

Revelation Lesson 6  
It's Through The Blood

Revelation 1:5b "...and washed us from our sins in his own blood,"

Time would not permit me last week to fully elucidate my thoughts on this portion of verse 5, so I halved the lesson so as not to overwhelm you or me. Finally, we close this verse (not the whole thought, more on that next week) with that love flowing from Calvary as I have shown you that even though we KNOW God STILL loves us – here the emphasis is upon what JESUS CHRIST did upon the Cross SHOWING He LOVED the FATHER enough to OBEY His Will and that HE LIKEWISE LOVED US to save us from Hell.

**“and washed us from our sins”** - This word is Louo (Strong's 3068) that means To bathe oneself, used of washing the whole body and not part of it. The corrupted Greek manuscripts changed this word to lusanti (Strong's 3089 meaning To loose, loosen what is fast, bound, meaning to unbind, untie.). Now you can't have both washed and loosed. It's EITHER WASHED or LOOSED.

Since we have the preserved word of God in the KJV, the concept is Washed. This idea can be traced through the Scriptures. Back in Exodus 40:31-32 we find the symbolic ritual cleansing of the priests. God uses the concept of washing dirt and filth away in connection with washing away our sins. The symbolic “spiritual” cleansing action of washing the hands or feet was carried over into Jeremiah 4:14 with a washing of the mind (the original brain washing) to clean the thoughts. It was seen in the penitential prayer of confession made by David in Psalm 51:2 “Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.” Note: Thoroughly means from the Inside out it is NOT just another way of saying Thoroughly as THAT word means from the outside IN. Again it comes up in Isaiah 1:16 “Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes; cease to do evil.” This Jewish thought was seen at the time of Christ's trial before Pilate, when the Governor washed his hands. Though he found no guiltiness in Christ, He feared man more than God and knowing this sin would be on his head, he symbolically absolved himself of this “righteous blood” thus the Jews cried out for the blood of Christ to be upon their heads and those of their children (Matt. 27:25).

Many try to wrest these “washing” Scriptures and apply them to water baptism. But this is not the case. As seen here, the cleansing agent is the blood, not water. Similarly in Mark 16:16 the Scripture states: “He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that disbelieveth shall be condemned.” Advocates of Baptismal Regeneration emphasize the first section Belief and Baptism shall be saved. The problem is Baptism is left out of the condemnation: “but he that disbelieveth shall be condemned.” If you could believe and NOT be baptized in water AND go to Hell, the condemnation would have included baptism also.

Furthermore the Baptism that saves is the Spiritual Baptism. Notice: Romans 6:3 Or are ye ignorant that all we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Also, Ephesians 4:5 “one Lord, one faith, one baptism,” finally the lynchpin I believe is 1 Corinthians 12:13 “For in one Spirit were we **all** baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether bond or free; and were all made to drink of one Spirit.” SO, the Baptism happens TO ALL THE SAVED, and it is Spiritual!! NOT Physical. When we get saved, the Holy Ghost Baptizes us into the BODY OF CHRIST, at that moment, we are baptized into the Blood of Christ and our sins are washed away.

Now there is a symbolic washing “of water” that takes place in every salvation, and that is found in Ephesians 5:26 “that he might sanctify it [the Church], having cleansed it by the washing of water with the word,” So this idea of washing is carried from the Old into the New Testament. The

Church is washed by the Word of God, (this symbolic idea is seen in Hebrews 10:22) while the individuals who make UP the Church are washed in the Blood of Christ at the moment of Salvation. Again this latter thought is observed in Revelation 7:13-14 And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, These which are arrayed in the white robes, who are they, and whence came they? And I say unto him, My lord, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which come out of the great tribulation, and they washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.”

So there is WASHING not LOOSING or RELEASING. Christ didn't just FREE us from Sin, He CLEANSED US FROM IT! Looking in the New Testament about the rival wording of loosing or releasing from sin – well, that concept behind that word is NEVER found in connection with salvation in the New Testament the way the corrupted Manuscripts show today.

**“in his own blood,”** - Many teachers like John MacArthur and R. B. Thieme, Jr. teach that the terminology of the Blood of Christ refers ONLY to the DEATH of Christ. There can be no mistake about MacArthur's position that the Blood itself does not save us, that the Blood is SYMBOLIC of death. Words could not be plainer. In a mere three pages of his Commentary on the Book of Hebrews, MacArthur uses the term "symbolic" no less than thirteen times:

"Blood is a SYMBOL of death, and therefore follows closely the idea of a testator's having to die in order for a will to become effective. ...

