

WHEN I SEE THE BLOOD

Exodus 12:13

Elio Di Ciocco

The words, “**When I see the blood, I will pass over you**” mean the world. When Jehovah passed down through Egypt that awful night, His eye was not looking for Egyptians or Israelites, but for the blood of the lamb. The sentence of death was passed upon all the firstborn. All were condemned already. There was no difference between Jew and Egyptian. This is the condition of all men under the law, they are under the curse, and the sentence of death is already passed upon all, that “*all have sinned*” (Rom. 3. 23), *and fall short of God’s glory.*

Those inside may have been from the lineage of Abraham, they may have been circumcised on the eighth day, and their outward life may have been beyond reproach, but it wasn’t their family lineage, or good works, that secured deliverance and safety from God’s judgments. It was the sprinkled blood on the doorposts that made them safe. And it was the promise of God’s deliverance that reassured them.

God on that awful night in Egypt went looking only for the blood, if He found blood He became their Saviour, and there was life, liberty and blessing. The destroying angel “passed over”, or we can say, “he leaped over” those households that were sheltered under the blood. Where there was no blood to be found God became their Judge. And as a result of His execution, there was wailing, gnashing of teeth and death.

Heb. 9:22 tells us that “*Without the shedding of blood is no remission of sins.*” This is true. But we also know that without sprinkling of blood there is no salvation. Shedding and sprinkling are not synonymous terms. Shedding stands for propitiation; sprinkling stands for appropriation.

Propitiation is Godward. It is the turning away of wrath of a holy God by an offering. Christ is the Sacrifice for our sin (Rom. 3:25). Justice has now been satisfied on account of His substitutionary death. Our sin debt has been paid. His holiness is satisfied and God’s wrath is turned away. The apostle John recognized this great truth when he wrote that Christ “*Himself is the propitiation for our sins*” (1 John 2:2). “*In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins*” (1 John 4:10).

Appropriation is manward. It means “to take for oneself”, or “to take possession of.” It is to take hold of Christ’s sacrifice for oneself, making it his own. A Hebrew may have chosen a spotless lamb, he may have killed it, but unless he had applied its blood to the outside of the door, the Angel of death would have entered his house and struck down the firstborn son. Today the same goes for us. It is not enough for me to know that Jesus is the Lamb of God, or that He even was crucified for me. Reverentially, I say the death of Christ on the cross doesn’t save anyone, unless it is believed on and received by faith.

The focus of the Passover was not the lamb, be it alive or dead. The focus was the blood applied. There must be personal faith in His atonement. By faith I must be saved ‘by the blood.’ It must be sprinkled on the door of the human heart, in order to get the guilty

conscience cleansed. If you want to experience freedom from the bondage of sin and avoid the sure judgment of God, the Lamb's blood MUST be appropriated. The blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin (I John 1:7).

Please note carefully, that on that first Passover night, the blood was not to be put on the threshold of the door. Not one Hebrew would dare to be careless as to walk or trample on the blood. With that said, we find an awful warning in Heb. 10.29 against those who trample the Son of God under foot, who treat as an unholy thing the blood of the covenant. It clearly says that they can expect a fearful judgment of raging fire that will consume the enemies of God.

You see the eye of God has always been on the precious shed blood of His Son. He never for a moment loses sight of Calvary, and never will throughout eternity. He knows its infinite worth. But at the same time, God also has a continual eye on humanity to see if men demean the blood of His Son. What does the blood of Christ mean to you?

My dear friend, what you decide about the blood of Christ seals your destiny. Your decision either brings you up into the glories of heaven, or down into the agonies of Hell.

Soli Deo Gloria