



Faith



LOVE



Living Water



The Feet of the Cross



Good Shepherd - Lost & Found

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TO.....S
A CLOSER WALK



The Sower



Joyful



Wise & Foolish

WRITTEN BY CATHERINE PRICE
ILLUSTRATED BY CONNIE RHODES



Widow's Offering



Fishers of Men



Come Follow Me



Prayer & Care

I have changed the order of the footprints in order for us to build up in our Spirits, the most wonderful Event in history, even more wonderful than jesus' birth...Preparation for his death and Resurrection, will take the whole month of march. I have also added a special segment to coincide with Easter Sunday—celebrating his Resurrection day! (To be used whenever Easter falls in any given year.)

THE FOOT OF THE CROSS



We know who He is...what are we going to do about it?..Connie Rhodes

Romans 6:5-7: "For you have become a part of Him, and so you died with Him, so to speak, when He did, and now you share His New Life and shall rise as He did. Your old evil desires were nailed to the Cross with Him; that part of you that loves to sin was crushed and fatally wounded so that your sin-loving body is no longer under sin's control; no longer needs to be a slave to sin, for when you are deadened to sin you are freed from all its' allure and its' power over you."

Come closer to the foot of the cross - It is a place of safety - do not be afraid! It is a symbol of your salvation, it was the instrument of Jesus' cruel death - His Crucifixion; the Lord was slaughtered there, but now it is no longer to be considered as an instrument of torture. There are many scriptures that refer to the Cross and we want to examine these verses and understand how they pertain to our continued growth in the Lord, and our continuing quest to know Him and love Him more.

FOOTPRINTS TO..
A CLOSER WALK

Chapter Three

"FOOT OF
THE CROSS"

MARCH Devotional

Week ONE

"THE WORD WAS MADE FLESH"

**DAY ONE-----CHAPTER THREE
Third Month.....First Week
(Devotional)------(Bible Study)**



THE WORD WAS MADE FLESH

Scripture Reading: John 1:1-5;10-14

"In the Beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God! He was in the Beginning with God, all things were made through Him and without Him nothing was made that was made. In Him was Life, and the life was the Light of Men. And the Light shines in the darkness and the darkness did not comprehend it. He was in the world and the world was made through Him, but the world did not know Him. He came to His own, but they did not receive Him; but as many as did receive Him, to them He gave the right to become the Children of God; to those who believe in His name who were born, not of blood, not of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us and we beheld His Glory, the Glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth."

This was the announcement of the arrival of Jesus Christ into the world. It is so distinctly the description of someone who is very special, and the subject of much controversy. John's mysterious and provocative way of expressing himself is uniquely his own. He has a different perspective, being one who traveled with Jesus, who ate with Him, who prayed with Him, who watched Him die. This is true of the other Apostles, as well, but still, John shows us some things about Jesus that the other Apostles have not seen. John has intimate knowledge of Him that is very important to us, who are studying His every Word, to take special notice of. He sees Jesus with a spiritual eye - a depth of perception that many are not capable of. Let us walk through this story from John and learn many things we wouldn't have learned if we had only been given the three other Gospel accounts. Yes, Four Gospels -we are given four accounts of who He was; Matthew wrote to the Jews; Mark wrote to the Romans; Luke wrote to the Greeks; and John wrote to the Christians; an inside and up close and personal portrait of Jesus "The Lamb of God". He takes us to the foot of the Cross, like no other. Do you know Jesus intimately? Could you write about Him, even though you have never seen Him in the flesh?

Prayer

Oh Lord! I praise You for bringing me to this moment in my life. I pray that I will have my spiritual eyes opened..to see Your Glory in a new and exciting way that I have never seen before. I pray for your guidance and wisdom to discern revelation and enlightenment in scriptures that I have seen many times but never really understood.

