

BFF369 Power of the Blood of Jesus

Scott Moore: Welcome to the "Building Faith Families" podcast with Steve Demme. I'm your host Scott Moore. Thanks for joining us today. Good morning Steve. How are you?

Steve: I am awake. How are you?

Scott: I am fantastic.

Steve: Tell me why you're fantastic and why it's a big day. That was a good lead-in.

Scott: Henry is coming home.

Steve: I almost cried there when you said that.

Scott: Yeah, me too. They're on their way to the hospital, as we speak, to pick him up and bring him home. Thank you all for praying. It has been a long, long four months and five days, but Hallelujah.

Steve: How big is he?

Scott: I don't have the exact weight, but he's over five pounds now. He was one pound three ounces when he was born.

Steve: Thank You Father for helping Henry. Thank You for helping John. Thank You for being near to us when we needed You. Thank You for sustaining Scott's family, and all that Abby and William have gone through, and the grandparents and all the siblings and everybody. Thank You for the excellent care. Thank You for showing up so strong on behalf of that little guy. In Jesus' name. Now bless us as we contemplate You and Your ways and Your will and Your purposes. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Scott: Amen.

Steve: Well, I just got back from Richmond, Home School conference. I have to share one unique event that happened. Got your seat belt buckled on? Those of you that have been listening to the podcast will know this, but it's good review for those who are new. My life transforming journey began in 2011 when I was in Alaska speaking on Deuteronomy 6:7 about teaching your children diligently and doing it all the time, which led me to home school and to family worship. That was a major verse in our family's construction, you might put it.

After that talk a woman came up to me and said, "Why do you leave out the two previous verses?" I looked them up, and they are Deuteronomy 6:5 and 6, which say, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength," which is the verse that Jesus quoted in Matthew 22, "And these words which I command you this day shall be on your heart."

As I read those verses, a light bulb went off in my mind, "It makes so much sense. God is so smart, His order in arranging Scripture is amazing. I saw that before I can teach my children to love God and His word, I need to love God and His word."

In the back of my mind another thought emerged, do I love God with all my heart?, "I remembered that there were believers in the church in Ephesus in Revelation 2 that were Christians who had done a whole bunch of good stuff, but they'd lost their first love." I didn't want to be in that group.

I took these inspired words to heart, and began asking God to help me to love Him with all my heart, soul, mind, and strength. I knew God would answer my prayer because it's according to His will. 1 John 5:14-15, "This is the confidence that we have toward Him, that if we ask anything according to His will He hears us. And if we know that He hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of Him."

God did answer but I'm not going to go into the details. About a year and a half ago, the Holy Spirit made me know that when I asked Him to help me to love Him with everything in me, I had opened the door. Remember the church in Laodicea, mentioned in Revelation 3:20, "Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with Me." He was talking to believers, not unbelievers. He was talking to people that knew Him, but He wanted to know them deeper. That's how I read it.

So here I am on Saturday morning, at the conference, standing at my booth. The keynote went a little long, so people slow coming to the exhibit hall. I turned and a woman walks up to me. She says, "Do you remember me?" and I'm pretty good with faces. I looked at her and I said, "I kind of do, but refresh my memory."

She said, "The first time we met was on a bench in Kenya." I said, "That had to be '04, '05." She says, "Yeah, it was '04. You were helping me with my son and how I could teach him math more effectively." I said, "Then you moved." She said, "Yeah. We moved to Alaska." She was the one that asked me that question. I have not seen her since 2011.

Scott: Wow.

Steve: I had just completed my notes for the commencement speech for later that afternoon and had sent them to be printed. I had written about this experience in Alaska and there at my booth is the woman responsible, 12 years later. Isn't that amazing?

Scott: That's cool. Yeah.

Steve: I looked at her, and I said, "Do you have a minute?" She says, "I do." I said, "Have a seat."

Steve: Then I relayed to her, all that God had done as a result of that conversation. She was the one that God used to begin my remarkable journey in 2011. This was an amazing experience of God showing up. I don't know how else to say it.

