



Church of Perth Intercessory Team

"If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land." 2 CHRONICLES 7:14

BROTHERS & SISTERS

HEART TO HEART

JANUARY 2001

THE POWER AND THE GLORY IN CHRIST JESUS

By God's grace, we are about to enter the third millennium of the Christian era. In biblical terms this is the third day, a thousand years being as a day to God. The time of great expectation is almost upon us to herald the return of the King of Glory and our omniscient Bridegroom. Indeed, world events in Israel and the nations point to the lateness of the hour. But wait! Is the Church ready? The Church that Christ is coming for is to be a radiant church without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, holy and blameless. It will not be weak or ineffective, powerless or divided. The Psalmist assures us, "God guides us with His counsel, that afterward He will receive us in glory". So beloved, open to God's grace for He has given us the Holy Spirit to help us to turn our weaknesses in His strengths and that whomsoever God has called He has both justified and glorified. We all are being comforted by the Holy Spirit to have a joyful life and be transformed into His image from glory to glory to accomplish His Great Commission. The Church *will* be filled with the glory of God when we obey the Master's voice. Hallelujah! The question now is: How do we become the radiant bride prepared and eagerly awaiting our Heavenly Bridegroom?

Through beholding the Blood of Jesus and abiding in the comfort of the Spirit of our living God. It is the Blood that cleanses and covers us, equipping us to reflect the glory of the Lord within to a lost world. It is the Blood that will enable us to overcome all the forces of the devil that are arraigned against us. The Blood of the Lamb is our primary weapon for the final hour of this age of grace – that very same precious Blood which flowed at Calvary and which runs through the Scriptures like an endless scarlet thread to give us life eternal. From the very beginning of time, before Calvary or Bethlehem or Sinai or the Garden of Eden or the creation, in the councils of heaven it was decided that a redeemer would give His life for sinful man. Indeed before the foundation of the world the Christ offered His Blood through the eternal Spirit to purge man from his sin so he may serve the living God faithfully. Thus the bloodline has a heavenly source from whence its redeeming power has flowed through various types and shadows to be finally fulfilled in JESUS the CHRIST. 1 Peter 1: 18-19 tells us "It was not with perishable things such as silver or gold by which you were delivered from the empty way of life handed down to you by your forefathers but with the precious Blood of Jesus, a lamb without spot or blemish."

Beholding the Blood of Jesus is God's first priority. Of the seven feasts given to the Israelites the Passover was number one. Why? Because it symbolized the shed Blood of God's Son. God instituted the Passover to show the children of Israel the necessity of blood in His great plan of redemption...and "through faith he (Moses) kept the Passover, and the sprinkling of blood, lest he that destroyed the first born should touch them" (Heb: 11:28). The blood protected them from the destroyer then, even as it does today.

When God made a covenant with His chosen people Israel their relationship was founded on law. Of course, they broke it often and the breaking of it was sin, which had to be atoned for by the shedding of blood – by sacrificing a life to satisfy God's demand for justice. The essential part of any sin offering was the blood because it was the life. "According to the law almost all things are purged with blood and without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sins" (Heb: 9:22). Yet, in spite of all the countless animals slain over the centuries by ancient Israel, they were only a stopgap. When Christ came as High Priest to enter the Holy of Holies it was not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by His own Blood.

By His death He became the Mediator of the new covenant of grace for the redemption of the transgressions under the old covenant, that all who are called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance, and energized by His Holy Spirit, to rule and reign with Christ according to their blood covenant faith in Him.

Zechariah 13:1 prophesied "In that day a fountain (the Blood of Jesus) shall be opened for the house of David and for the inhabitants of Jerusalem for sin and for uncleanness". This stream ever flows before Satan and his host; and as we behold and honour it, sing about it, talk about it and plead it out loud the Blood of Jesus pleads mercy, forgiveness, healing, protection and deliverance. Since the life of Jesus is in His Blood, when we honour it in our praise and worship we are actually incorporating the life of the Godhead into our personal relationships and worship. Our prayers become charged with grateful thanksgiving and the sweet incense of the life and power of Jesus. No wonder Satan will do all he can to suppress practical teaching on the Blood. He hates it more than anything else. Jesus disarmed him and his principalities and powers, triumphing over them in the cross. That is, with His Blood. This too must be our main weapon of warfare in the name of Jesus for pulling down all strongholds through which Satan is frantically working to deceive and defeat the Church, knowing that his time is short. To God be the glory, overwhelming victory is ours through Him who loves us and poured out His precious Blood for us. Hallelujah! So beloved, "Watch over your heart with all diligence for from it flows the springs of life." (Prov 4: 23).

Every day we should draw the bloodline between ourselves and the powers of darkness. If we believe it in our hearts we need to say it with our mouths. But there's more. The Blood of Jesus has a vital place in the final outpouring of the Holy Spirit, especially upon and through the glorious Church that has been given authority and responsibility to usher all lost souls into His Kingdom. You see, God's holy presence is intolerable to the human race without the cleansing and covering of His precious Blood. In fact, it was not until the Blood was shed at Calvary that the Spirit was poured out at Pentecost and the glory of God was seen in the early Church. Much later, when a mighty outpouring of the Spirit fell in both England and the United States in the early part of the 20th century, the Blood was paramount in worship. A Sunderland fellowship paper of the day recorded, "The precious Blood of Jesus has been our constant and only plea, and we have, as never before, adored the Lamb that was slain. When the Blood was honoured the power was greatest. The Blood was exalted above all human action. There is safety under the Blood and power in the Blood, as they sang sweetly often in the meetings ... *There is power, power, wonder-working power in the blood of the Lamb.*"

This message is a clarion call for Christians to unite in fervent prayer, pleading the Blood against the demonic forces (fear, rebellion, disunity etc) trying to take over our families, our youth, our cities and our nation. But more so it is time to plead the Blood of Jesus for the latter rain outpouring of the Holy Spirit. So let us behold and preach about the Blood; let us pray about the Blood; let us magnify the Blood in all our services, and let us sing about the wonder-working power of the Blood of Calvary. Let us be at one with the Holy Spirit in honouring that precious Blood through which the Lord cleanses and sanctifies and prepares us to be His spotless Bride. Like the prophet Isaiah may we too see "the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up" and the angels crying "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts, the whole earth is full of His glory". Let the glory fall, O Lord! Indeed, let us know the power and the glory as we continually honour and magnify the precious Blood of JESUS, the King of Glory and our gracious Groom, for His Name's sake. AMEN.

We wish you and your family a blessed Christmas and a glorious New Millennium.

C.O.P.I.I Led by our Lord Jesus Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit to glorify the Fatherhood of God with the Brotherhood of Man, in love and faithfulness to bring glory to our Eternal Father in Jesus' Name Amen and Glory

[REJOICE & SHARE THIS MESSAGE IN PRAYER WITH OTHERS & BE BLESSED TO BE ONE IN CHRIST JESUS]