

BLOOD

Life is in the blood

Gen.9:4 Only you shall not eat flesh with its life, *that is*, its blood.

Lev.17:14 For *as for the* life of all flesh, its blood is *identified* with its life . . .

Forbidden to be used as food

Lev.17:11-12 “For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it to you on the altar to make atonement for your souls; for it is the blood by reason of the life that makes atonement.” Therefore I said to the sons of Israel, “No person among you may eat blood, nor may any alien who sojourns among you eat blood.”

Act.15:20 but that we write to them that they abstain from things contaminated by idols and from fornication and from what is strangled and from blood.

Acts 21:25 But concerning the Gentiles who have believed, we wrote, having decided that they should abstain from meat sacrificed to idols and from blood and from what is strangled and from fornication.

Sacrificial use of blood

Sprinkled on door posts

Exo.12:7-13 Moreover, they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and on the lintel of the houses in which they eat it . . . And the blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live; and when I see the blood I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

Sprinkled on the altar and the people

Exodus 24:6-8 And Moses took half of the blood and put it in basins, and the other half of the blood he sprinkled on the altar. Then he took the book of the covenant and read it in the hearing of the people; and they said, “All that the LORD has spoken we will do, and we will be obedient!” So Moses took the blood and sprinkled it on the people, and said, “Behold the blood of the covenant, which the LORD has made with you in accordance with all these words.”

Without shedding of blood there is no remission

Heb 9:22 And according to the Law, one may almost say, all things are cleansed with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.

Rom.3:24-25 Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Whom God hath set forth *to be* a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God.

Blood

blud (icÿ, *daôm*, probably from íāžš, *aôdham* “to be red”; ἀπίά, *haĀñma*): Used in the Old Testament to designate the life principle in either animal or vegetable, as the blood of man or the juice of the grape (Lev 17:11, et al.); in the New Testament for the blood of an animal, the atoning blood of Christ.

Although the real function of the blood in the human system was not fully known until the fact of its circulation was established by William Harvey in 1615, nevertheless from the earliest times a singular mystery has been attached to it by all peoples. Blood rites, blood ceremonies and blood feuds are common among primitive tribes. It came to be recognized as the life principle long before it was scientifically proved to be. Naturally a feeling of fear, awe and reverence would be attached to the shedding of blood. With many uncivilized peoples scarification of the body until blood flows is practiced. Blood brotherhood or blood friendship is established by African tribes by the mutual shedding of blood and either drinking it or rubbing it on one another’s bodies. Thus and by the inter-transfusion of blood by other means it was thought that a community of life and interest could be established.

*Quotation from International Bible Encyclopedia
by Walter G. Clippinger*

Blood of the Covenants

The Old (First) Covenant

Exo.24:8 So Moses took the blood and sprinkled it on the people, and said, “Behold the blood of the covenant, which the LORD has made with you in accordance with all these words.”

The New Covenant

Mat.26:27-28 And when He had taken a cup and given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you; for this is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for forgiveness of sins.”

Memorialized in Communion

1Co.11:25 In the same way He took the cup also, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in My blood; do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Superiority of New Covenant sealed with superior blood

Heb.9:13-14 For if the blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkling those who have been defiled, sanctify for the cleansing of the flesh, how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? Cf. Heb 9:6-28

CONCLUSION

The life (blood) in man that God created is sacred. It is not to be shed (i.e.,murder). Violators are to be punished with death (shedding of their own blood).

Gen.9:6 “Whoever sheds man’s blood, by man his blood shall be shed, for in the image of God He made man.”

It is not to be eaten. Violators will suffer God’s penalty.

Lev.7:26-27 And you are not to eat any blood, either of bird or animal, in any of your dwellings. Any person who eats any blood, even that person shall be cut off from his people.

By the shedding of Christ’s blood, we gain:

Forgiveness (remission) of sins

Mat.26:28 for this is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for forgiveness [remission, KJV] of sins.

Justification

Rom 5:9 Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath *of God* through Him.

Fellowship with the Son and the Father

1 Jo.1:7 but if we walk in the light as He Himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.

QUOTATIONS FROM NEW AMERICAN STANDARD BIBLE