

**By the Blood of Christ**  
**Ephesians 2:13**

**By the Blood of Christ**

Look at a person's condition who is without Christ.

**Ephesians 2:11** Therefore remember that formerly you, the Gentiles in the flesh, who are called "Uncircumcision" by the so-called "Circumcision" which is performed in the flesh by human hands—

**Ephesians 2:12** remember that you were at that time separate from Christ, excluded from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of the promise, having no hope and without God in the world.

**Ephesians 2:13** But now in Christ Jesus you who formerly were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

Remember that *you were separated from Christ, having no hope and without God...but now in Christ Jesus.*

Every night and every morning you can give thanks to God for being in Christ!

It is so frightening to be *separate from Christ*. To be in a state of being *without Christ*. There is a large number of people in America separated from Christ. I am so fearful most people in America will soon be without freedom. But what is worse is that most Americans are separated from Christ...and they don't care! This is a most interesting 'improper preposition.' Notice the only place in the New Testament where it occurs

**By the Blood of Christ**  
**Ephesians 2:13**

as an adverb, is in *John 20:7* where it describes Jesus' garments in the tomb after His resurrection. *and the face-cloth which had been on His head, not lying with the linen wrappings, but rolled up in a place by itself.* Here it means *separated from Christ.* It speaks of individuals separated from Christ in the sense of no relationship with Christ. To me, the worst part of hell is not the Lake of Fire, the worst part is to have no relationship with Christ. Here is the worst condition of a human being. All unbelievers are separated from Christ.

**therefore having been alienated from the commonwealth or citizenship of Israel and strangers (foreigners) to the covenants of promise having no hope that is no expectation.**

How would you like to be close to dying with no hope, no expectation after death. *Without God in the world, that is Godless.* To be *separated from Christ, without hope, and without God in the world.* Here is the true condition of every unbeliever! Again, if you have believed in Jesus Christ as your Savior, think it everyday: you are *with Christ, with hope and with God.* And think of every person you love who is a believer of having this in heaven.

We now move to the contrast between the believer and the unbeliever, between the saved and the unsaved.

**But now or but at the present time in Christ Jesus.** The moment we believe in Jesus Christ, God the Holy Spirit enters us into union with Christ.

**Ephesians 2:13 you who formerly were far off having been brought near by the blood of Christ.**

**By the Blood of Christ**  
**Ephesians 2:13**

**Formerly.** Refers to the *past, far away* no matter where you live, as an unbeliever, what you did is far away, forget it, good or bad. Your past is far, far away! It has no relationship with God!

Now let's make an impossible illustration. Let's suppose you, as an unbeliever, you stopped sinning!!! (Now that you stop laughing), lets suppose that you stopped sinning for 5 years, well you are no closer to God that if you did nothing but sinning! You would be no closer to heaven than you were before. There is no way that we could do anything to gain eternal salvation or go to heaven.

**Ephesians 2:13 But now in Christ Jesus, (you made a decision to believe in Jesus Christ) you now as a believer you who formerly were far off (from God) have been brought near by the blood of Christ.**

We will see the *blood* but twice in Ephesians.

**Ephesians 1:7 In Him we have redemption through His blood.**

The last time in Ephesians is here with

**Ephesians 2:13 we have been brought near by the blood of Christ.**

(We have studied the blood of Christ before in Ephesians 1:7. But now, we will begin learning what is going on in the Bible. I looked closely at others in Dallas Theological Seminary, but now we are going to look at RB Thieme, on blood.)

1. It is absolutely necessary to understand the blood of Christ. Blood is the basis for animal life. Animals do not have souls. This is going to hurt you dog lovers. A human being is not dead until the soul leaves

**By the Blood of Christ**  
**Ephesians 2:13**

the body. Once the soul leaves the body a person is dead. It is not your EKG that determines death, it is your EEG, (*brain activity*). How do you know when an animal dies. It does not record EEG, the soul is not even there. So how do we know when an animal dies? It does not have a soul to leave his body, how is he going to die? This is the whole point of all of the *animal sacrifices* and specifically the Levitical offerings of the Old Testament. An animal dies not by the soul leaving the body, but by the blood leaving the body.

But wait you hunters say: what about the brain shot? You protest in that an animal dies from a brain shot, there isn't much blood lost there. Any good doctor will tell you that what you hit in the brain shot, is his nervous center and that kills him.

