
“YOUR FIG LEAVES WON’T WORK”

Saturday, November 8, 2025 • Pastor David W. Kramer

INTRODUCTION:

- » Since the beginning of time...mankind has been trying to find a remedy to take away his sin.
 - * **REMEDY** *a means of counteracting or eliminating something undesirable...a means of legal reparation... make good an undesirable situation...rectify.*
- » Mankind has spent thousands of years...trying to find peace...contentment...and fulfillment on his own.
 - * We’re still doing it today....
 - * Meditations...yoga....cleanses....
 - * But it won’t work.
- » There are 2 billion Muslims...trying to make their way to heaven...AND IT WON’T WORK.
 - * Muslim must pray 5 times a day.
 - * Prayers are said while standing on a small prayer rug,
 - * **TELL YOUR NEIGHBOR: “It won’t work!”**
- » Even in the Garden of Eden...their remedy...didn’t work.
 - * When Adam and Eve disobeyed God...what did they do?
 - * First...they tried to hide from God.
 - * **Don’t waste your time trying to hide from God...it won’t work!**

» Then...they blamed each other.

- * When they recognized they were naked...
- * They sewed together fig leaves to cover themselves.

» TELL YOUR NEIGHBOR: “Your fig leaves won’t work!”

- * Man cannot fix himself...
- * There’s nothing in this world that can help you...

» Except the BLOOD OF JESUS!

- * I want to talk about the blood of Jesus this morning.
- * “There’s power in the blood!”

» In order to talk about the blood of Jesus...we have to go to the book of Hebrews.

- * We have a new year approaching here soon.
- * How many get tired of the ways things are right now in your life?
- * You may be looking for a new beginning...a new reality.

» Let me encourage you to read through the book of Hebrews.

- * It’s only 13 chapters long...but it is a wonderful description of the new covenant God has made with His people.

» How many can admit that when you need a remedy...for a headache...a stomach ache...or even treatment of a disease...

» You want the new and improved version...right?

* When you have a serious problem or pain...

» You want the NEW AND IMPROVED pain reliever.

* This ain't no time for an aspirin.

* You want the EXTRA-STRENGTH...MAXIMUM DOSAGE ALLOWED BY LAW...to take care of your pain.

» How many have sinned?

* The Bible says if you sin...you're going to hell.

* TELL YOUR NEIGHBOR: "Your fig leaf won't work!"

» Let's look at the book of Hebrews for THE NEW AND IMPROVED REMEDY FOR OUR DILEMMA.

* Hebrews 9:22 tells us that blood has to be shed in order for sin to be forgiven.

* Even in the Garden of Eden...God had to kill an animal to cover the nakedness of Adam and Eve.

» The Old Testament had a complicated system of laws and rituals in order for the sins of mankind to be forgiven.

* IT WAS A BLOODY MESS!

* And...even after all the rituals were followed...the people still walked away with a guilty conscience.

» Aren't you glad we have a better covenant today?

* Let's see what makes our covenant better.

- * **Why is our covenant better?**
- * **Because it's based on Jesus...EVERYTHING IS BETTER WITH JESUS!**

1. HEBREWS 7:11,12,19,22-28

- 11** *"Therefore, if **perfection** were through the Levitical priesthood (for under it the people received the law), what further need was there that another priest should rise according to the order of Melchizedek, and not be called according to the order of Aaron?*
- 12** *For the priesthood being changed, of necessity **there is also a change of the law.***
- 19** ***for the law made nothing perfect;** on the other hand, there is the bringing in of a better hope, through which we draw near to God.*
- » **The Old Testament Law was a schoolmaster...a map...a GPS....to lead us to Christ.**
 - » **It has always been about Jesus...right from the very beginning.**
- 22** *by so much more **Jesus has become a surety of a better covenant.***
- 23** *Also there were many priests, because they were prevented by death from continuing.*
- 24** *But He, because He continues forever, has an unchangeable priesthood.*
- 25** *Therefore He is also able **to save to the uttermost** those who come to God through Him, **since He always lives to make intercession for them.***

- * The blood of Jesus is still being accessed today.
- * It still takes the blood of Jesus...to atone for our sins.

26 *For such a High Priest was fitting for us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and has become higher than the heavens;*

27 *who does not need daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifices, first for His own sins and then for the people's, for this He did once for all when He offered up Himself.*

28 *For the law appoints as high priests men who have weakness, but the word of the oath, which came after the law, **appoints the Son who has been perfected forever.***

» Can we admit that it is hard to take instruction from someone....

* Who isn't doing what's right themselves?

* They tell you to do one thing...then they do the opposite.

* It's hard to follow someone....who isn't walking right.

» Jesus is perfect....we can follow Him without question.

2. HEBREWS 4:14-16

14 *"Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession.*

15 *For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin.*

» Jesus knows what you are going through.

- * Why? Because He went through it Himself.
- * Betrayal...abandonment...lies...deceit...unfaithfulness...
- * Temptations....hunger...false accusations...
- * Even wrongful death.

16 *Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need."*

» He can help you...because He's been there Himself.

