

# The Bulletin

## Meeks Street Church of Christ

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November 13, 2022

### **“What Can Wash Away My Sins?” #3 (Final)**

By Brian Meade

God, in His infinite mercy and love wants us to be free from our sins—but it is up to man to respond according to His design and way of salvation. The basic problem man has in coming to God is simply listening to God’s directions without addition, subtraction, or substitution. Men often want something different than the plain and simple gospel way of salvation taught in Scripture.

We conclude our series this week, by saying....



#### **VIII. Nothing But The Blood of Jesus!**

Just like the song we sing, “*What can wash away my sins?*” The answer is emphatically obvious, “*Nothing but the blood of Jesus!*”

God’s word tells us how important a role the blood of Jesus has in our being saved from our sins. Let’s look at all it fulfills.

#### **1. Jesus’ Shed Blood Fulfills The Eternal Purpose In Christ.**

Paul said in Ephesians 3:11, “*according to the eternal purpose which He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord,*” Jesus’ death on the cross was no accident or incidental happenstance. It was the plan and purpose of God to secure our redemption from the power of darkness. As John writes for us that Jesus was, “*The Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.*” (Revelation 13:8).

On the very Day of Pentecost in Acts 2, Peter preaches concerning Jesus’ role in God’s plan to save man from sin, “*Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know—<sup>23</sup> Him, being delivered by the determined purpose and foreknowledge of God, you have taken by lawless hands, have crucified, and put to death; <sup>24</sup> whom God raised up, having loosed the pains of death, because it was not possible that He should be held by it.*” (Acts 2:22-24). The foreknowledge of God in Christ’s death and shed blood is clear for us to see through the lens of prophecy and fulfillment (Isaiah 53; Psalm 22). But for those living at that time, it was more difficult to understand salvation through a crucified Savior (Matthew 16:21-23), who would give His blood for us all.

#### **2. Jesus’ Shed Blood Fulfills The Sacrificial System Of The Law Of Moses.**

We read in Hebrews 10:1-3, “*For the law, having a shadow of the good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never with these same sacrifices, which they offer continually year by year, make those who approach perfect. For then would they not have ceased to be offered? For the worshipers, once purified, would have had no more consciousness of sins. But in those sacrifices there is a reminder of sins every year. For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and goats could take away sins.*” Also notice the finality of Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross, “*But this Man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God,*” (Hebrews 10:12).

The fact that Jesus “*sat down*” is not to be overlooked. It signifies the contrast of all the Levitical priests who “*stands ministering daily*” (Verse 11), and the completion of the last sacrifice of Jesus’ blood, as John referred to Jesus as, “*The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!*” (John 1:29).

As Jesus fulfilled the requirements of God for atonement and propitiation on the cross (Romans 3:25; 1 John 2:2; 4:10). No more sacrifices are needed for us to be saved (Hebrews 10:26). It is the blood of Christ that saves today.

### 3. Only Jesus' Shed Blood Has The Power To Wash Away Our Sins.

Along this line, Peter tells us, *"knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot."* (1 Peter 1:18-19). The fact that what men call precious, things such as gold and silver, have no power to save us from even one sin. It is only by the blood of Christ that we can be forgiven of sins.

And the Hebrew writer make the contrast of the blood of Christ and the blood of bulls and goats, and says, *"how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?"* (Hebrews 9:14).

As John writes and begins the book of 1 John, he states this about the work that Jesus performed for us, *"and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth. To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood,"* (Revelation 1:5).

In this verse, there seems to be a difference in the manuscripts along this line. One reads as we just read, *"who loved us and washed us from our sins,"* (NKJB; KJB; YLT). While the other reads, *"who loves us and released (loosed/freed) us from our sins."* (NASB; ESV; NET; LEB). But regardless, the point is still the same—the blood of Christ is the power of forgiveness!

But then, when you read Revelation 7:14, *"I said to him, "My lord, you know." And he said to me, "These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb."* There is the phrase *"washed their robes"*.... *"In the blood of the lamb."* (And also washed is used in Revelation 22:14 as well).

But what really matters is how do we have that moment when Christ washes or releases us from our sins by His blood? This is where so many people get this all wrong, and needlessly so!

