brought here. And that is some wonderful communion we have with them, too.

I tell you. That was one of the greatest things the Lord revealed to me is when I was in my.... well, let's call it what it is, my self righteous thoughts of judging those whom I love and I would looked and I would say, "You know what? I just can't believe they be that way. I can't believe they are doing that." And the Lord said, "They struggle with the same enemies you do."

¹⁴ Zechariah 2:11-14.

And you know you can't overcome without me, because without me you can do nothing. Without my blood they won't be cleansed.

And, see, that is the thing about this blood because that is ... now we come to 13:1. Now we know all of this mourning, all of this, this the Lord's work. This is the Lord preparing his children for this.

And you say, "But wait a minute. I battle sin all the time."

Yes. That is why the beauty of this passage.

"In that day..."

In the day of what? In the day of experience, in the day that you experience the power of the Holy Ghost showing you your sin, revealing to you that you are mourning over that sin, revealing to you who you have sinned against. In that day... and that day comes a lot for the child of God, because this spot always remains. As long as we are here we carry this dead carcass of the old man around with us. We carry this spot and we keep backsliding and we keep going back but the Lord says, "In that day..." That day comes for the child of God and it comes over and over as we are bathing in this fountain.

"In that day there shall be a fountain opened to the house of David and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem for sin and for uncleanness."¹⁵

Isn't that what we just heard in 13? Those ordinances, those great sacrifices, those things that God at one time accepted because it pointed to this that Zechariah saw, too, a fountain of blood, a never ending fountain, a fountain that cleansed one time efficaciously, powerfully to take all of our sins away and then continues to come and revive and to renew and to refresh the child of God over and over again as he falls back. The Lord keeps doing it over.

Let me apply my blood. This is the power of the blood to bring us back, to bring us away from sin, that brings us from the penalty of sin, that brings us under the guilt of sin. In that day when the Lord brings is to so powerfully.

Ephesians 2:13 says:

"But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ."¹⁶

He draws you to him by the blood of Christ. This fountain that is opened is not one that takes a ticket. It is not one that you must bring something to to get in. It is something he brings you to.

¹⁵ Zechariah 13:1.

¹⁶ Ephesians 2:13.

Ephesians 1:7 says:

“In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace.”¹⁷

It is grace that draws us.

Jesus said in John six that:

“All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.”¹⁸

All that the Father gave to him comes to bathe in this fountain. And they are drawn.

And that same Jeremiah, that same one that asked that question:

“Is there no balm in Gilead?”¹⁹

Later on in 31 says:

“The LORD hath appeared of old unto me, saying, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee.”²⁰

It is the love and the mercy of the Lord to draw us back over and over to apply the blood. And now that we have established that, let's go back to Hebrews nine to see the power of this blood again, to see the power of this blood to cleanse that part in us that apprehends this sin, the conscience, that part that is so burdened by it. And we are only burdened by it because he convinces us of sin.

You say, “Boy, that is not much of a comfort.”

Oh, it is, though. It is. And when he applies that blood, which is what we are going to see here. I want you to see the trinity here. Do you see it? Do you see the triune God here?

“How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit...”²¹

You know, the Spirit that came down upon him, that anointed him for his ministry. You know the Spirit that gave every grace and every perfect gift that was needed to perform every office of the prophet, every office of the priest, every office of the king perfectly. This is the power of the Holy Ghost.

¹⁷ Ephesians 1:7.

¹⁸ John 6:37.

¹⁹ Jeremiah 8:22.

²⁰ Jeremiah 31:3.

²¹ Hebrews 9:14.

“...who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God...”²²

The righteous and holy judge, non wavering God, a God that is...

Do you know what I see in this? Pure holiness. I see the holiness of God and I see what my Savior has done to present me before him as a lamb without spot, as a Church without spot, I should say, because we are accepted in him.

And when he sees us, he sees his Son. He sees a spotless robe of righteousness. He sees the perfect obedience, but he sees the power of this efficacious blood.

Efficacious means the power to produce effects. And he does.

How much more? How much more do you hear the grace of God? Do you hear the grace of the Lord saying, “How much more?”

How much more in this gift of the blood of my Son who through the eternal Spirit offered himself? This is the triune Lord in his cleansing.

But what does he do? He purges. He takes it away as far as from the east is to the west. And we know that. We know that is what his blood did. We know what that perfect sacrifice did on the cross. But we have to be shown over and over.

And do you know why? Because of that horrible tempter, that one that stays there and says, “But if you do this, but, but what about that sin? Are you sure that one is forgiven? That is highness. Do you see how that thought just went? Did you see where your mind went? Are you sure that blood can cover that?”

He purges our conscience. He purges that place that we are under all of that guilt.

You know, you might be looking at me today like, “I have no idea what he is talking about.”