Now an animal is dead with the blood out of his body, when you cut the carotid, every time he takes a breath and his heart tries to breath again, he will push blood out and the animal is dying. Now look at an altar in the Old Testament and you will see that the animal's legs are tied down, if this does not happen he will kick and even jump up and runs around with blood squirting out of him. It was bloody in the Old Testament killing of an animal.

When it says "the life of the flesh is in the blood" as it does in Leviticus 17:10-14, it is not talking about people.

**Leviticus 17:10 'And any man from the house of Israel, or from the aliens who sojourn among them, who eats any blood, I will set My face against that person who eats blood, and will cut him off from among his people.**

**By the Blood of Christ**  
**Ephesians 2:13**

**Leviticus 17:11 For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it to you on the altar to make atonement for your souls; for it is the blood by reason of the life that makes atonement.'**

**Leviticus 17:12 Therefore I said to the sons of Israel, 'No person among you may eat blood, nor may any alien who sojourns among you eat blood.'**

**Leviticus 17:13 So when anyone from the sons of Israel, or from the aliens who sojourns among them, while hunting catches an animal or a bird which may be eaten, he shall pour out its blood and cover it with earth.**

**Leviticus 17:14 "For as for the life of all flesh, its blood is identified with its life. Therefore I said to the sons of Israel, 'You are not to eat the blood of any flesh, for the life of all flesh is its blood; whoever eats it shall be cut off. (Of course in the Church Age, you may eat blood, as in a nice steak.)**

This is not referring to human life, your life is in your soul. Many times the Greek word for soul as well as the Hebrew actually doubles for *life*. Life is in your soul, but the animal's life is in his blood and this is why it is so important to understand this point, because God selected animals to teach the Old Testament people about salvation. The cross had not occurred historically. The cross

**By the Blood of Christ**  
**Ephesians 2:13**

was going to occur historically. The cross was a part of the divine decrees, the cross is the key to the Father's plan of grace and the cross is the mechanics of salvation.

God created, then selected the animal kingdom, domestic animals like lambs, and goats, and even in the bird kingdom, like turtle doves and pigeons. God selected these animals to portray the ministry of Christ, in salvation, as the work of Christ on the cross. Everyone must actually see that the animal is going to die, and that is how the altar came into existence. The altar is a raised platform so that everyone who is standing around can easily see. Then the altar has yet another purpose, it has four hooks, one on each corner, and these hooks are designed to tie down the animal's legs. The animal in most cases are quadrupeds, only the birds had only two legs, and they were also tied down, and once the animal is tied down and the priest cuts the animal's throat, it is quite obvious what is happening to the animal. The animal was dying and soon the animal died, and the animal died by bleeding to death.

It is amazing the number of people who say or sing, "what can wash away my sin"? nothing but the blood. This is a not true!

The blood of Christ does not wash way your sins.

The blood of Christ is a biblical term. It is one of the least understood of all Biblical terms. The problem is that few people, few pastors, take the time to teach the truth and clearly explain the Scripture. Few Pastors clearly teach that an animal dies by bleeding to death. What is 'the blood of Christ'? You don't know unless you are taught. The *blood of Christ* can only be understood when you go back and see how blood is used in the Scripture. You must have Leviticus 1 through 6 to understand *blood and Christ*. In the New Testament on a study of Blood by The Complete Biblical Library

**By the Blood of Christ**  
**Ephesians 2:13**

says; ‘but by far its most noteworthy usage occurs in conjunction with the death of Christ.’”

The Greek English Lexicon Bauer, Arndt, & Gingrich speaks of *literal and figurative* after defining blood as it refers to Jesus Christ under *figurative teaching of the blood of Jesus Christ*.

2. Animal blood was used in the Old Testament sacrifices to represent the spiritual death of Christ on the cross. Leviticus 1-3. Therefore, the blood of the animal becomes a representative analogy. We have the altar, the animal on the altar with his throat cut, and he bleeds to death, his blood leaves him, he is dead, the animal dies physically. Physical death of the animal teaches the spiritual death of Jesus Christ.

This is not what we call a direct or a true analogy. A direct or true analogy would mean that Christ had to bleed to death on the cross and someone had to catch His blood in a pot and haul it up to heaven, as the Roman Catholics teach. But Christ did not bleed to death on the cross, and no one caught His blood in any kind of pot and take it into heaven. And the blood of Christ is not on deposit in heaven.

