“Speaks Better Than The Blood Of Abel”

Prepared by Nathan L Morrison for Sunday March 6th, 2022

Text: Hebrews 12:24

### Intro

1. *Colossians 1:19-20*
	1. Jesus became the fullness of God through His reconciliation of man to God, in bringing peace to mankind through “the blood of His cross.”
2. *Hebrews 12:18-29*
	1. Mt. Sinai and Mt. Zion are contrasted and the point is made that at the final shaking of earth and heaven those things that are created will be destroyed but there are things that will remain: The kingdom of God (purchased by blood of Christ – Acts 20:28).
3. Hebrews 12:24
	1. The Hebrew writer illustrates the power of Christ’s blood by figuratively attributing to it the ability of speech!
4. The blood of Jesus “speaks better than the blood of Abel” (Hebrews 12:24)
	1. Abel’s blood called for vengeance – Gen. 4:10 (Heb. 11:4: Abel’s example “still speaks”)
	2. Jesus’ blood calls for forgiveness of sins – Eph. 1:7; Heb. 1:3
	3. Jesus’ blood calls for men to hear and listen to His message! (Heb. 12:25)
5. What does the blood of Jesus Christ say?

#### Reveals God’s Love for Man (I John 4:9-10)

* 1. I John 4:9-10
		1. God’s love for His creation prompted Him to send His Son to be “propitiation” for the sins of man!
			1. Propitiation = *Gr. hilasmos (Str. 2434):* From *2433,* atonement.
			2. *Gr. hilaskomai (Str. 2433):* to atone for sin, or be merciful, make reconciliation for. *(Gr. hilasterion – Str. 2435: mercy seat, atonement)*
		2. Two things involved with “propitiation”
			1. A priest to offer.
			2. A sacrifice to be offered.
			3. Hebrews 9:11-14: Christ is called both “high priest” and sacrifice (“offered Himself”) – Heb. 9:26: He put away sin by “the sacrifice of Himself.”
	2. God demonstrated to the world His love for mankind in letting His Son die for our sins:
		1. John 3:16: God loved the world enough to “give” His Son as cure for sin.
		2. Romans 5:6-9: Christ died to save man from the “wrath of God.”
		3. Mankind was “helpless” and out of love God sent His Son to shed His blood.
	3. To the world it was shown: “Greater love has no one than this…”
		1. *John 15:13:* “Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends.”
	4. Who are His friends?
		1. *John 15:14:* “You are My friends if you do what I command you.”
		2. After learning of the love shown for us, we ought to want to serve Him out of gratitude for His great sacrifice!
	5. The blood of Christ speaks of the love of God for mankind!

#### Declares the Sinfulness of Man (II Corinthians 5:21)

* 1. Sin is dividing barrier between man and God, an incurable disease (likened to leprosy).
		1. Isaiah 59:1-2 (I Pet. 3:10-12): Sin separates men from God, their prayers unheard!
		2. Romans 3:23: All men sin.
		3. Romans 6:23: Sin condemns the soul of man and leads to death (Js. 1:14-15).
	2. Christ’s death on the cross was propitiation (He died in man’s place).
		1. Isaiah 53:6: “The Lord has caused the iniquity of us all to fall on Him.”
		2. II Corinthians 5:21: “He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.”
		3. Hebrews 9:28: Christ was “offered once to bear the sins of many.”
	3. As Abel’s blood called out for vengeance, Christ’s called out for forgiveness (Lk. 23:34).
	4. To see the price Christ paid for sin, mankind ought to take sin seriously and do all one can to serve Him!
	5. The blood of Christ speaks about the sinfulness of man, and of the great price paid to grant forgiveness!

#### Professes Man Is Unable to Save from Sin (Romans 5:6)

* 1. Mankind has accomplished much:
		1. Man can fly faster than sound.
		2. Men have gone into outer space and returned.
		3. Men have split the atom and changed the nature of warfare and energy.
		4. Mankind has engineered appliances and technology that make life easier.
		5. Mankind has developed “Miracle” drugs and cures to all sorts of “incurable” things, and has made progress in other treatments.
	2. However, with all of that said, man has not and cannot devise a means of saving from sin
		1. I Peter 1:18-19: Silver and gold are metals man has fashioned into currency the world over, yet it cannot save man from sin, no matter the quantity!
		2. Ephesians 2:8-9: Nothing man could do (no matter how great the feats or righteous the acts) could save himself from sin! “By grace you have been saved through faith” and “it is the gift of God.”
		3. Ephesians 2:10; Hebrews 2:9-10: Man did not devise the remedy; it was “by the grace of God.”
	3. Romans 5:6: “While we were still helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.”
	4. The blood of Christ speaks of man’s inability to save himself from sin!

## Conclusion

1. The blood of Christ speaks to mankind today!
	1. It tells of God’s love
	2. It tells of man’s sins
	3. It tells of the only remedy and cure for sin
2. How does one obtain the soul-cleansing power of the blood of the Lamb?
	1. Revelation 1:5; Acts 22:16: “Washed us from our sins” (NKJV) and “be baptized, and wash away your sins.”
	2. Matthew 26:28; Acts 2:38: “Blood is shed (NKJV) for forgiveness of sins” and “be baptized for the forgiveness of sins.”
3. Call on the name of the Lord to be saved! (Joel 2:32; Acts 2:21; 22:16)
	1. To be washed in the blood of the Lamb is to be baptized, “calling on the name of the Lord!” *(Acts 22:16)*
4. After baptism, when one sins, the blood of Christ still cleanses us when we repent and seek forgiveness – I John 1:7-9
5. The blood of Christ speaks loud and clear to mankind today: Have you listened and obeyed?
6. If you are not a Christian, you need to be. Be obedient to His gospel, and be added to His church, for which He died. Repent and be baptized into His name!
7. If a Christian in error, don’t wait till it’s eternally too late. Repent and be renewed!
8. Whatever your requests, let them be made known ***NOW*** while we stand & sing!