And that is a sad thing, because the people of God know what I am talking about. They know what it is like to be brought to the end of themselves, to be laying at his feet, left there half dead. They know what it is like to be under the weight of sin. And there is nothing that can take that away except the power of the blood of Christ. He purges our conscience.

But, boy, how descriptive this purging is, from dead works. What are dead works?

Well, you know, the Holy Spirit is going to have to tell you that today, because we are full of it. We are full of the works that exalt ourselves. We are full of the works that we believe please God. We are full of the works that we do for God. We are full of the works that we do, that we believe is going to further the kingdom of God.

²² Ibid.

You know, this book, this precious book, when the Holy Spirit gets a hold of it, he will reveal to you what those works are. He will reveal to you the works that you do to appease your flesh. He will reveal to you the niceness that you have been to get something from someone else. He will reveal to you the going into doing something for God to further yourself. That is a big one. That is a deep one. That is what the Holy Spirit does.

And see this blood? Because that is a painful place to be. You mean, Lord, you didn't call me? No. I didn't call you and I didn't send you. Really? Yeah.

It is a hard thing to understand that this same Holy Ghost who leads us into all truth is the same Holy Ghost that bars us from going places we believe the truth should go or we should go or we should be or something in our life that will further our life. Sovereignty.

There is something about that sovereignty we just can't bow to. He makes me to lie down in green pastures. He restores my soul. This is how, by the power of his blood. He purges our conscience from those dead works. And that is the only way, dear ones, that is the only way we can serve the living God. That is the only way. We serve it in his strength. We serve it in him. We serve it by the mind of Christ. And the whole self is removed from the picture. And the whole furtherance of self is dead.

But he has got to come. He has got to show. He has got to bring you to this place and he will. He does it for all of his children and it doesn't matter what tribe they are in and it doesn't matter what situation they are in. There is nothing too strong. Is his hand waxed short? No. Is there any place that the Lord won't go and get his children? No.

My Lord saves to the uttermost. He finds his sheep who wander off in the worst of mire and the worst of muck and he will bring them back. And that healing that those nicks and wounds we get and those horrible feelings we get and the night terrors that come, there is only one thing that heals them and that is the power of his blood.

I want to end today in Romans chapter five. I just want to read four verses in humble dependence upon the Holy Ghost to apply these words to the people of God.

Verse eight we begin.

“But God commendeth his love toward us.”²³

Yes, he does.

“...in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.”²⁴

²³ Romans 5:8.

²⁴ Ibid.

The Lord led me to this passage this morning because that last part in Hebrews was to serve the living God. I don't want to ever leave you with the idea that what you have got to run out of here and do. I do want to leave you with the idea of what he has done.

“But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, being now justified by his blood...”²⁵

That's a big one. Romans five started off being justified by his faith. There is many things in the Word of God that we hear we are justified by. But, you know, they all have one thing in common. They are all in Christ. They are all flowing out of Christ.

But to be justified, to be pronounced not guilty, to have your conscience clean, to have your conscience washed, we are much more... even when we were yet sinners Christ died for us.

“Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.”²⁶

And, see, that conscience always leads us to that end, doesn't it? The wrath of God. It tells us that we are deserving of that wrath. We are deserving of everything that this Bible lays out for those who are outside of Christ, because of the horribleness of sin. But the power of that blood, again, it moves over our conscience to heal us and to heal us and to show us the perfect salvation in Christ.

“For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.”²⁷

This is where Paul said:

“I live by the faith of the Son of God.”²⁸

I am saved by his life because his life becomes the life of the child of God. And, boy, to the new man, there is nothing better to hear, that Christ puts on himself to his children, that we are accepted in him and in him alone.

“And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement.”²⁹

Have you? Have you received the atonement? Has the Lord washed you in his blood? Has he shown you the power of that blood?

²⁵ Romans 5:8-9.

²⁶ Romans 5:9.

²⁷ Romans 5:10.

²⁸ Galatians 2:20.

²⁹ Romans 5:11.

And, listen. It doesn't yield a giddiness. It doesn't yield a high mindedness or the proudful thoughts. It lays the sinner low and then builds him up on the rock. It washes him in the blood, robes him with a robe of righteousness in Christ and presents him to the Father without spot or blemish.

This is my friend. This is my beloved. This is the Lord whose power of his blood cleanses us from all unrighteousness.

Dear heavenly Father, most gracious and holy, just, faithful Lord, Lord, may you apply with thy power thy blood to thy saints this morning. Wash us, Lord, and make us whole and, Lord, may thy Spirit search us, search in every corner of our souls and reveal to us, Lord, that there is a balm. There is a fountain. And, Lord, may you bring us there to bathe often. And, Lord, may that praise and thanksgiving be upon our voices and our hearts and our lips that, Lord, you would give us a new song to sing of thee and not ourselves. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.