

POWER IN THE BLOOD

By Keith Greer

Whenever one begins to think about things which are "powerful", what comes to mind? Nuclear weapons or the engines that carry our space crafts into outer space? While living in Las Vegas, I was always amazed at the amount of power that Hoover Dam generates for five states!

Yes, truly these, along with many other things we could mention, do have awesome power. Yet, none can compare to the **POWER OF THE BLOOD**, shed on the cross of Calvary! This by far is the greatest power man will ever know. Let me explain why.

What is man's greatest need? "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." {Romans 3:23} Paul also tells us in Romans 6:23, "For the wages of sin is death,..." Man needs a way to escape from the burden and guilt of his sins. Where does he turn?

"And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission." {Hebrews 9:22} Someone's blood is going to have to be shed. **Who's? Yours? Mine?** Under the old law, men sacrificed the blood of bulls and goats. Did it take care of the matter of sin? "For then would they not have ceased to be offered? For the worshipers, once purified, would have had no more consciousness of sins. But in those sacrifices there is a reminder of sins every year. For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and goats could take away sins." {Hebrews 10:2-4} **Is man without any hope of escape from the burden of sin?**

"In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace." {Ephesians 1:7}

"Knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot." {1 Peter 1:18,19}

"Who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we having died to sins, might live for righteousness- by who's stripes we were healed." {1 Peter 2:24}

"For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him." {Romans 5:6-9}

"Therefore it was necessary that the copies of the things in the heavens should be purified with these, but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these. For Christ has

not entered the holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us." {Hebrews 9:23,24}

The answer to man's problem is in the blood of Christ, shed on the cruel cross of Calvary! How can one receive the "**power**" of His blood? Where does man come in contact with the "blood?"

"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." {Colossians 2:11-13}

Only in baptism does one come into contact with the blood! Now, explain to me why baptism is not essential to one's salvation! Sin can only be atoned for by the blood of Christ and in no other way. Do you see the "**power in the blood?**" ***