"It is possible to become morbid about Christ's sacrificial death and preoccupied with His suffering and shedding of blood. It is especially possible to become unbiblically preoccupied with the physical aspects of His death. It was not Jesus' physical blood that saves us, but His dying on our behalf, which is SYMBOLIZED by the shedding of His physical blood. ...

"The purpose of the blood was to SYMBOLIZE sacrifice for sin, which brought cleansing from sin. Therefore, without shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.

"Again, however, we need to keep in mind that the blood was a SYMBOL. If Christ's own physical blood, in itself, does not cleanse from sin, how much less did the physical blood of animals. It is not surprising, then, that the Old Covenant allowed a SYMBOL for a SYMBOL. ... This exception is clear proof that the old cleansing was SYMBOLIC. Just as the animal blood SYMBOLIZED Christ's true atoning blood, so the ephah of flour SYMBOLIZED and represented the animal blood. This non-blood offering for sin was acceptable because the old sacrifice was entirely SYMBOLIC anyway.

"Yet this was the only exception. And even the exception represented a blood sacrifice. The basic SYMBOL could not be changed because what it SYMBOLIZED could not be changed. ... Since the penalty for sin is death, nothing but death, SYMBOLIZED by shedding of blood, can atone for sin. ... the only way we can participate in the New Covenant, is through the atoning DEATH of Jesus Christ, made effective for us when we trust in Him as saving Lord" (John MacArthur, *Hebrews*, pp. 236- 238).

Guys, this is nothing but another battle of two hermeneutic (system of bible interpretation) schools that has been ongoing since the Garden of Eden where the devil challenged God's literal interpretation of His own Word. If there is anything the devil hates and wants to diminish, it is the BLOOD OF JESUS CHRIST.

Now this war upon the meaning of the Word was magnified with the advent of the New Testament. Recall that the language God used to write the New Testament in was Koine or

Common Greek. In this language, in order to symbolize or allegorize something you either had to: 1.) use the word or 2.) state so in the text (that something was like this or that). Thus the wisdom of God showed when he used Koine Greek to initially give the world the New Testament. Hence the meaning of 2 Peter 1:20 “Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.” So we see that I cannot just sit down and say “Oh this means this” because the text says what it says and means what it says. This isn't like English where I say “this is a piece of cake” if this were in Koine Greek you'd better start looking for the literal cake.

Paul warned us that even during the first century there were those who sought to corrupt the word of God (2 Corinthians 2:17 For we are not as many, which corrupt the word of God: but as of sincerity, but as of God, in the sight of God speak we in Christ.) as did Peter, who stated that folks were “wresting” that is perverting, the writings of Paul 2 Peter 3:15-16 “And account *that* the longsuffering of our Lord *is* salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you; As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction.”

Eventually these wresting corrupters did as Paul stated in his warning to the young preacher Timothy: 2 Timothy 4:3 “For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;”

Before we look at the corrupters and their school, we begin our quick look at this tale of two cities. By the mid-first century, the Christian center was congealing around the city of Antioch (Acts 11:19 & 26 -where they were called Christians). We see references to this City of Devoted Light-Bearers in Acts 7:58-59, 8:1 (leaders being martyred) It was there the Apostles taught many and thus a “school of interpretation” we could say arose as they copied the New Testament. Such teachers there were: Ignatius (35-107), Theophilus (109-184), Serapion (153-211), Babylas (188-253) and Lucian (250-312). These “teachers” would influence their students: Polycarp (who also was a student of John after he wrote this book – Revelation; Polycarp taught Iraneus. Theophilus helped teach Tertullian who really taught about the Trinity and was the one who gave us that word: Trinity. Tertullian would influence Cyprian. Theophilus also influenced Justin Martyr who died under the hand of Marcus Aurelius for his faith. History absconded with his last name Martyr and thus others who died for their beliefs are even today called Martyrs. These teachers and their teachings would influence other pupils such as Lucian and Nestorius (386-451). It was Nestorius who fought against the infant Catholic church's teaching – teachings which centered in Alexandria, Egypt – that Mary was the Mother of God. Nestorius, using the Scripture correctly stated that God had no mother, that God has ALWAYS been. The humanity of Christ DID have a mother, but not Christ. Thus the reasoning behind Isaiah 9:6a “For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given...” the child was born, but the Son was given note, not born hence no Mother, but yes a Heavenly Father!