3. HEBREWS 8:7-13

7 *"For if that first covenant [the Old Testament Law] had been faultless, then no place would have been sought for a second.*

8 *Because finding fault with them, He says: "Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah—*

» It has always been God's plan for the new covenant to be enacted.

- * When people discover the Jewish roots of the Gospel...they want to go into the Old Testament...and try to resurrect that covenant.
- * They look at the Law and try to observe it thinking it will make them perfect.
- * **TELL YOUR NEIGHBOR: "It won't work!"**

» But God instituted a new covenant...based on better things.

» What's better about the new covenant?

- * First, it's based on Jesus...which makes everything better.
- * It's not based on works of the flesh...we know our flesh will fail us.

» This new covenant is based on faith in the blood of Jesus.

8 *Because finding fault with them, He says: "Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah—*

9 *not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because they did not continue in My covenant, and I disregarded them, says the Lord.*

- * The Old Testament Law and Covenant proved to us THAT WE COULD NOT KEEP THE LAW on our own.
- * We needed Jesus to fulfill all of the Law...and we are made righteous by faith in His Work...not ours.
- * And...we need the Holy Spirit...to help us every hour of the day.

10 *For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put My laws in their mind and write them on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.*

» How many have the Holy Spirit living inside of you?

- * He's that still small voice that says:

* **DON'T DO THAT! DON'T SAY THAT!**

» I'm not talking about your CONSCIENCE....we know that can be corrupted as well...

* I'm talking about the prompting of the Holy Spirit...

* That keeps us from sinning.

* He gives us direction.

» The Holy Spirit's job...is to lead us into truth.

* How many know that JESUS IS THE TRUTH?

* The Holy Spirit...leads you to Jesus!

» Let me beg you....please listen to God's still small voice.

* **He will help you....He will give you THE VICTORY!**

11 None of them shall teach his neighbor, and none his brother, saying, 'Know the Lord,' for all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them.

» You don't have to go to FACEBOOK....

* To determine what you should do.

* Ask God...He will lead you.

» Listen to the Holy Spirit inside you....

* His advice....will with agree with the Bible.

* His advice...will lead you forward.

12 *For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more."*

13 *In that He says, "A new covenant," He has made the first obsolete. Now what is becoming obsolete and growing old is ready to vanish away."*

» Don't go digging into the Old Testament covenant...to get closer to God...or be made perfect.

* We can only become perfect...which means mature, complete, whole...through Jesus Christ.

* Not by Old Testament works of our flesh.

» We are in the Grace Dispensation...we have a better covenant.

4. HEBREWS 9:11-15

11 *"But Christ came as High Priest of the good things to come, with the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands, that is, not of this creation.*

12 *Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption.*

13 *For if the blood of bulls and goats and the ashes of a heifer, sprinkling the unclean, sanctifies for the purifying of the flesh,*

14 *how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?*

15 *And for this reason He is the Mediator of the new covenant, by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions under the first covenant, that those who are called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance.”*

5. LET'S TALK ABOUT THE BLOOD OF JESUS

» The blood of Jesus is KEY to the healing of the human heart.

* The **WORD OF GOD (BIBLE)** corrects the mind and pierces the heart.

* **HEBREWS 4:12**, *“For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”*

» But it is the **BLOOD** that HEALS THE HEART.

* Although the blood of Jesus was offered once...

* And it never has to be offered again...

» However...its application to our heart is required **DAILY**.

* Can we admit...that we FIGHT OUR FLESH....

* On a daily basis?

* I have to MAKE RIGHT DECISIONS....everyday!

» How many have proven....that we cannot by logic or willpower change the heart?

* No matter how clearly we see what lodges there...

- * There it remains.
- * TikTok...snapchat....Twitter...Facebook.....can't heal your heart.
- * **TELL YOUR NEIGHBOR: "It won't work!"**
- » **That's why PSYCHOLOGY will ultimately not work.**
 - * They may help you IDENTIFY THE ISSUE...the trespass...
 - * **But they can't cleanse the heart.**
 - * They only encourage you to change **HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT WHAT IS IN YOUR HEART.**
 - * Psychologists can't cleanse your heart.
 - * That hurt still remains lodged in your heart.
- » **However...a CHRISTIAN CAN CHANGE THE HEART.**
 - * Where the secular leaves off...
 - * The Christian has only begun.
- » **All a Christian has to do...**
 - * Is call for the blood of Jesus Christ...
 - * **By FORGIVING THOSE THAT HAVE TRESPASSED AGAINST YOU.**
 - * **JOHN 1:29, "The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!"**

- » **The prayer of that Christian takes no measure of faith...**
 - * **Only enough to voice the asking.**
 - * **The least Christian...wields the fullness of power.**
- » **No matter how many times....we may fall and sin....**
 - * **We can never exhaust the blood of Jesus!**
- » **His faithfulness guarantees...that HE IS ALWAYS THERE.**
 - * **At the nearest asking...**
 - * **To cleanse the heart thoroughly and completely.**
- » **TELL YOUR NEIGHBOR: "Only the blood of Jesus...can heal your heart."**
 - * **Your fig leaves...won't work!**