A representative analogy takes something that happens literally to portray something that is spiritual. The something that is spiritual is the first of the two deaths of Christ on the cross. All of the sins in the history of the human race were poured out. It is called a cup. Here is the cup full of sins, and it's all poured out on Christ and as our sins were poured out upon Christ, God who had withheld judgment on those sins, now, judges them, and He judges all of the sins of the past, and all the sins of the present and all of the sins of the future and He did it in 3 hours. And that is the Spiritual death of Christ on the cross, and that is what the animal death was portraying

**By the Blood of Christ**  
**Ephesians 2:13**

on the cross. The animal died a physical death while Jesus Christ died a Spiritual death. Now Jesus says something interesting. He said *it is finished!* He is alive when He says, it is finished. He is not dead yet when He says *it is finished*. But salvation is finished! He is still alive!

So, be sure you get this clear; **Jesus did not die physically for our sins** He said *tete lestai*. That is the Greek perfect tense of the Greek word *teleo* and it means *it is already been finished, in the past*, it the Greek perfect here means the results go on forever. Salvation is complete and ready for everyone to believe on Him.

The animal blood was real and literal. But it represents the Spiritual Death of Christ on the cross. The Spiritual death of Christ was real and literal. He literally was judged for our sins after they were poured out upon Him, so that in a representative analogy you have something that is real and literal, representing a different thing which is real and literal. One represents the other and the animal blood represents the blood of Christ. It represents the Spiritual death, He really died spiritually and He literally died spiritually, and so when you see the phrase “blood of Christ” notice ‘blood’ takes you back to your analogy “of Christ” now you know what Christ did on the cross, so you know the blood of Christ refers to Christ being judged for our sins and the blood of Christ is the sacrifice of Christ on the cross and He did not bleed to death.

So He did not bleed to death and the blood of Christ always refers to the spiritual death of Christ on the cross.

The animal sacrifices in the age of Israel, are analogous to the representative analogy, but they are analogous to the spiritual death of Christ on the cross where our salvation was completed, and the physical death came later because His work was finished.



**By the Blood of Christ**  
**Ephesians 2:13**

The difficulty of all this is that not even all the Jews grasped what all this was teaching them.

Now, the wages of sin is not physical death. If it had been, Adam and Eve would have died immediately and none of us would be here. The wages of sin is death, Adam and Eve both died immediately spiritually but not physically until much later in life.

The wages of sin is spiritual death. Therefore when you see phrases like ‘the blood of Christ’ you should know that it is talking about Christ being judged for our sins. Colossians 1:20; Hebrews 10:19; and 13:20 and 1 Peter 1:2.

Now in the New Testament as well as in the Old, we have more than animal sacrifices to portray the principle of the blood of Christ. Animal sacrifices are for us to see and understand that the slaying of a lamb on the altar, and we learn about Redemption.

3. The doctrine of Redemption was taught in the Old Testament by means of animal sacrifices. And, animal sacrifices was for the teaching of Redemption. The phrase ‘blood of Christ’ was for the teaching of Redemption.

**Hebrews 9:22 And according to the Law, one may almost say all things are cleansed with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no forgiveness. (that is no Redemption)**

In the Old Testament they *could* understand this. A lot things that are written in the New Testament are talking about the Old Testament. And in the Old Testament without the shedding of blood there was no redemption.

**By the Blood of Christ**  
**Ephesians 2:13**

The verse therefore says *without shedding of blood there is no forgiveness or no Redemption.*

4. There is one thing a slave cannot do, and that is free another slave, because the freedom of a slave is done by a free person purchasing a slave. The person who does the purchasing of the freedom of a slave has to be free himself. The Lord Jesus Christ is the only person who ever came into the world after the first Adam as a free person. He was free because of the virgin birth. This woman was not impregnated by another man, she was impregnated by the Holy Spirit. Therefore, He did not have a sin nature. He was free because He did not commit an act of personal sin. He was free therefore under the concept of impeccability. When He went to the cross He was still perfect, no imputed sin, no inherent sin and no personal sin, and therefore He was free to pay, to purchase the freedom of slaves. A free man purchased freedom of slaves, and He did so by the cross! What He actually did was to take the judgment of the sins of the every member of the human race. The only value acceptable to God for the payment for the sins of the world was the ‘blood of Christ’ or the Spiritual death of Jesus Christ. Each one of us is not free to come out, we are actually free! But there is one more point, Righteousness. Every person was to believe in Jesus Christ as Savior and would step out in freedom. This is called Redemption. Redemption means to purchase freedom of a slave, from the slave market of sin. Jesus Christ did not bleed one ounce of blood for our freedom, He bore our sins in His own body, He was judged for our sins and that is the purchase of our freedom.

The doctrine of redemption was communicated in the Old Testament by means of animal sacrifice.