

ATONEMENT BY BLOOD

If there is one theme that is consistent in Scripture, it is that of “atonement by blood.” This is just another way of referring to Christ’s **physical death** on the cross (cf. Rm.5:8-9). From the types and shadows of the Old Testament to the reality in Christ, we are redeemed by **a blood sacrifice**. We even have a **memorial** of the body and blood of Christ (1Cor.11:23-26). Contrary to the opinion of some, there are NO Scriptures which say that Christ died spiritually; or that such a death would have anything to do with our salvation. Notice these passages below.

Lev 17:11, For the life of the flesh is in the **blood**, and I have given it to you upon the altar to make atonement for your souls; **for it is the blood that makes atonement for the soul**.

Isa 53:5, But He was **wounded** for our transgressions, He was **bruised** for our iniquities; The **chastisement** for our peace was upon Him, And by His **stripes** we are healed.

Matt 26:28, For this is My **blood** of the new covenant, which is **shed** for many **for the remission of sins**.

Rom 5:8-9, But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, **Christ died for us**. Much more then, having now been **justified by His blood**, we shall be saved from wrath through Him.

1 Cor 15:3-4, For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that **Christ died for our sins** according to the Scriptures, and that **He was buried**, and that **He rose again** the third day according to the Scriptures,

Eph 1:7, In Him we have **redemption through His blood**, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace

Col 1:19-22, For it pleased the Father that in Him all the fullness should dwell, and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, **having made peace through the blood of His cross**. And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now **He has reconciled in the body of His flesh through death**, to present you holy, and blameless, and above reproach in His sight

Heb 9:14, 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?

Heb 9:22, And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and **without shedding of blood there is no remission**.

Heb 10:10-14, By that will we have been sanctified **through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all**. And every priest stands ministering daily and offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. But this Man, after **He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever**, sat down at the right hand of God, from that time waiting till His enemies are made His footstool. For **by one offering** He has perfected forever those who are being sanctified.

1 Peter 1:18-19, 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 2:24, who Himself bore our sins **in His own body on the tree**, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness — by whose **stripes** you were healed.

1 Peter 3:18, **For Christ also suffered once for sins**, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, **being put to death in the flesh** but made alive by the Spirit,

These verses paint a clear and consistent picture of atonement by blood. The blood-offering of Christ **makes possible** the **forgiveness** of sins (Mt.26:28; Rm.5:9; Hb.9:22). Our sins are not punished in Christ; they are forgiven in Christ! The cross **replaces** our penalty with a blood sacrifice — hence, atonement by blood. To deny this truth is to cheapen the blood of Christ — to count “the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing” (Hb.10:29).

--Lanny Smith