

September 1, 2024

Lesson 8

Gen. 3:21—THE BLOOD OF AN INNOCENT TO COVER THE SIN OF THE GUILTY

This morning we turn our attention to understand how ...*blood*... is THE theme that unites circumcision and the covenant.

The blood of circumcision was as ...*THE sign*... [**Gen. 17:11**] that God required the shedding of blood as the way for Israel to be His covenant people.

Gen 15:18 ...*the Lord made a covenant with Abram*...

...*made a covenant* ... is *karth beriyth* or ... **cut** covenant...

In **Gen. 15:9-18** we read *how* the Lord ... *made a covenant* ... with Abraham—

*So the Lord said to Abraham, Bring Me a three year old heifer, and a three year old female goat, and a three year old ram... 10 Then he brought all these to Him and **cut them in two**, and laid each half opposite the other... 17 It came about when the sun had set, that it was very dark, and behold, there appeared a smoking oven and a flaming torch which passed between these pieces. 18 On that day the Lord made [**cut**] a covenant with Abram...*

And what was Abraham's contribution?

v. 12 *Now when the sun was going down, a deep **sleep** fell upon Abram...*

In **Ex.19** the Lord gave Israel the ten covenantal commands—

Then they agreed to obey the commandments—**Ex. 24:3**

v.8 explains how Moses ratified the covenant—

*...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 **Lev. 17:11** we read the significance of the blood—

...the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I [the Lord] 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...

Atonement is the payment in the blood that covers or takes away or removes the guilt of sin.

This means that the blood was the **substitutionary sacrifice** that was required as the only means of atoning for the sin of the people.

*...without shedding of blood there is no forgiveness... **Heb 9:22***

Now we can understand *WHY* the Lord gave Abraham circumcision as *...the sign of the covenant...*

The blood of circumcision was the *...sign...* of the blood of the new covenant in the blood of Jesus.

Matt. 26:28 *...this is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for forgiveness of sins...*

Remember **Gen 15:18** ...the Lord..made a covenant... is ...the Lord **cut** covenant...

The *cutting of covenant* in the O. T. is fulfilled when God the Father ...cuts covenant... with the Son at the cross.

Eph 1:7 *In [Christ] we have redemption through His **blood**, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace...*

THIS IS THE REALITY TO WHICH CIRCUMCISION POINTED.

However, circumcision has been fulfilled in Jesus.—**Col. 2:17**

By insisting on circumcision for salvation, these teachers were denying this truth.

So, *why was Paul so troubled about this teaching?*

C_____ C_____ THE C_____ OF C_____

It undermined the g_____ of G_____ in the cross of Christ.

It nullified the sufficiency [**John 19:30**] of the ...*blood of Jesus*... as God's only means of our salvation.

And like every work of man, it undermined the grace of God in the death of Jesus.