

<sup>16</sup> In every battle you will need faith as your shield to stop the fiery arrows aimed at you by Satan. <sup>17</sup> Put on salvation as your helmet, and take the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. <sup>18</sup> Pray at all times and on every occasion in the power of the Holy Spirit. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all Christians everywhere.

## FIRE

- **Numbers 31:21-23 (CEV)** Eleazar then explained, “If you need to purify something that won’t burn, such as gold, silver, bronze, iron, tin, or lead, you must first place it in a hot fire. After you take it out, sprinkle it with the water that purifies. Everything else should only be sprinkled with the water. Do all of this, just as the LORD commanded Moses.
- THE BLOOD WILL NOT **MAINTAIN** YOUR EXPERIENCE – YOU HAVE TO WALK IN **THE SPIRIT**.
- **Romans 8:13-14** <sup>13</sup>For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live. <sup>14</sup>For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.
- The reason we have to constantly counsel people to do what they should already be doing is because they once had a Christian experience, but they are not living a Christian lifestyle!
- **THERE ARE SOME THINGS THE BLOOD WON’T DO!**

## What The Blood Won’t Do

- **Hebrews 9:22 (NLT)** In fact, we can say that according to the law of Moses, nearly everything was purified by sprinkling with blood. Without the shedding of blood, there is no forgiveness of sins.
- **Hebrews 9:22 (KJV)** And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.
- The blood (death) of Jesus Christ is the most powerful substance in the universe, because it is God’s blood.
- **Acts 20:28** Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.
- The most important thing it provides for us is eternal life, which begins NOW with more abundant life!
- **Leviticus 17:11** 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.
- **John 10:10** The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have *it* more abundantly.
- But the blood provides more than salvation; it is also a defensive and offensive weapon. That why the elders had a saying, “I plead the blood!”
- **Revelation 12:11** And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.

- According to Hebrews 9:22, ALL SIN is remitted by the blood, but not ALL THINGS (“almost all”). Under the Law of Moses, there were some things that were purified or remitted by a substance other than blood. In the same way, there are some things that the blood won’t do in our lives – not because it CAN’T but because it was not designed to do so by God. SOME THINGS ARE OUR RESPONSIBILITY!
- Under the law, the poor were allowed to bring a flour offering as a REPLACEMENT for a blood offering (Leviticus 5:11) – but that still represents the blood.
- However, there were THREE other substances that were used for REMISSION: water, incense and fire
- Luke, a medical doctor, often used the word “remission” in his writings. It meant then what it means now – a negative process (disease) that is arrested or put in retreat. THAT IS WHY BAPTISM IS SO IMPORTANT, AND CANNOT BE SEPARATED FROM REPENTANCE (“repent and be baptized”).
- Salvation is all about putting our sinful nature “in remission” – and keeping it that way! The blood is the major factor in this process, because it alone provides the supernatural power to remit sin. But there are some other things in our lives that also need to be placed “in remission” – and the blood is not the crucial factor in these cases ...

## WATER

- **Exodus 19:9-12 (NLT)** <sup>9</sup> Then the LORD said to Moses, “I am going to come to you in a thick cloud so the people themselves can hear me as I speak to you. Then they will always have confidence in you.” Moses told the LORD what the people had said. <sup>10</sup> Then the LORD told Moses, “Go down and prepare the people for my visit. Purify them today and tomorrow, and have them wash their clothing.” <sup>11</sup> Be sure they are ready on the third day, for I will come down upon Mount Sinai as all the people watch.

<sup>12</sup> Set boundary lines that the people may not pass. Warn them, ‘Be careful! Do not go up on the mountain or even touch its boundaries. Those who do will certainly die!’

- THE BLOOD WILL NOT **MATURE** YOU – YOU HAVE TO SUBMIT TO THE WASHING OF THE WORD.
- **Ephesians 5:26-27** <sup>26</sup>That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, <sup>27</sup>That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

## INCENSE

- **Numbers 16:46-48 (NLT)** <sup>46</sup> And Moses said to Aaron, “Quick, take an incense burner and place burning coals on it from the altar. Lay incense on it and carry it quickly among the people to make atonement for them. The LORD’s anger is blazing among them—the plague has already begun.” <sup>47</sup> Aaron did as Moses told him and ran out among the people. The plague indeed had already begun, but Aaron burned the incense and made atonement for them. <sup>48</sup> He stood between the living and the dead until the plague was stopped.
- THE BLOOD WILL NOT **MOTIVATE** YOU – YOU HAVE TO PUSH YOURSELF INTO SPIRITUAL WARFARE.
- **Ephesians 6:10-18 (NLT)** <sup>10</sup> A final word: Be strong with the Lord’s mighty power. <sup>11</sup> Put on all of God’s armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies and tricks of the Devil. <sup>12</sup> For we are not fighting against people made of flesh and blood, but against the evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against those mighty powers of darkness who rule this world, and against wicked spirits in the heavenly realms. <sup>13</sup> Use every piece of God’s armor to resist the enemy in the time of evil, so that after the battle you will still be standing firm. <sup>14</sup> Stand your ground, putting on the sturdy belt of truth and the body armor of God’s righteousness. <sup>15</sup> For shoes, put on the peace that comes from the Good News, so that you will be fully prepared.