

Eating Blood Forbidden

“1 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, 2 Speak unto Aaron, and unto his sons, and unto all the children of Israel, and say unto them; This is the thing which the LORD hath commanded, saying, 3 What man soever there be of the house of Israel, that killeth an ox, or lamb, or goat, in the camp, or that killeth it out of the camp, 4 And bringeth it not unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, to offer an offering unto the LORD before the tabernacle of the LORD; blood shall be imputed unto that man; he hath shed blood; and that man shall be cut off from among his people: 5 To the end that the children of Israel may bring their sacrifices, which they offer in the open field, even that they may bring them unto the LORD, unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, unto the priest, and offer them for peace offerings unto the LORD. 6 And the priest shall sprinkle the blood upon the altar of the LORD at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, and burn the fat for a sweet savour unto the LORD. 7 And they shall no more offer their sacrifices unto devils, after whom they have gone a whoring. This shall be a statute for ever unto them throughout their generations. 8 And thou shalt say unto them, Whatsoever man there be of the house of Israel, or of the strangers which sojourn among you, that offereth a burnt offering or sacrifice, 9 And bringeth it not unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, to offer it unto the LORD; even that man shall be cut off from among his people. 10 And whatsoever man there be of the house of Israel, or of the strangers that sojourn among you, that eateth any manner of blood; I will even set my face against that soul that eateth blood, and will cut him off from among his people. 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. 12 Therefore I said unto the children of Israel, No soul of you shall eat blood, neither shall any stranger that sojourneth among you eat blood. 13 And whatsoever man there be of the children of Israel, or of the strangers that sojourn among you, which hunteth and catcheth any beast or fowl that may be eaten; he shall even pour out the blood thereof, and cover it with dust. 14 For it is the life of all flesh; the blood of it is for the life thereof: therefore I said unto the children of Israel, Ye shall eat the blood of no manner of flesh: for the life of all flesh is the blood thereof: whosoever eateth it shall be cut off.” (Leviticus 17:1-14 KJV)

People cultures and habits vary from place to place and from country to country. The people habits and cultures vary in the way they eat, dress, speak, and the way they conduct their affairs. One of these food habits that we will deal with here is eating blood.

We need to understand why eating blood is forbidden and why God did not allow us to eat blood. In the above passage that we read God commanded all the Israelites not to sacrifice any animal outside the camp but to bring them to the priests at the entrance to the tent of meeting and sacrifice them there to the Lord, ***“5 To the end that the children of Israel may bring their sacrifices, which they offer in the open field, even that they may bring them unto the LORD, unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, unto the priest, and offer them for peace offerings unto the LORD. 6 And the priest shall sprinkle the blood upon the altar of the LORD at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, and burn the fat for a sweet savour unto the LORD.” (Leviticus 17:5-6 KJV)*** So the Lord wanted His people to bring the animals and sacrifice them to Him and not to idols, demons or other gods when they sacrifice them away from the tent of meeting, the tabernacle of the congregation. The blood of the animal must be sprinkled on the altar of the Lord; that is why they needed to come to the

entrance of the tent of meeting and sacrifice the animals there and not do it in the open field because that sacrifice should be to the Lord.

Why God is asking that the blood should be brought and sprinkled on the altar? Because the blood God had given to make atonement, ***“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.” (Leviticus 17:11 KJV)***

Therefore now we clearly understand why eating blood is forbidden, because life is in the blood and blood was given to make atonement. ***“10 And whatsoever man there be of the house of Israel, or of the strangers that sojourn among you, that eateth any manner of blood; I will even set my face against that soul that eateth blood, and will cut him off from among his people.” (Leviticus 17:10 KJV)***