Scott: That's awesome.

Steve: Now, let's get into our subject on spiritual warfare. One of the verses that is very important is 2 Corinthians 10:3-5, "Though we walk (live) in the flesh, we are not carrying on our warfare according to the flesh and using mere human weapons. For the weapons of our warfare are not physical (weapons of flesh and blood), but they are mighty before God for the overthrow and destruction of strongholds. We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ."

As I'm praying in my own prayer times, I often quote that scripture before I confront the devil, who's called the deceiver of the whole world because he's messing with people's minds. Another verse says that he's the liar and the father of lies. It's important that we have weapons to overthrow his lies and his deceptions.

We need to remind ourselves that we also have weapons. We have the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. That is a powerful weapon. We have the shield of faith, that's a weapon. One of the weapons I want to talk about today, is the blood of Jesus.

I'm going to read a whole pile of scriptures. Sit back and be edified. I can't help myself from some commentary, but I'm doing the best I can to read it. Exodus 12:5, and verses 12–13, is one of the first times that we're introduced to the blood of Jesus. This is right before the Passover when the children of Israel were about to exit Egypt. "Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male, a year old. I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast, and on all the gods of Egypt, I will execute judgments. I am Jehovah. The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you are, and when I see the blood, I will pass over you. No plague will befall you to destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

Then Exodus 12:21–23, "Moses called all the elders of Israel together and said to them, 'Go, pick out a lamb or young goat for each of your families, and slaughter the Passover animal. Drain the blood into a basin. Then take a bundle of hyssop branches and dip it into the blood. Brush the hyssop across the top and sides of the doorframes of your houses. And no one may go out through the door until morning. For Jehovah will pass through the land to strike down the Egyptians. But when he sees the blood on the top and sides of the doorframe, Jehovah will pass over your home. He will not permit his death angel to enter your house and strike you down.'"

It's an incredible picture of what the blood of Jesus does for us even to this day. When the devil, who right now has the power of death on the Earth, sees the blood, he passes over us. He has no more power over us.

Now Leviticus 3:6–8. "If his offering for a sacrifice a peace offering to Jehovah is an animal from the flock, male or female, he shall offer it without blemish. If he offers a lamb, then he shall offer it before Jehovah. He shall lay his hands on the head of his offering and kill it before the tent of meeting." There's a picture of our sacrifice, and we have our hands on its head, what a picture, of this offering, when it is killed for us.

2 Corinthians 5:21. "He made Him who knew no sin, to be sin on our behalf," just like that lamb, "So that we might become the righteousness of God in Him."

Hebrews 9:14. "By the power of the eternal Spirit, Christ offered Himself to God as a perfect sacrifice for our sins."

Hebrews 10:12–14. "When He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, He sat down at the right hand of God, henceforth, expecting till His enemies be made the footstool

under His feet, or by that one offering He forever made perfect those who are being made holy."

That's a great verse and I have not dug into the Hebrew enough but I loved the mixing of tenses there, because, by one offering, he forever made, past tense, perfect. Then it goes on to say, "Those who are being made holy or being sanctified." We are forever made perfect by that sacrifice, but we are still being made into His likeness. We are still being transformed into His image while we're here on this Earth.

If you have to read one verse in the book of Leviticus, this is my choice, Leviticus 17:11, "The life of the body is in its blood. I have given you the blood on the altar to purify you, making atonement for your souls. It is the blood given in exchange for a life that makes purification possible."

As the Gospel song says, "There is power in the blood." The reason there's power in the blood, there is life in the blood. "The life of the body is in its blood," which is why there's so much teaching about the blood, etc.

Hebrews 9:22, 26, "Without the shedding of blood, there is no forgiveness of sins. Now, once for all time, Jesus has appeared at the end of the age to remove sin by His own death as a sacrifice."

Matthew 26:27-28, "Drink from it, all of you, for this is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for forgiveness of sins."

