

# THE BLOOD

By G. D. FULTON (died 1995)

I WOULD LIKE to call your attention to the blood that was shed on Calvary's cross. Back in the Old Testament the Lord God gave the blood upon the altar to make an atonement for the soul (Leviticus 17:11). Nothing else in all the world can take its place—there is nothing that can make that atonement except the blood of an innocent substitute. It was there on the Cross of Calvary that God provided a mercy seat (an *atonement*) where the sinner can come and plunge beneath that blood and find mercy and pardon. All that come *guilty* to the Lord Jesus Christ at the foot of the cross will find His pardon. The Bible says, "And without shedding of blood is no remission" of sin (Hebrews 9:22)—never has been and never will be!—at the beginning of the Bible and at the end, it's the same. Speaking of the Glorified Lamb, we read in Revelation 5:9-10: "*For thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.*"

Then the most important question in all the world to you is *whether* you have been redeemed by the blood of the Lamb. Heaven is to be filled only with people who have been delivered from the curse of the law by the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. The Law of God says, "The soul that sinneth it shall die" (Ezekiel 18:4); and since "All have sinned" (Romans 3:23), "without shedding of blood" there is no hope for the death sentence to be repealed.

In Romans 3:25 the Apostle Paul clearly points out that it is "propitiation through faith in His blood." What kind of faith have you got? A faith in some imaginary something, or is your faith truly founded and grounded upon the Shed Blood? He said that faith in His blood and righteousness is the only way you'll ever find remission of your sins and peace with Almighty God. You cannot be *justified* without the blood. "Much more then, being now justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him" (Rom. 5:9). Saved from God's terrible wrath ONLY by the blood shed on Calvary's cross! Don't try to climb up some other way.

We hear so much today about the love of God—"God so loved the world" (John 3:16). Yes, He did! He loved "the world" (His creation) so much that He said every man who walks down through that world and sins against God, going on in his sin, dying in his sin and rebellion, will die without any mercy—"The soul that sinneth, it shall die" (Ezekiel 18:4)—and *you* will have to die this awful death, unless you find a sinless Substitute! And that sinless Substitute is the One who hanged on the old rugged cross. What do you know of a personal relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ, as a bloody sin-offering, dying in your place?

Paul, in addressing the Ephesian elders, could truthfully say, "I have not shunned to declare all the counsel of God" (Acts 20:27). This comes as a warning to pastors: Are you declaring all the counsel of God? Are you warning your people of the absolute necessity of being born again, of being redeemed? Are you preaching the BLOOD as the only atonement for their souls? Paul warned that after his departure, he feared that "grievous wolves" would come in among God's people, speaking "perverse things," drawing away a great following of disciples! "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" (Acts 20:28). What a solemn thing! To be in a position of leadership over a group of professing people of God, and not tell them the truth!

But I would have you know that the only thing that qualifies you as a member of the church of the Lord Jesus Christ is to be *purchased* by His precious blood! And when you come to Calvary's Cross, guilty of violating the holy laws of God, and there find mercy and pardon—my friends, then you have been purchased out from under the Law's condemning power, delivered from the wrath of a Holy God, set free by the blood of the Son of God, and made a member of His precious body, the church.

Oh, look again at Paul's warning. "For I know this, that after my departing," he says, "grievous wolves shall enter in, not sparing the flock. Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them" (verse 30). Once again, I'd like to press this question on preachers: Are you feeding that group who are given to your care, are you giving them the truth of God's Word? Are you filling your church with people who have been washed in the precious blood of the Lord Jesus Christ? Or, are you merely getting them to join in your form of religion? What a solemn question!

I have seen so much until it makes me sick—deceiving the people—getting them to join the church without ever telling them one thing about the necessity of having been purchased by the Blood as the only hope of salvation—the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. And the church you profess to be a part of is not a true church when you and your people have no interest in the shed blood of Calvary! You may sing some of the old songs about the blood, but has the blood been applied to you? Have you ever come as a guilty sinner to the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world? "Speaking perverse things"—soothing things—while nobody is coming guilty before God! Preachers are leading the people to follow them, to follow some church order or some religious programs and rituals—making merely imitation Christians, and this is one of the terrible tragedies of our time. Paul, you notice, calls them "grievous wolves!" Ah, yes! They have their great numbers, build up their religious societies, keep a lot of activities going on, but they *never* tell people the truth about the Blood. Never tell them

about the one hope of a shelter from the wrath of the Lamb which is coming upon all souls who have not been *purchased* by the blood! What an awful thing for such a preacher to see his “converts” destroyed without mercy when the Lord Jesus Christ comes back to earth! Because, without the blood of Christ, there is nothing else to shelter them from that awful wrath of God! It is coming—I warn you—the great day of His wrath is coming!

God created all things and He loves His creation, as He told Adam, “The day you eat of that forbidden tree is the day you will die. You are not going to live, in this world that I loved and created, in violation of My laws!” When they broke God’s laws they died in spirit and were afraid God would execute the penalty of physical death upon them. But when they came in guilty before Him, God provided the innocent substitute. And my friends, you need a Substitute or you will die this awful death—physical death and then eternal death.

God so loved the world in Noah’s day, but the people had so corrupted themselves and violated all His laws that He left them to die without any mercy. God, loving all His creation so much, would not allow those perverted people to live in it any longer. There was no substitute provided for them! All but eight souls in the world that then was (II Pet. 3:6) died without any covering for their sins. God saved that little remnant in the ark—they were able to “ride out the storm” in the ark provided and “pitched” by Jehovah God—the ark which is a picture of Blood Atonement in Christ.

God so loved His creation in Lot’s day, but He didn’t provide a Substitute for them. Listen and remember, all the wicked people in Sodom and Gomorrah died without mercy. And when we come to the children of Israel in Egypt, all the firstborn of that land who had no sheltering blood died without mercy—but all who were sheltered behind the blood of an innocent Substitute lived. *The distinction was not in being a natural Israelite, but being behind the blood!*

For God so loved the world, that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on Him who gave Himself as their Substitute shall be saved—whosoever comes, as a guilty sinner, to see that the Lord Jesus Christ gave Himself as a bloody Sacrifice in his place, will have everlasting life. It is faith in the blood of Calvary, not “faith” in anything else. Oh, how you need an innocent Substitute! Cry to Him!

Examine your relationship with God. Are you sheltered under the blood of our Lord Jesus Christ? Are you a new creature in Him, by His blood and Holy Spirit? Or, are you only another deceived church member? Are you trying to *work* your way to heaven—or have you been thinking if you stand for all the doctrines of your denomination you will be safe? We have so many different denominations and different doctrines, but God said, “When I see the blood, I’ll pass over and you will be safe.” Not many individuals in churches today

have ever seen their need of the blood being applied to them personally! Run up and down the church aisles all your days, if you wish, but if you never come to shelter in the Lamb and His precious blood you'll die under His wrath. "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life; and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life: but the wrath of God abideth on him" (John 3:36). To receive the Son of God, to believe on Him with true and saving faith, you must receive Him as a Bloody Substitute, dying outside the city walls of Jerusalem. There is no other hope for any sinner. What an awful day when you come and stand before God, having no covering for your poor soul! Seek the Lord, cry to Him for mercy, is my prayer. #

*[ Note: This was the introductory sermon to a radio series on the BLOOD, by my late father **Gabriel D. Fulton** (1909-1995). Perhaps we can offer the others in this series later. Wylie Fulton ]*