

## The Blood of Christ

The Bible teaches clearly that salvation from sin is possible because Jesus shed his blood in our behalf. It was Jesus who “loosed us from our sins by his blood (Rev 1:5).” John saw a vision of the redeemed who had “washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb (Rev 7:14).” Paul declared that we have “redemption through his blood (Eph. 1:7).” Peter taught, “You were redeemed . . . with precious blood, as of a lamb without spot, *even the blood* of Christ (Peter 1:18).”

If we have redemption through his blood, the sinner’s soul must come into contact with the cleansing power of the blood. When does one experience this cleansing power? When is the blood of Christ applied to the soul of the alien sinner? Does the Bible indicate a definite time and place when the Father “delivered us out of the power of darkness, and translated us into the kingdom of the Son of his love (Col 1:13).”

In Rom. 6:3-4, the Bible shows precisely when this takes place:

Or are you ignorant that all we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? 4 We were buried therefore with him through baptism unto death: that like as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we also might walk in newness of life.

Christ shed his blood for the remission of our sins (Mt. 26:28). He shed his blood in his death (John 19:34). We are baptized into his death (Rom. 6:3). The penitent believer experiences the cleansing power of the blood when he is baptized into Jesus’ death (Rom. 6:3) and raised to walk in newness of life (Rom.6:4).

The Bible teaches that one is baptized into Christ, “For you are all sons of God, through faith, in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ did put on Christ (Gal 3:26-27).” Since one is not in Christ before baptism, neither is he where the redemptive blood of Christ is. Paul teaches in Eph 1:7, “In whom we have our redemption through his blood.” Peter shows that the obedience to the truth purifies us: “Seeing ye have purified your souls in your obedience to the truth unto unfeigned love of the brethren, love one another from the heart fervently (1 Peter 1:22).”

Have you come in contact with the blood of Christ and experienced its marvelous cleansing power? Have you been washed in the blood of the Lamb?