So the Antiochian School emphasized the Gospel, study, preaching and the literal interpretation of the Scriptures. This was due to the teachings of Peter, Paul and John.

Down in Alexandria, Egypt, rouge Jewish teachers who embraced Hellenism (Alexander the Great's melting pot multi-culturalism) began to center there. The great library was there, thinking was lauded and everyone was uplifted to be a scholar (this was the Greek emphasis upon your own intellect and thought). Another landmark was known of there it was the Great Lighthouse on the Island of Pharos – one of the 7 Wonders of the Ancient World. Hence we come to this city of the Darkened Light-House (of the Church). Such “know-it-all-ism” can be seen in Acts 18:24-26 where Apollos, a Jew from Alexandria followed the teachings of John the Baptist and had to learn “the way of God more perfectly” Note that the Apostle Paul had just come from Antioch (Acts 18:22-23). Further back in Acts 6:9 we note that it was a bunch of Alexandrians who disputed with Stephen and it was due to their false charges that he was martyred. Such was the contempt for

students and teachers of the Literal Interpretation of Scripture and the Gospel of Jesus Christ. It is believed that John Mark (wrote the Gospel of Mark) went there to preach to those “heathen” Jews in Alexandria. These Jews would produce a Greek translation of the Old Testament (not 400 years before Christ) but years afterward where they mutilated the Scriptures. The Jews in Jerusalem and those converted Jews in Antioch obeyed the Scripture in Deuteronomy 4:2 – not to add or subtract from it – but the rouge Jews in Alexandria and other places tore down the Scribal fence and cut here and pasted there.

The Alexandrian school had popular teachers who did away with orthodox Judaism and Christianity and espoused their own private interpretations of Scriptures. Pantaemus (140-200) was a founder who marshaled the wretches and corrupters into a group so they could “combat” the rival Antiochian school more efficiently. He taught Clement (150-215) to allegorize the Scripture. Clement went on to teach the famous Origen (184-254) who denied the Trinity, denied the Holy Ghost as God, denied Hell and Eternal Punishment and denied Salvation by Grace. Arius (250-336) was taught in Antioch but left the fold and came to the Popular school and was thus corrupted. When he began to teach Jesus did not physically exist, he blamed his old Antiochian teacher Lucian whose name he turned into mud. Thus showing the rise and popularity of this school of thought and the animosity towards the other school. Arius and Origen both taught Eusebius (260-340). Eusebius' writings would influence a young man born about the time he died, Jerome (347-420) who would study in Antioch and like Arius, would leave the school and journey to Alexandria where he would be commissioned by the Catholic church to take the Alexandrian Scriptures and create a Latin Bible to be used. All others (such as the one copied for the past 350 years from the copies of the copies of the copies of the originals from the Apostles would be outlawed). Jerome's Latin Vulgate would be used by the Catholics officially until 1611 when the English Douay-Rheims would come out in an attempt to trump King James' Bible.

Satan cannot defeat the Blood. Hence, even in the corrupted Alexandrian texts that have come down to us to this day in all modern day Bible perversions (1881 – present) have KEPT this translation of the blood in their texts. All that is except for the Good News Translation which called it: “and by his sacrificial death he has freed us from our sins.”

So if “no private interpretation” can be used, what is it? What does the text say and mean? In the entire New Testament (King James) there are 101 occurrences of the word BLOOD in 93 verses. Everyone of those occurrences except for one (Matthew 9:20) is the word: HAIMA (Strong's 129) which means: The blood of the human or animal body. Yes the LITERAL BLOOD. You can see that even without knowing Greek, why? Because God preserved His WORD as He said He would (Psalm 12:7). SO in English when you read the word Blood, in the Greek it means the word BLOOD.

In Matthew 9:20 the Greek word behind “blood” is HAIMORROEO (Strong's 131). Here in English the phrase: “which was diseased with an issue of blood” come from this one Greek Word. This Greek word is a compound from HAIMA (Blood) and RHEO (To Flow) which would mean: to have a flow or issue of blood – JUST WHAT THE ENGLISH SAYS! LITERALLY! By the way, this Greek word is the word from which the Eng. “hemorrhage” is derived.