In Jesus Name, Amen

**DAY TWO-----CHAPTER THREE
Third Month.....First Week
(Devotional)------(Bible Study)**



THE LAMB OF GOD

Scripture Reading: John 1:29; Gen. 22:7-12;Isaiah 53:5-7 NIV

"The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" "But Isaac spoke to Abraham his father and said,"My father!" And he said, "Here I am my son." Then he said, "Look, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" And Abraham said, "My son, God will provide for Himself the Lamb for a burnt offering." So the two of them went together. And they came to the place of which God had told him. And Abraham built an altar there and placed the wood in order; and he bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, upon the wood. And Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. But the Angel of the Lord called out to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" So he said, " Here I am." And He said, "Do not lay your hand on the lad, or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son from me." "But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned, every one, to his own way; and the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed and He was afflicted; yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a Lamb to the slaughter; and as a sheep before its' shearers is silent, so He opened not His mouth."

John the Baptist called Jesus "The Lamb of God". A lamb was the sacrifice in all of Jewish history, that was to be brought into the Temple to be sacrificed by the priest for the sins of the people; the way in which sin was dealt with as instructed by God. We see in the other scriptures, the types and shadows of our Lord's sacrifice being forecast many decades before its actual happening. Jesus is God's Lamb and ours! In order to understand scripture, and more importantly understand God who has inspired the scripture, we must study about why an animal was required to be sacrificed at all. This we will do in the days ahead, God willing. Have you ever questioned God about "Why the Cross?"

Prayer

Lord, I pray today for my eyes of understanding to be opened, and once and for all, I can really see what Your intent & purpose is in the whole process of sacrifice. In Jesus name, Amen

**DAY FOUR-----CHAPTER THREE
Third Month.....First Week
(Devotional)------(Bible Study)**



LIFE IS IN THE BLOOD

Scripture Reading: Lev. 17:11;John 6:53-58 NIV

"For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it to you upon the altar to make atonement for your souls; for it is the Blood that makes atonement for the Soul." "Then Jesus said, "Most assuredly I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His Blood, you have no life in you! Whoever eats My flesh and drinks My Blood has Eternal Life and I will raise him up at the last day. For My flesh is food indeed and My Blood is drink indeed. He who eats My flesh and drinks My Blood abides in Me, and I in him. As the Living Father sent Me, and I live because of the Father, so he who feeds on Me will live because of Me. This is the bread which came down from heaven - not as your fathers ate the manna and are dead. He who eats this Bread will live forever."

In both of these scriptures we are assured of one thing! Life is found to be in the Blood! But like a child I still say, "Why?" Why does blood atone for sin? Has God given us the answer? Let us search deeper. Perhaps we just need to meditate upon what we have already been given. Our life is in our blood. So Blood represents Life! The spilling or sprinkling of blood represents Death, because without this blood in the body it is dead. It is a principle of God's that a Life must be given for a Life. An eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth, a life for a life.

An atonement must be made for sin. It was this way from God's creation. But if He took the life of each one who sinned, there would be no one left. God killed mankind by way of a Flood because they were so wicked, except the few He placed in the Ark. But this was so painful to God, He promised never to do that again by way of Water, but there is another day coming that will destroy the world with fire.

But for now, our way of escape is by way of a scape goat. The ram caught in the thicket, just in the nick of time, as in the story of Isaac and Abraham, God sent His only begotten Son, to take our place on the altar so that we would not perish, but have Everlasting Life. He died that we might live. He came from heaven, so that we might go to heaven.

Prayer

Father, How I long to understand, even now, even though I have already come and accepted the salvation that You have offered to me, I did that as a child does, in simple child-like faith. But now I am becoming mature and want to understand more about it. Help me to see all that You have planned for me and all of us, so that I may help others along the way. In Jesus name, Amen

DAY FIVE-----CHAPTER THREE
Third Month.....First Week
(Devotional)------(Bible Study)



THE LORD'S SUPPER

Scripture Reading: 1 Cor. 10:1-4;15-17; 11:23-31 NIV

"Moreover brethren, I do not want you to be unaware that all our fathers were under the cloud; all passed through the sea; all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea; all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Christ!" "I speak as unto wise men; judge for yourselves what I say. The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ? For we, though many, are one bread and one body; for we all partake of that one bread." "For I received from the Lord that which I also deliver to you; that the Lord Jesus on the same night in which He was betrayed took bread; and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me." In the same manner He also took the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the New Covenant in My Blood. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death til He comes! Therefore, whoever eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. But let a man examine himself and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup."

