



LET'S VISIT

A Publication of the Center Church of Christ
110 Hurst Street Center, Texas 75935

Volume 11

Number 43

November 10, 2024

THE FOUNTAIN FILLED WITH BLOOD

There have always been critics of preaching on the cross of Christ. There are also critics of preaching on the blood of Christ. Without the shedding of blood, there is no remission of sins.

A woman once wrote a preacher the following in a letter: *"Brother _____ if you want to be effective, you are going to have to leave out that blood stuff"*. Then, here is what a professor wrote to another preacher: *"Mr. _____, you have a great talent, and you have what it takes to be a successful minister. But, if you want to continue to be successful, you are going to have to leave out the preaching on the blood. It is out of date and no enlightened man of our day and time can swallow it."* Would you like to know what both of these men did? They kept on preaching about the blood of Jesus.

Medically speaking, what happens if you remove blood from our body? We die. Could I be so bold as to say when we take the blood from the spiritual body of Christ, then the body would die? There is a scarlet thread that runs through the Bible. If you cut the book, the book bleeds. In fact, the entire Bible can be summarized by I John chapter 1. "The blood of Jesus Christ His son cleanses us."

Do you remember when Paul called the elders of Ephesus? Acts chapter 20 tells us they came to meet him at Miletus. In verse 28, He tells them to take heed to feed the church that Jesus purchased with His blood.

Think back to that night when Jesus ate the last Passover with the apostles. He instituted the memorial feast we refer to as "The Lord's Supper". He gave them a cup of fruit of the vine, grape juice. He told them it symbolized his blood he would shed.

When Paul wrote to the church in Galatia, he spoke of the cross. He said to them, "God forbid that

I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ." (Galatians 6:14) Paul might have gloried in his unique conversion. He might have gloried as the apostle to the Gentiles. He even might have gloried in his success as a minister. Yet, he only wanted to glory in the cross of Jesus Christ.

It is by the cross that the love of the Father is seen. John 3:16 tells us how much God love the world. Yet, the depth of that love is not seen until the cross. It was on that cross that Jesus shed His blood. The intensity of that love is not known until the cross. It is when we see the humiliation of the cross we know just how much God loved us.

The cross on Golgotha declares the love of God's son. Jesus loved me and gave himself for me. John 10:11 tells me the good shepherd giveth his life for his sheep. The greatest manifestation of human love is that a man should lay down his life for his friends. Yet, Jesus laid down his life, not only for his friends but also for his enemies.

Those hail prints in the hands of Jesus are everlasting monuments of His love for me and for you. It was a love that led him to sacrifice himself on Calvary's tree. The warmth of Jesus' love is equaled only by the preciousness of his blood. Can we not hear the searching words Jesus spoke to Peter by the sea coming to our own hearts? It's recorded in John 21, Jesus said, *"Lovest thou me?"*

(Continued on page 2)

In Search of the Lord's Way



Tune in to this Television Ministry
KSHV 45 - Shreveport - 7:30 a.m. Sunday
KSLA 12 - Shreveport - 11:00 a.m. Sunday
DISH channel 373 - 7:00 a.m. Sunday
DIRECT TV channel 83 - 7:00 a.m. Sunday

Gathered Here and There



Life Involves Risk!

**For The Pantry. . .
November 3 – Hamburger Helper**

Offering – November 3, 2024. . . \$ 2,820.00

The Lord's plan of giving ... "as ye have prospered"

The Fountain Filled With Blood – continued from page 1

Sinners are reconciled to God by the cross. You see, the only way to enjoy the presence of God is through reconciliation. Humanity has been estranged from God since Eve and Adam ate the forbidden fruit in the garden. Mankind is not separated from God because of birth. Mankind is separated from God because of sin as we read in Isaiah 59:1-2. The only way to reconcile with God is through the shed blood of Jesus on the cross.

Like the ladder of Jacob, the cross was set upon the earth as the way to God. Jesus told Thomas he was the way, the truth and the life in John 14:6.

William Cowper is highly respected in English literary circles. In fact, he is the most honored poet between Pope and Shelley. He captured the importance of the blood of Jesus quite well in a familiar old hymn, "There Is A Fountain Filled with Blood". Take a look at those familiar words once more:

There is a fountain filled with blood,
Drawn from Immanuel's veins,
And sinners plunged beneath that flood
Lose all their guilty stains:
Lose all their guilty stains;
Lose all their guilty stains;
And sinners plunged beneath that flood
Lose all their guilty stains.

Dear dying Lamb, Thy precious blood
Shall never lose its pow'r.
Till all the ransomed church of God
Are safe, to sin no more;
Are safe, to sin no more,
Are safe, to sin no more;
Till all the ransomed church of God
Are safe, to sin no more.

E'er since by faith I saw the stream
Thy flowing wounds supply,
Redeeming love has been my theme,
And shall be till I die:
And shall be till I die,
And shall be till I die;
Redeeming love has been my theme,
And shall be till I die.

May we never lose sight of the importance of the blood of Christ or the cross of Christ.

tp

On The Lighter Side. . .



**WELCOME, HAVE A BUSHEL OF TOMATOES
FOR OUR NEW 'RATE THE SERMON' SYSTEM**

May we think of freedom,
not as the right to do as
we please, but as the
opportunity to do what is
right.

Peter Marshall



No Excuse Sunday!

