

THE FOUNTAIN OF LIVING WATERS (2)

By Keith Greer

Opened at His Death. “For this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.” {Matthew 26:28} “But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately blood and water came out. And he who has seen has testified, and his testimony is true; and he knows that he is telling the truth, so that you may believe.” {John 19:34,35} The Romans were not just removing a problem for the Jews; they were assisting with bringing to completion God’s plan for mankind’s salvation. “In whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.” {Colossians 1:14} “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. For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.” {Romans 5:8-10} All men need this reconciliation because all are guilty of sin {Romans 3:23}.

The Blood’s Location. “Therefore purge out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, since you truly are unleavened. For indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us.” {1 Corinthians 5:7} “Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace?” {Hebrews 10:29} “But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.” {1 John 1:7} The blood shed on the cross is useless unless sinners find it. Never should one ridicule the fountain of living waters opened for sin and to purchase the church. Christ’s blood serves a Divine purpose, and we must always respect it. It can be received only by meeting the terms God established in His word. Let us see how one can reach that blood.

Reaching the blood. “But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace” {Ephesians 2:13-15} The Jew and Gentile were divided by the Law. Christ’s blood would bring them together. “Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.” {Romans 6:3,4} “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.” {Colossians 2:11,12} Despite popular belief, the ONLY access to the blood shed for the sins of the world is through the waters of baptism. One goes down into the water spiritually dead and comes up out of the water spiritually alive. He has contacted the fountain of life—the blood of Christ.

Many want to extol a faith-only doctrine, while refusing the only means of eternal salvation that God provided for sinful man. They must choose which course to pursue.

Can you see a clear picture of the advantages provided by the fountain of living waters? God's plan was made before He spoke one thing into existence at the very beginning. God who made us, loved us, and desires fellowship with us knew what would be needed to make that possible after man committed sin! What else could we need or want? ***