Refresh your memory of yesterday's scripture about eating & drinking Christ. This is what He meant here. There is not such a huge gap, really, between the things that God ordained way back there in the stories of the Old Testament, and the things that are still ordinances of God now, as we follow the teachings of the New Testament. As we have learned, Jesus came to establish the New Covenant, and every time we take communion we are re-committing ourselves to that New Covenant. As we eat the bread and drink the juice, we are "taking in...Christ". He told us this was the "abiding" in Him. After learning all we did about the Fruit of the Spirit and how important it is to abide in Him in order to grow, now we see more clearly what our "nourishment" should be. We see here also, so much more about baptism. Even the Israelites were baptized. How awesome, we thought this was a New Testament ordinance, but here we see it all began long ago. God has it all planned out so perfectly, doesn't He? It is astonishing to us, to look back now to the beginning and realize so much more of His Awesome Omniscience. He knows everything! Keep that in mind. It will help you next time you start worrying about tomorrow.

Prayer

Oh Father, I praise You for being such an awesome God! I see now, how wonderfully gracious You have been to me all along. Nurturing me, protecting me, leading toward a deeper understanding of You, as I am ready to open myself more fully to You. Thank You My Dearest Father in Jesus name, Amen

DAY SIX-----CHAPTER THREE
Third Month.....First Week
(Devotional)------(Bible Study)



SPRINKLING OF BLOOD

Scripture Reading: Ex. 24:4-8; 1 Pet. 1:1-2; NIV Heb.9:16-22(living)

"And Moses wrote all the words of the Lord. And he rose early in the morning, and built an altar at the foot of the mountain, and twelve pillars according to the twelve tribes of Israel, then he sent young men of the children of Israel, who offered burnt offerings and sacrificed peace offerings of oxen to the Lord. And Moses took half the blood and put it in basins, and half the blood he sprinkled on the altar. Then he took the Book of the Covenant and read in the hearing of the people and they said, "All that the Lord has said we will do, and be obedient." And Moses took the blood, sprinkled it on the people, and said, "This is the blood of the covenant which the Lord has made with you according to all these words."

"To the pilgrims of the dispersion in Pontius, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bithynia, elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father; in sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience and sprinkling of the Blood of Jesus Christ - Grace to you and Peace be multiplied!" "Now, if someone dies and leaves a will--a list of things to be given away to certain people when he dies--no one gets anything until it is proved that the person who wrote the will is dead. The will goes into effect only after the death of the person who wrote it. While he is still alive no one can use it to get any of those things he has promised them. That is why blood was sprinkled (as proof of Christ's death) before even the first agreement could go into effect." "For after Moses had given the people all of God's laws, he took the blood of calves and goats, along with water, and sprinkled the blood over the book of God's laws and over all the people, using branches of hyssop bushes and scarlet wool to sprinkle with....and in the same way, he sprinkled blood on the sacred tent and on whatever instruments were used for worship. In fact we can say that under the old agreement almost everything was cleansed by sprinkling it with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins."

In the study of the Holy Spirit, we will have learned how He established all of the Temples of Worship, and now the Temple is within us. This Temple not made with hands, is our Holy of Holies! Yes, just as there was a Holy of Holies in ancient temples of worship, and also the "true" one in Heaven. God had sanctified, consecrated, and purified those on the outside with the sprinkling of the blood in ancient times, so now, in the New Covenant, we can begin realizing that we are sanctified, consecrated and made Holy by the work of the Blood of Sprinkling inside our own hearts by the gift of faith, baptized by the work of the Holy Spirit, in Love He gave us His life's blood!

Prayer

Lord I praise You for this most wondrous gift of all! Thank You for coming into my heart and cleansing it, so that the Holy Spirit could come and live there, to be my comfort and my guide. In Jesus Name, Amen

DAY SEVEN-----CHAPTER THREE
Third Month.....First Week
(Devotional)------(Bible Study)



THE IMMERSION

Scripture Reading: Heb. 10:18-24 (living version)

"Now when sins have once been forever forgiven and forgotten, there is no need to offer more sacrifices to get rid of them. And so dear brothers, now we may walk right into the very Holy of Holies where God is, because of the blood of Jesus! This is the fresh new life-giving way, which Christ has opened up for us by tearing the curtain--His human body--to let us into the Holy presence of God. And since this great High Priest of ours rules over God's household, let us go right in, to God Himself, with true hearts fully trusting Him to receive us, because we have been sprinkled with Christ's Blood to make us clean, and because our bodies have been washed with pure water. Now we can look forward to the salvation God has promised us. There is no longer any room for doubt, and we can tell others that salvation is ours, for there is no question that He will do what He says. In response for all He has done for us, let us outdo each other in being helpful and kind to each other and in doing good."