It is extremely important for us to understand where and when forgiveness is obtained. Many struggle to answer this question because of all the false ways men have devised. I remember a conversation my Dad had with someone with denominational background. They were talking about salvation in Christ and my father was trying to convince him about the meaning and purpose of baptism. The man just simply said, "I plead the blood of Jesus in order to be saved."

Well, that sounds like a good way to do it, but what does that even mean? When you examine that concept of "Pleading the blood", you find out there is a proper way to appeal for the blood of Christ. I believe that is the goal, but many are following their own way to get there. (Faith alone, the Mourners bench, baptism of fire, Holy Spirit baptism, or the Sinner's prayer...).

It is only by doing what God has prescribed in His word, that we can have the forgiveness of sins. In the New Testament age, Jesus sent His disciples out into the world with the "gospel" or good news (Mark 16:15-16; Matthew 28:19-20). Paul tells us by inspiration of the Holy Spirit, *"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek."* (Romans 1:16). Notice Paul says the gospel, *"is the power of God to salvation."*

But that power is all centered on what Jesus did on the cross in shedding His blood. Men and women obeyed the gospel in the book of Acts to be saved (Acts 2:38; 3:19; 8:5-13; 8:34-38; 9:18...). As Paul accounts his meeting with Ananias to King Agrippa and Felix, he says what Ananias told him to do, *"And now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord."* (Acts 22:16). When you put all of what God has said about salvation together, you have the complete picture of what God expects for us to do to receive the blood of Christ. That's how we appeal to God for a good conscience, *"Corresponding to that, baptism now saves you—not the removal of dirt from the flesh, but an appeal to God for a good conscience—through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,"* (1 Peter 3:21). And that is how the blood of Christ is applied to our lives and cleanses us.

— It begins by faith. (Hebrews 11:6). Faith is the beginning point....

— Faith leads one to Repent. Without repentance, there is no change in our lives to amend our ways. That's why it is an essential command (Acts 17:30).

— Faith Also leads one to confess Christ (Romans 10:9-10; Matthew 10:32).

— And faith leads one to be baptized for the remission of sins (Acts 2:37-38; 22:16), where the blood of Christ was shed in His death (John 19:34).

Paul told the Corinthians that when one is baptized, they are baptized into the death of Christ, and then raised to walk in newness of life (Romans 6:3-6). How? The blood of Christ, given as a matter of grace, when we obey the gospel (Ephesians 2:8-9; Acts 19:1-5). The Ephesians obeyed, and were saved by God's grace.

**News and Notes:** Sick and recovering: Tim Harris Sr, Tim Harris Jr, Chad Harris, Daniel Holloway, Debbie Keplinger, Sam Johnson, J F Dancer, Robbie, Sheila, and Sherry Doles, Sandi Poole, Nathan Cox, Sandra Oliver, Wesley Trimble, Danny Cottrell, Jerry Trimble, and Jon Smith.  
Jimmy And Marsha Briggs are recovering from Covid & Jimmy also has Pneumonia.

**Those Who Serve:**

**Sunday Morning 9:00 A.M. Service:**

**Opening Prayer:** Doug George  
**Preaching:** Brian Meade  
**Sermon #1:** *"Hatred: Bad And Good"*

**Auditorium Bible Class: 9:35am:**

**Workbook:** Jerry Kennemur  
**Author:** Philippians  
**Starting Page & Question:** Paul R. Blake  
*Page #15, Question #19*

**Sunday Morning 10:30 A.M. Service:**

**Announcements:** Fred Johnson  
**Opening Prayer & Scripture Reading:** Nathan Meade  
**Scripture Reading:** *Proverbs 18:10*  
**Song Leader:** Paul Busby  
**Lord's Supper:** Danny Sheffield  
**Assisting:** — —  
**Preaching:** Brian Meade  
**Sermon #2:** *"How To Find Safety And Shelter?"*  
**Closing Prayer:** Russell Briggs

**Wednesday Evening: 7:00 P.M.**

**November 16th:**

**Auditorium Bible Class:** Paul Busby  
**Workbook:** The Miracles Of Jesus  
**Author:** Mike Willis  
**Starting Page & Question:** *Lesson 5, Page #30*  
**Invitation:** Paul Johnson  
**Song Leader:** Dan Cottrell  
**Closing Prayer:** Tim Harris Jr.



