

Simply Christ

Gospel Newsletter

Sharing the simplicity that is in Christ

November 13, 2018

The Body and Blood of Christ

For centuries theologians have focused on the manhood of Christ seeking to discover a reason God “required a man” to die for our redemption. Out of this misconception has come many “scripture-less” theories of atonement. Anselm’s “satisfaction theory” presented Christ coming as a man to pay a great debt of honor which humanity owed to God. Because mankind had so dishonored God through transgression, Christ as a man had to pay God more honor than the sum of mankind’s dishonor. Calvin’s “penal substitution” presents that Christ had to become a man to take upon himself the punishment for all the sins of mankind. Other theories present that Christ had to come and live a perfect life as a man so that his sinless life could be accounted to us as righteousness in the eyes of God. All of these theories are steeped in human philosophy, but have almost no scriptural foundation at all.

In our generation, teachers have stumbled over each other attempting to show that Christ was exactly like any natural man. They say he could have sinned, that he struggled with sin, and that he even wanted to sin. Some have taught that he fought with and subdued fleshly lusts through prayer, fasting, and self-denial. Others say that Christ was just a natural man upon earth who did everything he did through the “power of faith.” One renowned “faith teacher” went so far as to declare that he, being the same as Jesus was

upon earth, could have redeemed us just as well as Christ did. Once again these teachers have *“changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man...”* Romans 1:23.

Jesus Christ was not just a man. Some try to show that upon earth he was 100% man, but this is simply not true. Jesus Christ is *“the WORD”* made flesh. He is the *“...express image of his (God’s) person.”* Hebrews 1:3. He was born *“Holy”* Luke 1:35 and he had no sin or sin nature, for John writes *“in him there is no sin.”* I John 3:5. John’s testimony was that *“his glory”* was *“the glory as of the only begotten of the Father.”* John 1:14. He went on to tell us that the message they received through seeing, hearing, and handling the word of life (Jesus Christ), was that *“God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.”* I John 1-5.

Even the earthly body of Jesus Christ was different from other men. His fleshly body could not have been 100% man. Yes, Mary was his mother, but God was his father. The angel said, *“that which is conceived in her (Mary) is of the Holy Ghost.”* Matthew 1:20. There is no human body that is 100% of its mother. The apostle tells us *“when he (Christ) cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but **a body hast thou prepared me.**”* Hebrews 10:5. The body of Jesus was not the same as any other human body that ever was or ever shall be. His human body had Mary as its mother and God Almighty as its father. This is the reason his blood sanctifies and his death destroyed both sin and Satan.

All creation, everything that was made, was created in, by, through, and for Christ. Even

Lucifer was created in perfection by, and in, Christ. Yet Lucifer, whom we know as Satan, fell and carried much of God's perfect creation into the darkness of his iniquity. Through Adam's transgression, humanity was delivered into Satan's kingdom, and he became the one who *"had the power of death."* Hebrews 2:14. His power became so great that even Michael and the angels could not overcome him until the blood of Christ was shed. Revelation 12:7-11.

Calvary was never about the death of a man. From the beginning, Christ had been *"in the form of God."* Philippians 2:6. Yet being in the *"form of God"*, he could not die. His *"death"* was his primary purpose in becoming *"flesh and blood."* The scripture says, *"Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that **through death** he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil."* Hebrews 2:14-15.

There is something about the death of Christ that caused every power of the old creation to become impotent. Everything had been created by Christ, and in Christ. The apostle Paul said, *"he is before all things, and by him all things consist."* Colossians 1:17. This means Christ literally "held everything together." When he died, the old creation became like a branch that has been cut from a tree. The leaves may still appear to be green for a while, but it has been cut from its life source and immediately begins to wither and decay. In this manner, Satan and the powers of darkness in ignorance and arrogance destroyed themselves when they killed the one by whom they had been created. As Paul said, *"Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they*

known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory." 1 Corinthians 2:8. Through Christ's death the power of the old creation was destroyed, but three days later he arose in victory with a "New Creation" in his hands! Those who are resurrected with Christ are "*new creations*" and have been lifted out of the sin, death, and decay of the old fallen creation.

If the physical body of Jesus was born of God, then so was his blood. The Bible describes the unprofitableness of the Law's sacrifices, saying, "*For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins.*" Hebrews 10:4. If you were to take all the blood of all the animals that were ever sacrificed unto God, you could not find one drop that had the power to take away sins. The same would be true if you took the blood of all the apostles and prophets, and of all the saints of God who would ever exist. You would still not find a drop of blood that could destroy Satan or wash a single soul from sin. The blood of Jesus alone has power to sanctify Hebrews 13:12, not because it is the blood of a sinless man, but because it is in fact "*the precious blood of Christ!*"

1 Peter 1:19.