Yesterday, we learned what the sprinkling of blood was all about. I underlined the scripture that answered my question - why? Proof of death = blood. That simple. Now the new question: Why be baptized? Why was Jesus baptized? To show us the way He wants us to travel. So why do we follow Him into baptism but not into sacrificial death?

Because He was without sin, but we aren't. Answer to both questions. We identify with everything He did, in the act of baptism, we have died with Christ, and we have been buried with Christ, and we have risen with Christ. There are two ordinances of the New Testament Church of Jesus Christ; Baptism and The Lord's Supper. Baptism is to be done once, as Christ was the sacrifice for sin only once, but we repeatedly partake of the bread and the cup in remembrance of His death...and ours. The Holy Spirit has been given to us, to fill us full! We have been born again! To grow, we continue drinking the sincere milk of the Word of God. The Word has become flesh (and blood) and now, dwells within our hearts. "We are washed by the Water of the Word!"

Do you stay in the Word, feasting at His table every day by reading the wonderful words of life? It is the way that He has shown us, follow Him.

Prayer

Our Father in Heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give me daily..Your daily Bread. Forgive me where I have failed You, and help me to forgive all of those who have failed me. Lead me away from temptations to sin, and deliver me from my bondage to sin that I may have, for thine is the Kingdom and the Power and the Glory, Forever Amen



Art by Connie Rhodes

HOLY
BIBLE

HOLY BIBLE

That ancient, yellowed, dog-eared book, seldom opened, but to church I took,
where I looked at those old familiar words,
that touched within my heart no tender chords.

My blinded mind was groping in the darkness of my sin,
and I couldn't see the answer shining brilliantly within.
Then I felt a strange uneasiness welling up within me strong,
an excitement and a panic of some miracle coming along.

I looked again at the time-worn words with longing in my heart, could it be true?
Could I be saved, from sin forever part?

I felt as if my strength would wane with the battle going on,
I fought against I knew not what - still I hoped it hadn't gone.

I tried to blink back the tears of remorse and the panic in my being,
but then a Presence closed in on me and I knew what I was seeing,
what the Book was really saying and why I was still here staying.

The battle was myself in sin against God's holy will,
the force of God was striving so...I knew that He was real!
And when I realized that truth, I trembled as I wept,
I prayed, "Oh please forgive me, help me Jesus to accept"!

Now peace surrounds me daily as I take up that old book,
and read the words so new to me since I my Savior took.

The Bible has the answers to all life's problems...true,
but more than that it brings a soul into a life brand new,
and nurtures and sustains us until the day of days,
when Jesus comes to take us home where He's prepared a place.
Then all will be fulfilled therein that's written in God's Word,
and all we saints will sing it loud, "Halleluiah to our Lord"!

NEW
KING JAMES
VERSION

GIANT
PRINT
CENTER-
COLUMN
REFERENCE
EDITION

Written by Catherine Price

FOOTPRINTS TO..
A CLOSER WALK

Chapter Three

"FOOT OF
THE CROSS"

March Devotional

Week TWO

"RELATIONSHIP WITH THE FATHER"

FOOTPRINTS TO..
A CLOSER WALK

Chapter Three

"FOOT OF
THE CROSS"

March Devotional

Week THREE

"HIS PASSION ... AND OURS"

DAY SEVENTEEN-----CHAPTER THREE
Third Month.....Third Week
(Devotional)------(Bible Study)



BEARING OUR CROSS

Scripture Reading: Matt. 10:38-39; Gal. 2:20; Col. 2:11-14; Rom. 6:23

"And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me! He who finds his life will lose it, and he who loses his life for My sake will find it." "I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me." "In Him you were also circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the sins of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead. And you being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses, having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way; having nailed it to the cross." "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