John 1:7, 9, "If we walk in the Light as He is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin. ... If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

Psalms 51:1-2, "Have mercy on me, O God. According to Your steadfast love, according to Your abundant mercy, blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin."

Isaiah 1:18, "'Come now and let us reason together,' says Jehovah. 'Though your sins are as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow, though they are red like crimson, they will be like wool.'"

Hebrews 10:22, "Our guilty consciences have been sprinkled with Christ's blood to make us clean, and our bodies have been washed with pure water."

Today our focus is on the weapons at our disposal. The first passage in 2 Corinthians 10 mentions weapons to deal with our thinking and thoughts. Not being deceived or believing lies but believing the truth. 2 Corinthians 10:3 says, "The weapons of our warfare are mighty before God for the overthrow and destruction of strongholds."

Our guilty consciences have been cleansed, changed, and transformed, because they've been sprinkled with Christ's blood. Revelation 1:5. "Jesus Christ is the faithful witness, the first to rise from the dead, and the ruler of all the kings of the world. All glory to Him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by shedding His blood for us."

Romans 5:8–9. "God shows His love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since therefore we have now been justified by His blood, how much more shall we be saved by Him from the wrath of God?"

Hebrews 13:12. "Jesus also suffered outside the gate. In order to sanctify the people through His own blood."

Hebrews 10:10. "God's will was for us to be made holy by the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all time." Powerful verse. His will for us is to be made holy so we can pray according to His will, and He will make us holy.

Hebrews 10:12–14, "When he had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, He sat down at the right hand of God henceforth, expecting till His enemies be made the footstool under His feet. For by that one offering, He forever made perfect those who are being made holy."

1 Peter 1:18–20, "God paid a ransom to save you from the empty life you inherited from your ancestors, and the ransom He paid was not mere gold or silver, it was the precious blood of Christ. The sinless, spotless Lamb of God. God chose Him as your ransom long before the world began, but He has now revealed Him to you in these last days." There is so much packed into that one verse.

Ephesians 1:7, "He is so rich in kindness and grace that He purchased our freedom with the blood of his Son and forgave our sins."

Revelation 5:9, "You are worthy to take the scroll and break its seals and open it for you were slaughtered. Your blood has ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation."

Colossians 1:19–20. "God in all His fullness was pleased to live in Christ and through Him, God reconciled everything to Himself."

I could have stopped after reading each one of these passages and point out that in every place, He is overthrowing what the devil has done and He's putting new things in its place. Instead of discord, which is what the devil brings, and division, In their place, God is creating restoration and renewal.

Let me read it again. "God in all His fullness was pleased to live in Christ and through Him, God reconciled everything to Himself. He made peace with everything in heaven and on earth by means of Christ's blood on the cross."

Ephesians 2:13. "You have been united with Christ Jesus. Once you were far away from God but now you have been brought near to Him through the blood of Christ." The purpose of Calvary to bring us near to God.

Revelation 7:14, "They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

This is something that people in the future will be doing. This blood that was shed on Calvary is still flowing. It's still an effective life-giving stream. These people figured out that they have to be white and thus they washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. That is the only way you get white robes. It's the only way

that you become clean. It's the only way that we can be reconciled to God is through the blood of the Lamb.

He is the way, the truth, and the life. Nobody comes to the Father except through Him and through His blood. This is an active thing.

I'm going to give a little bit of time to the devil. "The Son of God was manifested to destroy the works of the devil." That's in 1 John 3:8.

1 John 5:19 says, "We know that we are from God and the whole world lies in the power of the evil one."

Hebrews 2:14–17, "Since the children share in flesh and blood, He himself likewise also partook of the same that through death, He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is the devil, and might free those who through fear of death were subject to slavery all their lives. For assuredly, He does not give help to angels, but He gives help to the descendant of Abraham. Therefore, He had to be made like His brethren in all things so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God to make propitiation for the sins of the people."

I have to read one part of that passage one more time. "Through death, He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is the devil, and might free those." We just read a whole bunch of verses about being cleansed, about being purchased, about being ransomed, about being sanctified.