But MacArthur and others like him say that HAIMA does not MEAN literal blood, but rather would allegorically or symbolically mean DEATH. The late R. B. Thieme, Jr. in his book “The Blood of Christ” went so far to state that “the blood of Christ” is a: “technical term which expresses that fact that Jesus Christ is the fulfillment of the Old Testament shadows.” (page 29) He starts in his book right off by saying: “The blood of Christ is a metaphor for the saving work of Christ on the cross.” (page 1) Thieme reaches out to Gerhard Kittel's Theological Dictionary of the New Testament (10 Volume edition) which was published in 1933. “Kittel [states that] “the blood of Christ in the New Testament is simply a verbal symbol for the saving work of Christ”...The term

blood of Christ, is a metaphor for His expiatory death in which He received the judgment that removed the penalty of sin.” (page 3).

I find it curious that many learned (and sincere) Bible teachers and Pastors still appeal to Kittel's 1933 Dictionary of the New Testament. Why? Because Kittel was a member of the Nazi party in 1933 (as well as a student of the old Alexandrian Allegorical school). In a lecture of June 1933 *Die Judenfrage* (The Jewish Question), that soon appeared in print, he spoke for the stripping of citizenship from German Jews, their removal from medicine, law, teaching, and journalism, and to forbid marriage or sexual relations with non-Jews - thus anticipating by two years the Nazi government, which introduced its Nuremberg Racial Laws and took away Jewish rights of German citizenship, in 1935. The late Biblical Archaeologist Albright stated: “In view of the terrible viciousness of his attacks on Judaism and the Jews, which continues at least until 1943, Gerhard Kittel must bear the guilt of having contributed more, perhaps, than any other Christian theologian to the mass murder of Jews by Nazis.”

So God inspired a Nazi to give us the TRUE meaning of the Greek Words underlying (some of the Textus Receptus) the Wescott-Hort Greek Text from which ALL modern day Bibles (NIV, ESV, etc.) trace their roots to? Maybe God inspired their other leaders too? (Sarcasm)

In accordance with the Bible's texts and own presentation of itself, IF God wanted the BLOOD OF CHRIST to MEAN the DEATH OF CHRIST He would have surely used the word THANATOS or some other derivative instead of HAIMA.

In the New Testament (KJV) the word DEATH occurs 138 times in 124 verses. Behind the English Word DEATH there are 10 Greek words:

1. THANATOS (Strong's 2288) is the Greek Word 117 times in 105 verses as death. (2 times it is translated as deadly.)
2. TELEUTE (Strong's 5054) is the Greek Word used 1 time in Matthew 2:15. It means “the end of a life.” It's considered a synonym for THANATOS.
3. APOKTEINO (Strong's 615) is used 6 times in 6 verses (Matthew 14:5; Mark 4:1; Luke 18:33; John 11:53, 12:10 and 18:31) It is translated with the words “Put To Death.” (Note the word APOKTEINO occurs 11 times but it is translated having the word “death” there 6 times. The other occurrences are in these same verses but the word is styled as “put” or “to put.” For our study we're looking at the occurrences of Greek words translated as death.
4. THANATOO (Strong's 2289) is used 9 times in 7 verses (Matthew 10:21, 26:59, 27:1; Mark 13:12, 14:55; Luke 21:16 and 1 Peter 3:18) as “Put to Death” This Greek word is derived (as you can tell) from Thanatos.
5. ESCHATOS (Strong's 2079) is used 1 time in Mark 5:23. It means: “to be at the point of death.”
6. ANARIEO (Strong's 337) is used 2 times in Luke 23:32 and Acts 26:10. It means to “put to death.”
7. APOTHNESKO (Strong's 599) is used 1 time in John 4:47. It means “to be at the point of death.”
8. ANAIRESIS (Strong's 336) is used 2 times in Acts 8:1 and 22:20. It means “consent(ing) to one's death. To approve of one's death.)
9. APAGO (Strong's 520) is used 1 time in Acts 12:9. It means “should be put to death.”
10. EPITHANATIOS (Strong's 1935) is used 1 time in 1 Corinthians 4:9. It means “appointed to

death.”