When Jesus went to the Cross He bore our sins, even our sins, before we were ever born - our sins were already placed on Christ. That means we are guilty of His Death; He took our place that day. Because the wages of sin is death - someone had to die. So we must all come to that moment of Truth in our own life; when we realize that Jesus died for our sins. He wants to be our personal Savior because He took our punishment; He was tortured and killed - our sins nailed Him to the Cross! Then when we can finally feel genuinely sorry for our sins that He was brutally punished for, we can come to Him and ask His forgiveness and receive His salvation He is holding out to us. His arms are still Wide Open just like they were on the Cross, telling us How Much He Loves Us, He Loves Us---T-h-i-s Much! Then we can feel the freedom of forgiveness of sin. We can have right relationship with the Father and the Son, we no longer need to feel guilty. We are indeed free! **Rom. 8:1: "There is now no condemnation to those which are in Christ Jesus who walk not after the flesh but after the Spirit. For the Law of the Spirit of Life in Christ Jesus hath made us free from the Law of Sin & Death!"** Praise His Holy Name!

Prayer

Oh Holy Lord! I praise You forever for saving me and forgiving my sins. This is why I can feel a personal connection with You. When I realize it was because of my sin that You suffered, and then You forgave me - Oh what love! Oh What Grace, Oh what a Savior! I worship You my Lord - Amen

**DAY TWENTY-----CHAPTER THREE
Third Month.....Third Week
(Devotional)------(Bible Study)**



TAKE UP YOUR CROSS DAILY

Scripture Reading: Luke 9:20-23

"He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?". Peter answered and said, "The Christ of God!" And He strictly warned and commanded them to tell this to no one, saying, "The Son of Man must suffer many things, and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised the third day." Then He said to them all, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life, will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will save it! For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world; and is himself destroyed or lost? For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words, of Him the Son of Man will be ashamed when He comes in His own glory, and in His Father's, and of the Holy Angels!"

Yesterday, I asked a question about why we would have to drag that "old" cross around with us. Jesus gives us the answer in His own words - to deny ourself - our flesh- to deny our flesh. Remember the scripture about crucifying the flesh, and Paul also tells us that he - "dies daily" same thing. How do we crucify the flesh? We have to do it on the Cross! There isn't any other way! Take up that cross and follow Jesus...whoever desires to save his life.. will lose it...but whoever loses his life for My sake...that's us...will save it! To follow HIM, is to not be ashamed to mention His name and the Words He gave us to others, even though we may be persecuted for it. If we do that, the Cross is a very necessary tool that we need to carry with us; because if you are like I am....we will need it more than once a day. You know what else? If we have to go to the foot of the cross, daily, we are going to be able to see Christ more clearly than we ever have before.

Prayer

Father, How I adore You! Your ingenious plan for all of us just overwhelms me. I keep getting more and more of Your Word and I don't think that it will ever run out. I think that the Word will just keep going and going, into my heart, where the Holy Spirit will seal it inside me forever. Praise You! Amen

DAY TWENTY-ONE-----CHAPTER THREE
Third Month.....Third Week
(Devotional)------(Bible Study)



THE OFFENSE OF THE CROSS

Scripture Reading: Gal. 5:10-14;16-18; 22-25; 6:8, 12-15

"I am trusting the Lord to bring you back to believing as I do about these things. God will deal with that person, whoever he is, who has been troubling and confusing you. Some people even say that I myself am preaching that circumcision and Jewish laws are necessary to the plan of salvation. Well, if I preached that, I would be persecuted no more--for that message doesn't offend anyone. The fact that I am still being persecuted proves that I am still preaching salvation through faith in the cross of Christ alone. I only wish these teachers who want you to cut yourselves by being circumcised would cut themselves off from you and leave you alone!" For, dear brothers, you have been given freedom; not freedom to do wrong, but freedom to love and serve each other. For the whole Law can be summed up in this one command: "Love others as you love yourself" I advise you to obey only the Holy Spirit's instructions. He will tell you where to go and what to do, and then you won't always be doing the wrong things your evil nature wants you to. For we naturally love to do evil things that are just the opposite from the things that the Holy Spirit tells us to do; and the good things we want to do when the Spirit has his way with us are just the opposite of our natural desires. These two forces within us are constantly fighting each other to win control over us, and our wishes are never free from their pressures. When you are guided by the Holy Spirit you need no longer force yourself to obey Jewish laws. But when the Holy Spirit controls our lives He will produce this kind of fruit in us: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control; and here there is no conflict with Jewish laws. Those who belong to Christ have nailed their natural evil desires to His Cross and Crucified them there. If we are living now by the Holy Spirit's Power, let us follow the Holy Spirit's leading in every part of our lives! As for me, God forbid that I should boast about anything except the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ. Because of that Cross my interest in all the attractive things of the world was killed long ago, and the world's interest in me is also long dead. It doesn't make any difference now whether we have been circumcised or not; what counts is whether we really have been changed into new and different people."

