

THE BLOOD RECONCILES HEAVEN AND EARTH

Colossians 1:20 And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven.

The apostle Paul tells the Colossian church that the Lord Jesus reconciled heaven and earth through his blood. This is a profound statement that needs careful unpacking. How did the Lord reconcile heaven and earth through the agency of his blood? Put differently, how did the blood of the Lord both connect and heal the rift or gap between heaven and earth? Perhaps a good analogy to help us begin to understand this wonderful saving truth is the circulation of blood in our own bodies. Just consider this mindboggling fact. According to one source:

*The body has 60,000 miles of blood vessels. This is long enough to circle the globe more than twice. It takes a red blood cell less than a minute to move from the heart, through the body, and back to the heart (NHS, 2022).*¹

If there is enough blood in one human body to circle the globe more than twice, than, surely, it is not a big deal for the blood in the body of the Lord Jesus to connect and reconcile heaven and earth. Hallelujah! It is the blood that transports oxygen, nutrients and hormones throughout the body and removes carbon dioxide and other waste products. The blood of Jesus is like the river of Ezekiel that heals everything in its path.

Ezekiel 47:9 And it shall come to pass, that every thing that liveth, which moveth, whithersoever the rivers shall come, shall live: and there shall be a very great multitude of fish, because these waters shall come thither: for they shall be healed; and every thing shall live whither the river cometh.

Revelation 1:5 And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood.

The various organs are stationary and depend on the blood to circulate and visit them with life-giving oxygen and nutrients. Without the blood circulating, the organs will die. Similarly, the blood of Jesus moves constantly around the earth bringing his life-giving “oxygen” and cleanses the filth (carbon dioxide) out of our spiritual systems. No wonder the Lord said, “Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you” (John 6:53). As long as the

¹ <https://www.blood.co.uk/news-and-campaigns/the-donor/latest-stories/functions-of-blood-transport-around-the-body/>

heart pumps, the blood will flow. Let us make sure we are so close to Jesus that we can hear his heart pumping. Like the apostle John we must often rest our heads and ears on the chest of the Lord and hear his heart pumping.

John 21:20 Then Peter, turning about, seeth the disciple whom Jesus loved following; which also leaned on his breast at supper, and said, Lord, which is he that betrayeth thee?

One cannot overstate how much we need the blood of Jesus to both cleanse us and give us his divine life. Just as the liver, kidneys and other organs in the body will reject any other liquid other than blood, so our spiritual lives will gradually weaken and die unless we invite the blood of Jesus to flow into our souls. When was the last time you received a blood transfusion from Jesus? Whatever your blood type, Jesus can match it! An African American doctor by the name of Charles Drew is credited with inventing new techniques for storing blood. His technique saved thousands of allied lives during WW2 and earned him the nickname “the father of the blood bank”. Sadly, racist policies in the USA forbade him from mixing the blood of blacks and whites due to which he resigned. Dr Drew protested that blood can only be separated on the basis of blood group (four main types: A, B, O and AB); there can be no other basis for blood segregation. Thank God the blood of Jesus is for all humanity, irrespective of race, ethnicity, language and other barriers. Thank God he doesn’t save the so-called races with different blood groups. The sins of individuals may differ, but the blood that sanctifies is one. One God Jesus and one blood for the sanctification of the nations.

Rev 7:13 And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they?

Rev 7:14 And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

So far we have considered how the human body helps us to understand how the blood of Jesus connects and reconciles heaven and earth. On a micro level, the circulation of blood in our own bodies illustrates this lesson of connecting and giving life. No wonder the scripture says, “For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul” (Lev 17:11). Now, let us go directly to a scripture that confirms that the Lord went into heaven with his blood after the resurrection to sanctify heaven itself.

Heb 9:22 And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.

Heb 9:23 *It was therefore necessary that the patterns of things in the heavens should be purified with these; but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these.*

Heb 9:24 *For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us:*

You may rightly ask the question: how did heaven become defiled? The Book of Job records that Satan also appeared before the throne of God along with the angels. “Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan came also among them” (Job 1:6). Clearly, heaven has been defiled, but, now, the Lord Jesus sanctifies heaven with his own blood, according to Hebrews 9:22-24. In fact, the tabernacle and temple were shadows pointing to Jesus taking his own blood from the altar, which is the Cross of Golgotha, and going past the holy place and into the holy of holies to sprinkle his blood on the mercy seat on top of the Ark of the Covenant. “Nor yet that he should offer himself often, as the high priest entereth into the holy place every year with blood of others” (Hebrews 9:25). Jesus connected the entire temple from the altar to the mercy seat with his blood. He sanctified and reconciled every item in the temple – the altar, the wash basin/laver, the shewbread, the incense, the menorah with the presence of God in the Ark of the Covenant. When he died, the veil was torn apart so one could see every item in the temple because Jesus was now walking through it with his blood and entering the holy of holies. The Lord never rested until he entered into heaven with his blood to sprinkle it on the mercy seat in heaven and secure our forgiveness. Such was the urgency and gravity involved that it was the only time he forbade his disciples to touch him.

John 20:17 *Jesus saith unto her, Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God.*

Come, let us rejoice exceedingly in the fact that the blood of Jesus has reconciled heaven and earth. Wherever humans have spread and whatever they touched, has been defiled. But, thankfully, the Lord retraced our footsteps and with his blood, like the river of Ezekiel, he sanctifies and reconciles heaven and earth. Let us be washed by the blood of Jesus once more!