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## ***“Hatred: Bad And Good”***

Lesson Text: **Galatians 5:20**; Yet God says, **Proverbs 8:13**; **Ecclesiastes 3:8**.

### **I. Hatred That Is Bad.**

- Hatred For God. **Exodus 20:5-6**; **Romans 1:30**.
- Hatred For His Word. **Numbers 15:30-31**; **Isaiah 5:21-24**; **Proverbs 13:13**.
- Hatred For Jesus. **John 7:7**; **15:23-25**.
- Hatred For Our Parents. **Proverbs 23:22**.
- Hatred For Our Brother. **1 John 3:10-11**.
- Hatred For Our Enemies. **Matthew 5:43-44**.
- Hatred For The Light. **John 3:19-20**;
- Hatred Of Good. **Micah 3:1-2**; **2 Timothy 3:1-3**.
- Hatred For The Righteous. **Proverbs 29:10**; **1 Kings 22:8**; **John 15:18-19**.

### **II. The Good Results Of This Hate— None.**

- It Keeps Us Away From God. **John 3:20**.
- It Brings Strife And Fighting. **Proverbs 10:12**.
- It Separates Or Divides Us. **Proverbs 16:28**.
- Brings God’s Condemnation Upon Us. **Psalm 34:21**.

### **III. Hatred That Is Good.**

- Hatred For False Ways. **Psalm 119:104**; **119:128**; **Proverbs 14:12**.
- Hatred For False Teaching. **Revelation 2:6** and **15**.
- Hatred For Father Or Mother. **Luke 14:26**.
- Hatred For All Sin. **Proverbs 13:5**; **15:27**; **28:16**; **Amos 5:13-15**; **Jude 23**.

### **IV. The Good Results Of This Hate— Several.**

- It Will Help Us Stay Out Of Sin. **Psalm 101:3**.
- It Keeps Us Close To God. **James 4:7-8**.
- It Will Unify Us In God’s Ways. **Luke 6:22-23**.
- It Will Make Us Christ-Like. **Hebrews 1:8-9**.
- It Will Bring Reward To Our Lives. **Psalm 97:10**.

# ***“How To Find Safety And Shelter?”***

Lesson Text: **Proverbs 18:10.**

## **I. Why Do We Need Safety And Shelter?**

- We See Physical Dangers: Tornadoes, Hurricanes, Wild Fires, Earthquakes, Volcanoes, Invading Armies, Storms on the Sea (**Matthew 8:23-27**).
- Sudden Dangers, And Then Some Come With Warning.
- Times That We Seek Shelter and Safety From Such Dangers— Parallel to the Spiritual.
- Times We Need A Savior, Deliverer, Or Rescuer.
- Safety From The Power of the Devil; Shelter From Sin’s Harm; Safety In The Judgment Day.

## **II. Places Of Safety God Has Provided.**

1. Noah’s Ark. **1 Peter 3:20; Hebrews 11:7.**
2. The Jew’s House. **Exodus 12:22-23.**
3. Rahab’s House. **Joshua 2:18-19.**
4. Cities Of Refuge. **Numbers 35:26-28.**
5. Horns Of The Altar. **Exodus 29:37; 1 Kings 1:50-53.**

## **III. How To Find God’s Shelter From Danger.**

- We Must Heed The Warning And Not Mock At The Danger. **Gen. 19:12-14; 2 Peter 3:3-7.**
- We Must Be Willing To Seek Shelter. **Psalms 91:1-6; Hebrews 6:18.**
- We Must Go To Jesus— Our Deliverer. **Proverbs 29:25; 2 Peter 2:7; 2 Thess. 3:2; Col. 1:13.**
- We Must Follow The Instructions. **Genesis 6:14-17 and 22; Gen. 19:17-26; Matthew 7:24-27.**
- We Must Stay Obedient To Be Safe. **Leviticus 25:18-19; Acts 27:31; Hebrews 5:9.**
- We Must Be Among God’s People— **The Church! Ephesians 5:23; Revelation 5:9.**
- God’s People Are Protected. **1 Samuel 2:9-10; 1 Peter 1:5.**

Conclusion: **Psalms 46:1-3.**