God wants to change our hearts, not just our minds. Religiously observing certain rituals, or holidays, or rules, only changes our minds. To change our hearts, God had to do something, well, radical! Now it's not about us, it's about Him. It's not what you know, it's Who you know. We could never be good enough, so it's based on His goodness and the secret is revealed: (Gal. 3:16) "it is Christ in us, the Hope of Glory!" All we have to do is take what He gives us, receive Him. Sounds too good to be true! That's why it's called Good News! **Prayer: Oh Lord, My God! How I long for others to find the simplicity of the Gospel Message. I want to be used of Thee, oh that I would be found useful. Oh Crucify my flesh, Lord, that I would be sanctified today. In Jesus Name, Amen**

FOOTPRINTS TO..
A CLOSER WALK

Chapter Three

"FOOT OF
THE CROSS"

March Devotional

Week Four

"Resurrection Revelations"

DAY TWENTY-SEVEN-----CHAPTER THREE
Third Month.....Fourth Week
(Devotional)------(Bible Study)



THE FEAST OF PENTECOST-FULFILLED BY THE HOLY GHOST

Scripture Reading: Acts 2:1-4

"Seven weeks had gone by since Jesus' death and resurrection, and the Day of Pentecost had now arrived. As the believers met together that day, suddenly there was a sound like the roaring of a mighty windstorm in the skies above them and it filled the house where they were meeting. Then, what looked like flames or tongues of fire appeared and settled on their heads. And everyone present was filled with the Holy Spirit and began speaking in languages they didn't know, for the Holy Spirit gave them this ability."

The word "Pente" means 50. There were exactly 50 days from the Resurrection of Jesus to the Feast Day of Pentecost. Jesus prepared His followers for the great event of the fulfillment of Pentecost when the Holy Spirit came to be a helper to mankind; those who would believe in Jesus. He was to be a comfort to the believers and a guide to follow. He was a Holy Spirit, and there was no visible proof of Him, but the flames of fire, rushing wind, and changed people were His visible manifestations. The Holy Spirit could now dwell within man, now that those who believe were cleansed vessels, by the Blood of the Lamb. Not only was the Holy Spirit given in Full measure, but this signaled also, the Birth of the Church! Jesus had also explained to His followers that the Holy Spirit could not come, until He was taken out of there. When Jesus ascended, the angels said, "Men of Galilee, why are you standing here staring at the sky? Jesus has gone away to heaven, and some day, just as He went, He will return!"

Is the Holy Spirit helping you to live for Jesus and live like Jesus? Is He getting you ready for Jesus' return?

Prayer

Oh Lord, I praise You and Worship You for all that You have prepared for me, here on earth, and later on, in heaven. With all that You have done for me, and all that You have for me in the future, how can I ever worry about a thing? Forgive me for my lack of Vision! Help me move to a higher realm where I cannot only feel Your presence and hear Your voice much more, but I can begin to see Your Face! I ask it in the precious name of Jesus, Amen

FOOTPRINTS TO..
A CLOSER WALK

Chapter Three

"FOOT OF
THE CROSS"

March Devotional

Week Five

Continuing
"Resurrection Revelations"

**SPECIAL EASTER SUNDAY INSERT TO BE USED
ON THE DATE THAT EASTER FALLS ON EACH YEAR.**

HOW MUCH DOES GOD LOVE US?