Contrary to what MacArthur's says, the Bible does place strong emphasis on the saving cleansing power of the blood of Christ. Dr. D. A. Waite listed 14 effects of the LITERAL BLOOD OF CHRIST in his book: *John MacArthur's Heresy on the Blood of Christ*. These are that we have:

1. **Redemption** (Leviticus 17:11; Matthew 26:28; Acts 20:28; Romans 5:9; Ephesians 1:7; Colossians 1:14; 1 Peter 1:18-19; Revelation 5:9)
  1. **His blood was shed for the remission of sins.** When Jesus instituted the Lord's Supper, He took the cup which contained the fruit or juice of the vine and said, "For this is my **blood** of the new testament, which is shed for many **for the remission of sins.**" (Matt. 26:28). Of course, the fruit of the vine did not turn into the blood of Christ, but it symbolized something that was real, and that was the blood of Christ. Christ's blood was shed for the remission of sins.
  2. **We have been purchased by His blood.** When Paul was speaking to the elders of the Church at Ephesus, he told them "to feed the church of God, **which he hath purchased with his own blood.**" (Acts 20:28).
  3. **We have redemption through His blood.** "In whom **we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sin**, according to the riches of his grace." (Eph. 1:7) "In whom **we have redemption through his blood**, even the forgiveness of sins." (Col. 1:14). There is no redemption for the sinner, and there is no forgiveness of sins apart from the shed blood of Christ.
  4. **We are redeemed by the precious blood of Christ.** Peter, by divine inspiration tells us that we are "**redeemed...with the precious blood of Christ**, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot." (I Pet. 1:18,19) .
  5. **We are redeemed to God by His blood.** (See Rev. 5:9)
2. **Propitiation** (Romans 3:25)
  1. **Redemption and remission of sins cannot be apart from FAITH IN HIS BLOOD.**" (Rom. 3:24,25).
3. **Justification** (Romans 5:9)
  1. **We are justified by His blood.** "Much more then, **being now justified by his blood**, we shall be saved from wrath through him." (Rom. 5:9). We gladly affirm that "Christ died for us" as we are told in v.8, but by so doing we will never, never play down the value of His blood. The Bible places great emphasis on both the death of Christ, and the shed blood of Christ. Why should anyone try to play down either His death, or His shed blood??
4. **Fellowship** (Ephesians 2:13)
  1. **We are made nigh by the blood of Christ.** (See Eph. 2:12).
5. **Peace** (Ephesians 1:20)
  1. **We have peace through His blood.** "And having made peace **through the blood of his cross.**" (Col. 1:20)
6. **Forgiveness** (Ephesians 1:7; Colossians 1:14)
7. **Sanctification** (Hebrews 13:12)
8. **Reconciliation** (Colossians 1:20)

9. **Cleansing** (Hebrews 9:14; Hebrew 9:23; 1 John 1:7; Revelation 1:5; Revelation 7:14)

1. **By His own blood He entered into the holy place.** "Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but **by his own blood** he entered in **once** into the holy place, **having obtained eternal redemption for us.** (Heb. 9:12) On the day of atonement, the high priest took the blood of a bullock into the holy place and sprinkled it on the mercy seat for his own sins. Then he took the blood of a goat into that same place and sprinkled it on the mercy seat for the sins of the people. (See Lev. 16). Jesus did not do that. He entered into the holy place in heaven, not by the blood of goats and calves, but by His own blood. It was done once, not every year, or perpetually!
2. **Our sins are purged, and remitted by the blood of Christ.** "Without **shedding of blood is no remission.**" (Heb. 9:22).
3. **Our sins are cleansed by the blood of Christ.** "The blood of Jesus Christ his son cleanseth us from all sin." (1 John 1:7).
4. **We are washed from our sins by His blood.** "Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood." (Rev. 1:5). MacArthur says that "washed" should be "delivered." We don't buy that, but even if it were so, we would still be "delivered from our sins in this own blood."
5. **Tribulation saints will wash their robes and make them white in the blood of the Lamb.** (See Rev. 7:14).

10. **Remembrance** (1 Corinthians 11:25)

11. **Boldness** (Hebrews 10:19)

12. **Maturity** (Hebrews 11:20)

13. **Punishment** – If we neglect the blood (Hebrews 10:29; 1 Corinthians 11:29)

14. **VICTORY** (Revelation 12:11) 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.

Yes folks I DO BELIEVE THAT JESUS TOOK HIS OWN BLOOD INTO HEAVEN, AND SECURED OUR VICTORY (1 Corinthians 15:17 and Hebrew 9:11-14)

Some have asked through the years what Blood type did Jesus have? I think he had O- why because as the chart shows, it is the ONLY blood type that ALL blood types can receive – it's the Universal Donor. If there is a blood that is universal in it's application to the folks of this world it is THE BLOOD OF CHRIST!

Closing Confederate Solider – It's the Blood, It's the Blood, It's the Blood! AMEN!!