

The Blood Covenant Part 1

- It's very important to understand what a blood covenant is because our relationship with God as Christians is based on a blood covenant.
- A lot of times we misunderstand the bible because we read it with a western mindset, and it was written with an eastern mindset. So, understanding the eastern mindset helps us understand the bible. Blood Covenant comes from an eastern mindset not a western mindset. Paper contracts are western.
- So, as we get into blood covenant we will talk about blood covenant in eastern culture because really this blood covenant that we are in with God mirrors a man's blood covenant in the east.

Hebrews 8:6-7

- In order to understand how this new covenant that we are in is better than the old covenant we have to understand what the old covenant is.
- One reason right off the bat that this new covenant is better is because the old covenant was types and shadows. The animal's blood was just a foreshadow of the perfect sacrifice to come which was Jesus whom we have now.
 - Under the old covenant, the blood of animals could only cover sin. It could never take it away because animal's blood couldn't pay the total price for the sin of man.
 - But now we have the blood of Jesus that has once and for all totally abolished sin because it took man's blood to pay for the sin of man.
- Covenant
 - Covenant and testament are the same word.
 - So, when we see Old Testament and New Testament it's really old covenant and new covenant.
 - The Hebrew word for covenant is berith meaning to cut until bleeding occurs.
 - In eastern culture Covenant agreements were not made without blood.
 - The shedding of blood ratified the covenant.
 - In eastern culture, if two businessmen drew up a contract, in order to make sure neither one would back out of that contract they would cut a covenant or berith.
 - Let's say that John Doe and I both had companies and we found out that we could put our companies together and make more money. But there's always that chance that one of us could back out and leave the other one high and dry. So, what we would do in eastern culture is enter into a blood covenant.
 - Because it's understood in eastern culture that the only way out of a blood covenant is death.
 - So, there's four ways you could enter in to a blood covenant:
 - 1. We could cut the palms of our hands until they bled and then put them together
 - This is where the handshake comes from.
 - Too bad the handshake doesn't mean anything today. We supposedly seal deals with a handshake today and then screw people over.
 - Today a handshake is no more than a greeting but back then it was the sealing of a contract in blood.
 - 2. We could cut our wrists and then put the wrists together and mingle the blood.

- Notice that so far, which is the case in all four ways, there is the mingling of blood.
 - Meaning that both parties in the covenant are becoming one blood.
 - 3. We could cut some part of the body and mingle the blood in wine and then drink the wine.
 - This practice, though traditional in ancient eastern culture, is forbidden in the word of God.
 - 4. We could shed an animal's blood in substitution for the blood of both parties.
 - When the two parties would do this, they would stand in the animal's blood and shake hands signifying that they were now one in the body and the blood of the animal.
 - This is the way the New Testament does it.
 - Me and God stood in the blood of Jesus, our substitutionary sacrifice, and shook hands and become one in the body and blood of Jesus.
- What is so important about blood? If we understand the importance that blood has to God and how God sees blood, we will understand the significance of blood covenant.
- Gen 9:3-4
 - They could eat the meat of the animal, but they couldn't eat the blood.
 - Verse 4 was saying that the life of the flesh was the blood.
 - So, you could eat the meat but not its life or the blood.
- Lev 17:10-11
 - Notice how God was so stern about them not eating blood. "I'll set my face against the soul"
 - This is because He wanted them to respect the blood because it would be the key to their redemption
 - He said there would be no atonement without blood. They would not be atoned under the law or old covenant with the spilling of the blood of animals in their place and they would not be atoned once and for all under the new covenant without the spilling of the blood of Jesus.
- So, in the western culture, blood is just blood. But in the eastern culture it represented your life.
 - So, when two men made blood covenant in the east and sort of exchanged blood, they exchanged lives. What they were saying was when I give you my blood, I'm giving you my life.
 - When they mingled their blood together, they were saying there are no longer two separate lives anymore; there is one new life.
 - If me and John Doe entered into blood covenant, His life would become my life and my life would become His life. He would be me and I would be Him. He would be accountable for me and I would be accountable for Him. If anybody came against him, they would come against me and if anybody came against me, they would be coming against him because we are one through the blood. There's no difference between us now.
- If the blood is your life, then what is your life?
 - Your life is time, family, finances, job, gifts, abilities, knowledge, etc.
 - Because if I lose my blood, I lose all these things.
 - So, when I give someone my blood in covenant I am giving them all these things.
 - My time belongs to them, my family belongs to them, my finances belong to them, my knowledge, my seed and so on.
- To mingle blood was to mingle life.

- My name now belongs to him.
- My name unlocks all my money in the bank so now He has access to all my assets. He has access to my credit cards. If He needs to pay a bill, he can go access my assets and pay it because my life is his life now.
- But not only do we get each other's assets, we also get each other's liabilities or debts.
- I have entered into a covenant with God through the substitutionary blood of Jesus. God and I shook hands in the blood of Jesus.
 - This means He got my life (which was no life) and I got His.
 - He got my assets (none) and He got my debts (I had plenty, I owed everything to the devil, and I couldn't pay my way out of it.)
 - But in return I got His debts, which was zero, and I got His assets, which was everything I needed and more. His assets payed my debts and set me free from the bondage of satan.
- I got the right to God's name.
 - Which means I can use His name as if I am Him and it accesses everything in His account.
 - That's why the devil runs when I speak the name of Jesus because I am accessing the power and authority of God with that name. So, the devil runs from me as if he's running from God.
- I have to protect God, which He doesn't need it, and He has to protect me, which is a big job.
 - This seems like a lousy deal for God, but a great deal for me. But even though it was lousy for God, He did it anyway. This is His grace towards us, His love for us.
- The greatest love is manifested in blood covenant.
 - The closest thing to make us understand blood covenant is probably having somebody stay with us.
 - When someone stays with you, your time goes to them, your privacy is invaded, you inherit not only their good qualities but their bad qualities.
 - What causes you to do this? Love.
- John 15:13
 - Life here could be blood.
 - So, this could say that no greater love can a man have than to lay down His blood for His friends or make a blood covenant with his friends.
 - The greatest love shown is when God made a blood covenant with not just one person but the whole world.
 - God took on all the debts of the whole world and gave all His assets and time to not just one but the whole world.
 - This covenant that we are in with God is based on the greatest love. Love is the only way this blood covenant could have taken place and when you understand covenant you understand the love of God for mankind.
 - Through this covenant you gave Him nothing and He gave you everything.
 - I can walk into Jesus' house now with all my debts and obnoxious habits because of love.
 - The only thing He asks is just believe it.
- Don't live in this covenant and not know what you have in this covenant.
 - A man was coming to America and scraped enough money together to buy a ticket to ride a boat going that way. The problem was he didn't have enough money left to pay for food. The captain had been noticing him on the boat and said, "Sir I haven't seen you eating at all in the dining room." The man replied, "I only had enough money for

the ticket.” The captain then said, “Didn't you know the food is included in the price of the ticket?”

- When you make covenant with someone you get all their assets. So, what is given as sort of a price to get their assets? It's the blood. All of their assets cost blood.
- Well Jesus' blood put us in covenant with God. So, Jesus' blood bought us all of God's assets. And here we are many times trying to earn the assets of God when they've already been paid for. Healing, prosperity, provision was all included in the price of the blood of Jesus. Just believe it and receive it.
- Wouldn't it be stupid to be offered the name, assets, power of a multi-millionaire and then just say no I don't want it, I'll just live with my debts? That's what you do when you don't accept the sacrifice of Jesus. And you will never pay your debts no matter what you do. You've got to accept His payment, His blood!