

The King's Highway

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GOD'S BLOOD BANK.

For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls; for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul.—Lev. 17:11.

In the currency of the U. S. money, they used to run a red silk thread through the bill. So it is with the blood touching our relation to God and salvation. From the first chapters of the Bible to the end, we never can lose sight of the blood. We can remember when doctors would bleed patients for various troubles. How stupid when we now know that such a process destroyed the very thing we seek to save—life. We have learned better since.

For many years we have given blood transfusions for anaemics and for those who suffered the loss of blood in an accident. Life is often saved thereby. However, this has some difficulties. The blood used must be the same type, and if not will be dangerous.

A story is told that in a northern city a little daughter of a wealthy family was dying in the hospital—needing a blood transfusion. They sought eagerly for the type of blood to fit. It was announced in the papers. One day a little crippled lad who sold papers on the street to support his mother, came into the hospital. His crutch clicked in the hall as he went to the office of the head nurse. He said: "I saw how you needed some blood for the little girl. Just thought you could try my blood and see if it will do." He was ill clad and undernourished, but to the surprise of all, his blood was the type needed, and he gave it. The little girl's life was saved, but it so weakened the lad that he took pneumonia and died. The whole city was stirred over it, a fine monument was erected, and the lad's mother was cared for.

The government recently called for people to give blood, and blood banks were established in every large city. The problem of type still obtained, but this has now been eliminated. In the United States there are ten processing centers. Blood of all types is dehydrated, all the fluid is removed, and only blood plasm is left. It then fits all types. This blood plasm is used in the battle field; it is marvelous what is being accomplished. Doctors can now take the tubes of plasm and give transfusions anywhere. Four hundred soldiers were mortally wounded and burned in North Africa. Blood plasm saved 395 of the 400.

The relation of blood with sin is most significant. At the dawn of things God taught the first family that there must be blood in an offering. Christ stood as a Lamb slain from the foundation of the world. Sin has always required blood. On the field of honor (?) men fought duels, and when blood was drawn it atoned for the insult or wrong. Our nation—North and South—sinned in having human slavery, and the blood soaked Southland was an atonement.

The first church row was caused over this one thing. The devil has fought the blood from the beginning. When Cain ignored blood in his offering, God rejected him, but Abel put a bleeding lamb on his altar, and God accepted him. From that day until now there has been a contention over the blood in human redemption. Modernistic so-called higher critics have ridiculed with sarcasm this "slaughterhouse redemption." One of them was heard to say that the great old hymn, than which there is none greater, "There is a fountain filled with blood," should never have been in our hymn book. Do you know what will shut the door of heaven in your face, dear reader? It is not that you might have committed all the sins mentioned in the Decalogue, but that you ignore the blood that bought you pardon. "For as much as ye know, ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversations received by tradition from your fathers; but with the precious blood of Christ as a Lamb without blemish and without spot." I. Pet. 1:19. If you want to insult God reject the blood. "Without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sin." Heb. 9:22.

The blood atonement came into prominence on the night of the Passover in Egypt when the blood was sprinkled on the door posts. God told them: "When I see the blood I will pass over you." Ex. 12:13. For 1500 years the Jews have celebrated this Passover. Then there was the Great Day of Atonement, when the high priest entered the holy of holies and sprinkled blood on the mercy seat for the sins of the people. As a climax the Lamb of God appeared and made the supreme offering of His own blood. From that hour there is not a priest living by divine commission. The veil of the temple was rent from top to bottom, and now the holy of holies is open to all. "Let us go into the question of the blood," 10:19. Then the question of the blood reached a triumphant climax at the cross. When Christ bowed his head and gave up the Ghost, His sacrifice enabled us to become kings and priests unto God. Rev. 1:4-5.

We reach the full meaning of our title: at Calvary God established a blood bank, one that is not limited by lack of resources; it is unlimited in its scope; the type problem is solved. Unless we have access to a processing center, we must depend on the type for a blood transfusion. However, we cannot get blood enough to supply the demands especially in war times. God's blood bank has no limitations; its transfusion will heal the sins of the whole world without regard to race, color, or other circumstances.

A cultured English divine, full of new theology and modernism, had a very unusual experience. One stormy night a poor, wretched, ragged girl knocked at his door. When he opened to her, she said: "I want you to come and get my mother in." Thinking the girl's mother was drunk and she wanted his help

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her in the house, he offered to call a police. "No, no, she wants ye to get her in." Since no amount of argument would prevail, he went with her. She led him to the third story of a ramshackled building that was a veritable hell-hole of noisy debauch. They went into a gloomy room, and on a filthy cot in the corner was lying a poor dying woman. "You must get me," she gasped. He began to tell her about the wonderful loving character of Christ, Who loved the world, etc. "No, that's not for the likes of me. I am a mean sinner, and have been always, and I am dying, and I want you to get me in."

The good doctor was on the spot, as it were. Finally he began to think of Scriptures he learned in his early ministry, such as John 3:16 and quotations from Isaiah 53. Then she cried out: "Does God say that? Does He mean me—my kind?" The minister told her that God did mean exactly what He said. Then she clapped her hands weakly, and cried out: "I'm in; I'm in." The minister, telling this to a friend, said: "In getting her in, I got myself in." The name of such doctors of divinity are legion and need "to be gotten in."

Now let us go to the other extreme. We recently came upon a part of the will of J. P. Morgan, Sr., the father of the man who died recently. At the time of his death he was one of the richest men in the world. His bank on Wall Street was equal to the Bank of England. Here is one item from his will, not verbatim, but the substance: "I am a poor sinner saved by grace through the merits and the mercies of the shed blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. My faith is anchored in the blood atonement purchased on the cross." We find that God's blood bank runs the whole gamut of human life and character.

It will never lose its power,
The blood that cleanses from all sin;
Will never lose its power.

—C. F. Wimberley

CONFIDENCE

"When you don't know what to do, don't do it. When you run into a spiritual fog bank, don't tear ahead; slow down the machinery of your life. If necessary, anchor your bark and let it swing at its moorings. We are to simply trust God. While we trust, God can work. Worry prevents Him from doing anything for us. If our minds are distracted and our hearts distressed; if the darkness that over-shadows us strikes terror to us; if we run hither and yon in a vain effort to find some way of escape out of a dark place of trial, where Providence has put us, the Lord can do nothing for us. The peace of God must quiet our minds and rest our hearts. We must put our hand into the hand of God like a little child, and let Him lead us into the bright sunshine of His love."