Jesus also died and shed His blood to destroy the works of the devil.

Here's the final verse, Revelation 12:10–11, "I heard a loud voice shouting across the heavens. It has come at last, salvation and power and the kingdom of our God, and the authority of His Christ, for the accuser of our brothers and sisters has been thrown down to Earth. The one who accuses them before our God, day and night. They have defeated him by the blood of the Lamb and by their testimony, and they did not love their lives so much that they were afraid to die."

They defeated him by the blood of the Lamb.

I think it's important that you get the whole scope of scripture that chronicle the blood of Jesus, since the beginning, has repeatedly defeated the powers of Egypt and the power of the devil.

In one sense the devil is already a beaten foe because Jesus died and rose from the dead. Done. In another sense, there's still an ongoing battle which we're still aware of and we have been given weapons and one of the weapons we have is the blood of Jesus. Sometimes I have been in prayer meetings when people would begin to say, whether it's a demonic influence that they're concerned about, or some spiritual battle in somebody's family, or some spiritual battle in somebody's mind. They'll simply say, "The blood of Jesus. The blood of Jesus. The blood of Jesus."

They'll keep swinging their sword of the Spirit with this phrase. Lest anybody is thinking that this sounds like vain repetition, it could be, but when the Spirit quickens a particular phrase, you can sense in the spirit when you're battling something and you want to keep hitting it until it gives way.

Consider Elijah in 2 Kings 13:17–19 (Elisha) said, “Open the window eastward,” and he opened it. Then Elisha said, “Shoot,” and he shot. And he said, “Jehovah’s arrow of victory, the arrow of victory over Syria! For you shall fight the Syrians in Aphek until you have made an end of them.” And he said, “Take the arrows,” and he took them. And he said to the king of Israel, “Strike the ground with them.” And he struck three times and stopped. Then the man of God was angry with him and said, “You should have struck five or six times; then you would have struck down Syria until you had made an end of it, but now you will strike down Syria only three times.”

Sometimes we have to keep smiting and keep hitting and keep wielding the weapons that God gives us until we sense that we have gotten through in our spirit. I've done that sometimes. When I don't know what to pray sometimes I'll say, "The name of Jesus. The name of Jesus." Sometimes I'll say, "The blood of Jesus. The blood of Jesus." The blood of Jesus is a powerful weapon. We can defeat the devil by the blood of the Lamb and by our testimony, which I'm not going to go into now, but we can defeat him by the blood of the Lamb.

Steve: Father cleanse us afresh in the blood of Jesus. Thank you that David appealed for the cleanness from the hyssop just like was done the same expression that hyssop was found in the book of Exodus. Thank You that even Isaiah, though your sins are awful, they shall be as white as snow. Though they be red like crimson, they shall be white because of Jesus.

They were touching it from afar but we now have experienced and we have seen that Jesus did die and His blood was shed for our sins. We read about the efficacy and the power of the blood to restore us, to ransom us, to make atonement, etc. We also are having our eyes open perhaps for the first time to the power of the blood of Jesus. Help us to learn how to wield it in the spirit.

When we don't know what to pray, we can always appeal to the blood of Jesus. I apply the blood of Jesus now to our listeners, to their thinking. Deliver us from false thinking. Deliver us from any strongholds in our mind from the blood of Jesus. Deliver our families from evil. Deliver us from the effects of the world of flesh and the devil in our own homes, in our culture. We know that someday every knee is going to bow and every tongue confess.

That means all these strongholds will be taken care of. We know that we're going to do it because of the blood of Jesus. We do it today and we believe for it so that someday, we're going to see the impact of our faith mixed with Your blood to see this world clean. Totally clean. A ball of blue. In Jesus name, amen.

Scott: Amen. That's our show for this week folks. Thanks for joining us for the Building Faith Families podcast with Steve Demme. If you have a question for the show, email Steve at spdemme@gmail.com. If you have a question for me, you can reach me at scott@unsocializedmedia.com. Thanks for joining us. Have a great week.