Sunday, December 8, 2024 is the day set aside for our annual “No Excuse Sunday”. There will be no acceptable excuse for missing worship that day! Make your plans **NOW** to be here and bring someone or several someones to be your guest.

Of course we will be having a covered dish luncheon that day following the morning worship. Hospitality group 3 will be responsible for this luncheon. The members of that group are: LaJuan Baugh, Martha Bradshaw, Sheri Burgay, Tiffanne Klein, Trish Lout and Dee Sims.

We will not have any more Wednesday night meals in 2024. We will resume having them in 2025.



The truck from Sunny Glen Children’s Home will be here this week. They have requested Spaghetti Sauce, Salad Dressing, Zip Lock Bags and Trash Bags. Let’s fill the Little Red Wagon!

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER!

December 15, 2024 – Christmas Party

March 2, 2025 – “Pack-A-Pew Sunday”

April 25-27, 2025 – Area-Wide Singing and Gospel meeting with Phil Sanders.

June 1, 2025 – Covered Dish Luncheon

PUT THESE DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR!

OUR “CHURCH FAMILY”

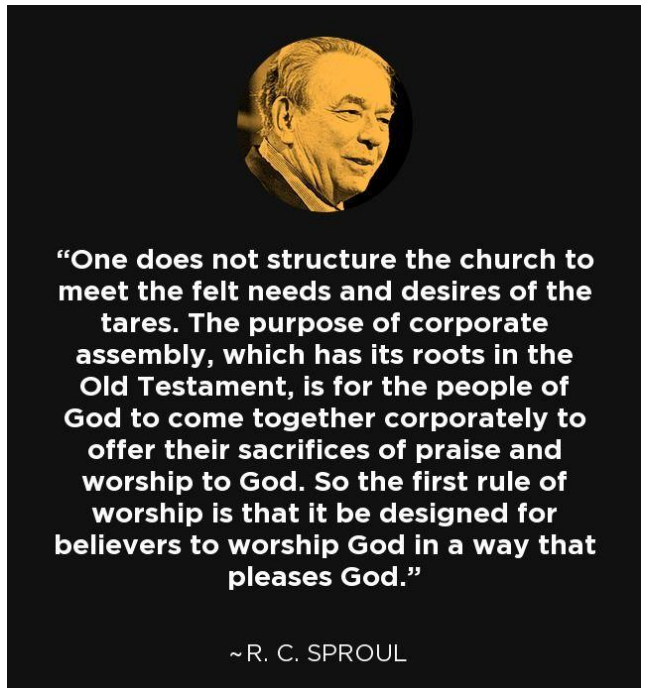
Cissy Amos, LaJuan Baugh, Martha Jean Golden, Geneva Graves, Alice Hall, Thelma Hinton, LaResa Livingston, Mike Lout, Debra Pate, Jerry Pate, Wayne Sims, Betty Willis

“EXTENDED FAMILY” AND FRIENDS

Cody Anthony (LaResa Livingston’s nephew) Mitchell Anthony (LaResa Livingston’s brother), Jackie Barnes (Friend of Gene & Martha Bradshaw) Cohen Byrnes (infant son of Trey and Alex Byrnes) Hugh and Pat Fletcher (Sarah Fletcher’s brother and sister-in-law dealing with multiple health issues) Joyce Fontenot (Debra Pate’s mother) Geneva Harrison (Mike Bostick’s mother) Debbie Lynn (Abbey Perkins’ mother dealing with memory issues) Lamar McCormick (friend of Sarah Fletcher, multiple health issues) Kutter Milford (Cissy Amos’ grandson) Eddie Paul (Wayne Sims son-in-law) Calvin Smith (Debra Pate’s uncle); Heather Simmons Steward (Friend of Cissy Amos) cancer; J. C. Tate (Jana O’Brien’s father) Clark Paul Williams (LaResa Livingston’s cousin)

THOSE IN THE MILITARY AND FOREIGN SERVICE

Cole Barbee, Adam Bradshaw, Andrew Bradshaw, Michele Bradshaw, Rosie Tate and Lucas Tate



“One does not structure the church to meet the felt needs and desires of the tares. The purpose of corporate assembly, which has its roots in the Old Testament, is for the people of God to come together corporately to offer their sacrifices of praise and worship to God. So the first rule of worship is that it be designed for believers to worship God in a way that pleases God.”

~R. C. SPROUL



Across The Preacher's Desk

Have you ever noticed how complicated some folks want to make religion? We live in a world of problems. Preachers even spend a lot of time pointing out the problems of our time. Yet, the world is not asking for an elaboration on the problems, rather, the world is seeking a solution to those problems.

Often we are searching for complex solutions to our present day problems and anxieties. Yet, the God of heaven, who is high and holy is not insensitive to the hurts and problems that we face. He offers a simple solution to modern day problems in every area.

People spend millions of dollars to rid themselves of stress and anxiety. Men and women spend hours upon hours with psychiatrists and drugs. Yet, the simple solution is in John 14:1. Jesus says, "Let not your hearts be troubled, ye believe in God, believe also in me."

We need to stop focusing on ourselves and focus on others. We need to follow the example of Jesus who "went about doing good" (Acts 10:38). We need to realize that real security is built upon trust in God and that God is the source of real security.

When we spend more time with the solutions provided in the word of God, and focus on the promises of God's word, we will find that with trust in God we have a simple solution to the stress of life.

it's something to think about.....tlp

**The Lord's Plan
For Evangelism –
Each one Bring one!
54 in '24!**