God had said the same to Noah when God gave him the permission and allowed him to eat the flesh of the moving things, that he should eat the flesh without blood, ***“1 And God blessed Noah and his sons, and said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth. 2 And the fear of you and the dread of you shall be upon every beast of the earth, and upon every fowl of the air, upon all that moveth upon the earth, and upon all the fishes of the sea; into your hand are they delivered. 3 Every moving thing that liveth shall be meat for you; even as the green herb have I given you all things. 4 But flesh with the life thereof, which is the blood thereof, shall ye not eat.” (Genesis 9:1-4 KJV)***

At the time of King Saul the people sinned against the Lord because they were so hungry and for the whole day they were fasting and so at the evening the time they break their fast they slaughtered the cattle and they sinned against God by eating meat that had blood in it. ***“31 And they smote the Philistines that day from Michmash to Aijalon: and the people were very faint. 32 And the people flew upon the spoil, and took sheep, and oxen, and calves, and slew them on the ground: and the people did eat them with the blood. 33 Then they told Saul, saying, Behold, the people sin against the LORD, in that they eat with the blood. And he said, Ye have transgressed: roll a great stone unto me this day. 34 And Saul said, Disperse yourselves among the people, and say unto them, Bring me hither every man his ox, and every man his sheep, and slay them here, and eat; and sin not against the LORD in eating with the blood. And all the people brought every man his ox with him that night, and slew them there.” (1 Samuel 14:31-34 KJV)*** Saul when he heard the people were eating blood with the flesh, he asked them to roll a great stone and sent and called the people to come and slaughter their oxen and sheep on the stone so their blood can be drained out as the animal is hanged upside down to ensure that they will not eat flesh with the blood, and in such was to keep the commandment of God.

Shedding blood is important for the atonement and forgiveness of sins as we can read, ***“18 Whereupon neither the first testament was dedicated without blood. 19 For when Moses had spoken every precept to all the people according to the law, he took the blood of calves and of goats, with water, and scarlet wool, and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book, and all the people, 20 Saying, This is the blood of the testament which God hath enjoined unto you. 21 Moreover he sprinkled with blood both the tabernacle, and all the vessels of the ministry. 22 And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.” (Hebrews 9:18-22 KJV)*** ***“4 For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins. 5 Wherefore when he cometh into the***

world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared me: 6 In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin thou hast had no pleasure. 7 Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God. 8 Above when he said, Sacrifice and offering and burnt offerings and offering for sin thou wouldest not, neither hadst pleasure therein; which are offered by the law; 9 Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second. 10 By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.” (Hebrews 10:4-10 KJV) “11 But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building; 12 Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.” (Hebrews 9:11-12 KJV)

From the above Scriptures we can grasp the importance of blood for the atonement and the forgiveness of sins and how finally God sent His Son Jesus Christ to shed His blood for the forgiveness of our sins and to give us eternal redemption. And this is what the Lord said at the last super, *“20 Likewise also the cup after supper, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you.” (Luke 22:20 KJV)*

But some may say that Christ declared that all food is clean and we can eat blood as we can read here: *“14 And when he had called all the people unto him, he said unto them, Hearken unto me every one of you, and understand: 15 There is nothing from without a man, that entering into him can defile him: but the things which come out of him, those are they that defile the man. 16 If any man have ears to hear, let him hear. 17 And when he was entered into the house from the people, his disciples asked him concerning the parable. 18 And he saith unto them, Are ye so without understanding also? Do ye not perceive, that whatsoever thing from without entereth into the man, it cannot defile him; 19 Because it entereth not into his heart, but into the belly, and goeth out into the draught, purging all meats?” (Mark 7:14-19 KJV)* But one important point here; blood is not food and Jesus was speaking to the Jewish and He was telling them to consider the list of unclean meat as clean and they can eat. This list of unclean meat we can read in *Leviticus 11:1-47* and in *Deuteronomy 14:1-20*. But Jesus never meant here eating blood is allowed because blood was never been considered as food. Even for their sacrifices the blood needed to be drained out completely from the beasts that were offered after being slaughtered as we can read in many Scriptures in the book of Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy. They were to collect the blood from the beasts that was offered and to sprinkle it on the altar, *“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.” (Leviticus 17:11 KJV)*