HE LOVES US T-H-I-S MUCH

HIS LIFE.....IS IN HIS BLOOD

God laid down a principle from the time of Adam's original sin; there can be no redemption from sin without the shedding of blood. After Adam and Eve sinned by disobeying God's command to not eat of the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil they were ashamed of their nakedness. God did not accept their fig leaf coverings, and He killed an animal for skins to cover their shame; showing the necessity for the shedding of blood to cover sin; thus, man was instructed and constrained to sacrifice an animal to atone for his sin. But all the Old Testament sacrifices served only to cover man's sin. They could not, and did not put sin away or pay for it, but postponed the penalty, passed sin over for the present until the time when the perfect blood of Christ should serve to take sin all away.

According to the Bible, "life is in the blood", and since "the wages of sin is death" the only thing that can abolish death, is life, and since life is in the blood, the only price for sin, the only means of restoring spiritual life is through the shedding of the blood; but this blood must be perfect, sinless and incorruptible blood. The only acceptable blood was the sinless blood of the Son of God. He laid aside the form of God and took upon Him our humanity, and became a man, and in the body of that man, Jesus Christ, there flowed divine blood, sinless, incorruptible blood, and this blood was the only blood which God would or could accept as the propitiation (to regain His favor) for sin and the basis for reconciliation (to restore our friendship). But, says modern man, this preaching of the blood of a substitute is inconsistent with our modern conception of the dignity of man and the Love of God. We have long since outgrown that bloody philosophy of redemption in this "enlightened age". I submit to you, that this teaching of substitutionary atonement is not only scriptural and Biblical but entirely in harmony with all human experience and historical evidence! Take a look at life – a deep, long look. There is no human progress without blood, the price of life is death, as Jesus said in John 12:24, "Except a grain of wheat fall into the earth and die, it abideth by itself alone but if it die it beareth much fruit." All history is the record of blood, sweat and tears. Blood was surely shed to gain us our freedom we enjoy in this country, and blood was shed for each step of progress we have had; the railroad, the coal mines, the inventors, the explorations into space, scientific experiments, medical progress, all gave their highest cost – the life-blood of men and woman!

This price of blood applies to everything, from a child's conception and birth – blood was shed, to soldiers fighting for liberty – blood was shed. There's no blessing without sacrifice, no life without death, no progress without blood. And all this for only temporal, transient blessings and benefits, is it, then, unreasonable to believe that the greatest blessing of all; eternal life, should be purchased at the greatest price of all, the precious blood of the Son of God? So you see, the idea of the price of blood for everything worthwhile is written in dripping, crimson letters across the mottled face of nature, and the wrinkled sheet of history, dyeing the ocean scarlet red as if to reflect the gorgeous sunrise of the Blood Atonement, while all the highways reek with blood, as if to remind us of that Blood-Sprinkled Way that leads to God. We hear today; much about blood transfusions and blood banks, DNA, etc. This is not one millionth as wonderful as what God did 21 centuries ago. Then there was one man who gave all His sinless pure blood on the cross of

Calvary. There a blood bank was opened and into that bank went the blood of the Lord Jesus. It suits every type, avails for everyone and is free to all who submit to its transfusion by the Holy Spirit. All you need do is apply it by faith. We must add chemicals to the blood in our blood banks to preserve it, and then it eventually deteriorates just the same, but no preservative needs to be added to His Precious Blood, for it was incorruptible blood and sinless. Not one drop of that blood was lost or wasted. It is incorruptible, in heaven somewhere, no doubt, perhaps in a diamond studded, golden vial next to the throne of God, and when we are gathered round that throne we may sing, "What can wash away our sins, Nothing but the Blood of Jesus! Oh precious, is the flow, that makes me white as snow, no other fount I know, nothing but the Blood of Jesus, Halleluiah!"

HIS DEATH----OPENED THE WAY TO GOD!

Matt. 27:50-51: “Jesus, when He had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost, and, behold, the veil of the Temple was torn in two from the top to the bottom, and the earth did quake and the rocks broke.”