In addition to what Jesus said there are other Scripture in the New Testament that forbid eating blood. The apostles of Jesus recommended to the churches of the Gentiles to abstain from eating blood as we can read below:

1. “19 Wherefore my sentence is, that we trouble not them, which from among the Gentiles are turned to God: 20 But that we write unto them, that they abstain from pollutions of idols, and from fornication, and from things strangled, and from blood.” (Acts 15:19-20 KJV)

2. “28 For it seemed good to the Holy Ghost, and to us, to lay upon you no greater burden than these necessary things; 29 That ye abstain from meats offered to idols, and from blood, and from things strangled, and from fornication: from which if ye keep yourselves, ye shall do well. Fare ye well. ” (Acts 15:28-29 KJV)

3. “25 As touching the Gentiles which believe, we have written and concluded that they observe no such thing, save only that they keep themselves from things offered to idols, and from blood, and from strangled, and from fornication.” (Acts 21:25 KJV)

My Dear and Beloved: We can see clearly the early church was adopting the teaching of not eating blood and that is what we need to do and practice in our lives. The time had come to you that you need to repent of such sin and stop ingesting blood. The time had come to you that you need to go and teach others, to share with them the message and to admonish them not to eat blood.

Let us pray . . .

My Prayer: Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins and rose from the dead on the third day to give me eternal life. Lord thank you for the blood of Jesus that shed on the cross for the forgiveness of our sins. Lord thank you for your Word that teaches us not to eat blood. Lord thank you for all the material and spiritual blessings that we had received from you. Lord thank you for all the teaching, the corrections and the admonishments that we received in this message.

Come now to God and confess and renounce all your sins. Confess and renounce your bad habit of eating animal's blood. Confess and renounce your worldliness, and your love for money and material things. Repent of your non willingness to comply with God and His instruction and the instruction of the church that God had placed you in. Confuse and renounce your pride and your arrogance. Repent of your boasting and showing off. Confess and renounce your stubbornness and your delay obedience. Confess and renounce your abuse for the grace of God and your abuse to others and taking advantage of them. Confess and renounce your idols and your involvement in feasts offered to idols. Confess and renounce your hatred, revenge, un-forgiveness, grudge and bitterness. Confess and renounce your lust, and your sexual immoralities. Confess and renounce your yoke with non believers, and in bondage with the Media, News and games. Confess and renounce your bad stewardship, your bad example and your non willingness to serve God and suffer for Him. Lord forgive me, I repent of the following sins _____.

Lord forgives me my sin in eating the blood of animal. Today I commit myself to abstain from eating blood and to teach others not to eat blood in accordance to your Word commands. Lord fill me with the Holy Spirit and lead me to go and serve you. Lord protect me, provide my needs and help me to be a good testimony to others to follow you. This is my prayer in Jesus name Amen.

Lord thank you for my Brothers and Sisters who repented of their sins, and who responded to the teaching of your Word in this message and renounce eating blood and are willing to abide with your Word and your will in their lives. Lord continue to cleanse them from their sins and lead them to live according to your plans. Lord protect them and provide for them to continue

to do your works. Lord fill them with the Holy Spirit and use them to serve you and make them good example to others to follow you.

Lord, bless us as your church. Lord we commit ourselves to live in obedience to your Word that we received in this message. Lord protect us and guide us to continue to go and teach your Word to your people. Lord we ask you to refill us with the Holy Spirit and give us the spiritual gifts that we need to go on and evangelize, and make new disciples and train new workers to go and plant more Bible studies and congregations for the church. Lord we pray for more people to be water baptized and receive the Holy Spirit baptism. Lord prepare us for your coming that when you come we are ready to go with you. Lord fulfill the vision of the church, 'Multiplication in peace with implementing the whole will of God.' Lord bless us, enlarge our territory, let your hand be with us and free us from harm so that we will not feel pain. May the grace of the Lord Jesus and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all in Jesus name, Amen.

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