Long ago, God had commanded the Israelites to build a Tabernacle here on earth in the pattern of the one in Heaven, and the Israelites carried it with them through the wilderness for forty years. Within this Tabernacle was a place called the Holy of Holies where the Ark of the Covenant rested, and no one was allowed to enter by penalty of death. The priest, however, could enter once a year on the Day of Atonement. The way of entry was barred by a large curtain called the Veil. There was a Tabernacle in Jerusalem called Herod's Temple during the time of Jesus, but of course, the Ark was not in it then, but the sacredness and mystery still remained and only the priest was allowed to enter. This Veil was to signify Christ and we did not have access to the Holy of Holies until Jesus died upon the cross and at that moment the Veil was rent. It was rent from the top to the bottom, not from the bottom to the top; it was not the work of man, but of Almighty God! The Lord Himself was satisfied with the offering which Christ made of Himself upon the Cross of Calvary and when He cried, “It Is Finished!” God was completely reconciled, and to prove that it was finished God rent the Veil of separation from top to bottom and opened up the way to the Holy of Holies for all who by faith are clothed in the righteousness of the Lord Jesus Christ. It was a heaven-sent miracle! No human hand could have done the work of rending the Veil. Rabbinical writers tell us that the Veil was so firmly woven that two teams of oxen pulling in opposite directions, with the Veil between them could not tear it apart. Neither could the Veil be repaired, for it was rent by God's hand from heaven. Tradition tells us that the priests tried to mend and sew the Veil together again, but were unable to, for no thread or cord would hold the torn part. It was rent once for all, forever. What a picture of the perfect work of reconciliation of the Lord Jesus Christ. He took our sins, the only barrier between God and man, and bore them in the body of His flesh to Calvary, and put them all away by this precious blood and opened the way into the very presence of God. The Veil is rent, the way is open, and we now have full and free access into the very presence of God, through the rent Veil of the sacrificed Body of Christ. God now looks upon every believer in Christ as being as perfect as Christ Himself is. My friend, do you see what this means? Because the Veil has been rent once for all, and the way has been opened once for all, and the Lord is waiting for His children to rest in full and complete trust in Him, you can believe that your salvation is complete, is a finished work, and cannot be undone. We have complete security and rest in Him! Hallelujah!

HIS RESURRECTION—GAVE US THE INDWELLING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Without the Resurrection, the Cross of Christ is an insult to our intelligence, a travesty upon God, a meaningless crime, and makes God a liar and the Bible a farce! This Resurrection, and this alone, makes Christianity unique among all of the systems of religion of the world, and sets it apart from every other philosophy of salvation. The only religion which claims a living Savior, is Christianity. The Resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ is the crowning glory of the gospel of salvation. We are not saved by Jesus' perfect life and death, but His death and Life. His Resurrection after His death completes the Gospel story—not a perfect life of 33 years, and then His death and that's the end of it all. That is the devil's gospel. He would have us believe that Jesus was a perfect man, a great teacher, a great reformer; one whose life we should all seek to imitate and emulate. The devil would have us to believe also, that Jesus died a vicarious death for a great and noble cause, and that He's a wonderful example of martyrdom for an ideal which He cherished. All of this, satan does not object to at all, he is perfectly willing that we should believe and accept all these truths concerning Jesus Christ, just so we leave Him in the tomb and in death. But glory be to God! He did not stay in the tomb or death! 1 Cor. 15:55-56, "Death is swallowed up in Victory! Oh, death, where then your victory? Where then your sting? For sin the sting that causes death, will all be gone, and the law which reveals our sins will no longer be our judge." Christ's Resurrection is the Victory that overcomes Sin and Death! Jesus broke the bonds of Sin by His Blood, and He broke the bonds of Death by coming alive out of death, His Resurrection, and now that Victory is ours through His Holy Spirit. Jesus said that if He did not leave us the Comforter would not come – therefore He gave us the Holy Spirit after His Resurrection, and this Holy Spirit is poured out on earth to prove what had taken place in Heaven – the Exaltation of Jesus Of Nazareth To The Right Hand of God! And He is there now interceding for us, and ruling and reigning over the heavenlies. Through His Resurrection we are also Resurrected. "We were buried therefore with Him through baptism into death, that like as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we also might walk in newness of life" (Rom. 6:4) "If we have become united with Him by the likeness of His death we shall also by the likeness of His Resurrection." (Rom. 6:5) "For I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from His love. Death can't, Life can't, the Angels won't, and all the powers of hell itself can't keep God's Love away. Our fears for today, our worries about tomorrow, or where we are; high above the sky, or in the deepest ocean—nothing will ever be able to separate us from the Love of God.—DEMONSTRATED BY OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST WHEN HE DIED FOR US!" (Rom. 8:38)