

## BFF401 Jesus our Propitiation

**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 today?

**Steve:** I am well. I have had three days to recuperate from our conference. How are you?

**Scott:** I'm recuperating from being sick.

**Steve:** Oh, no.

**Scott:** It's fine. It's not that terrible. It's just one of those ones that makes life annoying, but you can still do everything.

**Steve:** I totally get it. I had it for a couple of weeks. Good days, bad days, off, on. I could still function, but barely. I'm sorry.

**Scott:** I'm doing better than barely, so it's pretty good. As the illnesses go, this one's fine. I don't need to gripe about it.

**Steve:** We had our first midwinter conference since COVID. It was awesome. We started planning it in the fall and two and a half weeks ago, I thought I was going to lose my shirt. Then, a whole bunch of people signed up. We met Friday and Saturday in Lancaster, Pennsylvania and it was encouraging and edifying.

**Steve:** We began by connecting with God and each other. I asked everyone to stand up and find two other people that they don't know. I had already passed out a handout with questions to ask each other, such as "How many children are you homeschooling? What was one of your highlights since September? What's one of your challenges?" Each person did it.

When I read the feedback forms it was the introverts saying, "I really liked the connecting part because I made a friend."

**Scott:** Cool.

**Steve:** After connecting with each other, we drew near to God based on the principles of Psalm 100. We made a joyful noise, sang a hymn, and gave thanks to God. We praised His name based on one of His character qualities.

We did two of those pages and while we were each blessed God showed up. The whole atmosphere was sweet from beginning to end because we put God first. I'm hoping all conferences will do this because these principles work.

This is not a liturgy where you go through the motions, but Psalm 100 says, "If you will come into My presence, this way, I will meet with you." He met with us and it was evident. We had workshops from 9:00 to 5:00 on Friday, and again on Saturday. To me, the highlight was connecting with God and getting to connect with other people.

**Scott:** Very cool.

**Steve:** Then I crashed Saturday night. I came home and made it to bed. Sunday was not too bad, as I took another nap and then grandkids came. I got a really good night's sleep Sunday and Monday, caught up a little bit and here I am Tuesday. Now, I'm ready to sing a song to start. Are you ready?

**Scott:** Let's do it.

**Steve:** Arise, my soul, arise, shake off your guilty fears, the bleeding sacrifice in my behalf appears. Before the throne my surety stands. Before the throne my surety stands. My name is written on His hands.

I'm going to read the next four verses. "Five bleeding wounds He bears, received on Calvary. They pour effectual prayers. They strongly plead for me. 'Forgive him, O forgive,' they cry, 'Nor let that ransomed sinner die.'

"The father hears Him pray, His dear anointed one. He cannot turn away the presence of His son. His Spirit answers to the blood and tells me, 'I am born of God. I have been reconciled.' His pardoning voice I hear. He owns me for His child.

"I can no longer fear. With confidence I now draw nigh, and, 'Father, Abba, Father,' cry. He ever lives above, for me to intercede, His all-redeeming love, His precious blood to plead. His blood atoned for all our race and sprinkles now the throne of grace."

Isn't that amazing? I sing this song a lot because we all have guilty fears. We deal with guilt. We deal with shame because of sin, but the Lamb of God appears with our names written on His hands.

"There are five bleeding wounds crying out to God. 'Forgive Him. Don't let this ransomed sinner die.' The Father hears the blood, and His Spirit answers to the blood and tells me, 'I am born of God. I've been reconciled. He owns me for His child. His blood continues to plead for me.'"

Let's pray. Father, thank You for Your blood that spoke once and speaks all the time. Thank You for the living, powerful gospel that we have participated in and are participating in. Bless us today as we consider You. In Jesus' name. Amen.

**Scott:** Amen.

**Steve:** Let me tell you about my big revelation yesterday. I was seeking God. I was outside. It was 60 degrees and an abnormally warm day. I thought of these different aspects of God and I had one thought that kept going over and over in my mind. These transactions that God has done for us are one-time and all-time. We know that He offered one sacrifice for sin, once. He doesn't have to keep going back into the tabernacle. He doesn't have to keep offering Himself up. It's a once-and-done. However, there are people in Revelation that are still washing their robes in the blood of the Lamb. He has appeared once for all to take away sin. The Lamb of God was

slain, taking away the sins of the world, and still the blood is working. It's effective. Does this make sense?

**Scott:** Yeah.

**Steve:** I'm going to read several passages from the New Testament. We started this series of podcasts in Genesis and Exodus. We went through Leviticus. We read Hebrews. We've read from the gospels. Now we're going to talk about the appearance of the blood in Paul's writing, in John's writing, in Peter's writing.

Everyone has sinned. Romans 3:23, "We all fall short of God's glorious standard. Yet God, with undeserved kindness, declares that we are righteous. He did this through Christ Jesus when He freed us from the penalty of our sins.

"For God presented Jesus as the sacrifice for sin. People are made right with God or justified when they believe that Jesus sacrificed His life, shedding His blood. This sacrifice shows that God was being fair when He held back and did not punish those who sinned in times past, for He was looking ahead and including them in what He would do in this present time.

"God did this to demonstrate His righteousness, for He Himself is fair and just, and He declares sinners to be right in His sight when they believe in Jesus."

There is so much packed into here. I like this newer translation, for it helps us to grasp these difficult concepts. The first one is that God is righteous, and when we sin, we deserve to die. We need someone to die in our place. Jesus sacrificed His life. He shed His blood.

Now God holds back and doesn't punish us for our sins. The fancy word for this is to appease, to assuage, to reconcile, to give a propitiation. This propitiation, this word is amazing because it encompasses both components. There is wrath towards sin for "The soul that sins shall die."

There is also reconciliation towards God. His Son did what nobody else could do in Heaven or in Earth. The Lamb of God that was slain for our sins, assuaged and appeased His wrath and brought us to God. We have been justified.

Romans 5:8–11, "God showed His great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners. Since we have been made right in God's sight by the blood of Christ, He will certainly save us from God's condemnation.

"For since our friendship with God was restored by the death of His Son while we were still His enemies, we will certainly be saved through the life of His Son, and now we can rejoice in our wonderful new relationship with God because our Lord Jesus Christ has made us friends of God.

His wrath has been appeased and assuaged. Our condemnation has been cared for because of the blood. Notice the phrases "friendship with God restored." We were

enemies at one point, and now we have a wonderful restored relationship. We were enemies, now we are friends of God.

### **His blood purchased us.**

I'm going to focus on a couple of verses about this. Acts 20:28, Paul says to the elders, "Guard yourselves and God's people. Feed and shepherd God's flock. His church purchased with His own blood, over which the Holy Spirit has appointed you as elders."

His blood made all the difference because the prince of the power of this air, the god of this world, owned us after we'd sinned and were condemned to die. His blood paid the price and bought us.

Ephesians 1:4–7, "Even before He made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in His eyes. God decided in advance to adopt us into His own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ.

"This is what He wanted to do, and it gave Him great pleasure, so we praise God for the glorious grace He has poured out on us who belong to His dear Son. He is so rich in kindness and grace that He purchased our freedom with the blood of His Son and forgave our sins." When He purchased us, He brought us near.

1 John 2:2, "He is the propitiation for our sins and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world."

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."

Colossians 1:19–22, "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.

"This includes you who once were far away from God. You were His enemies separated from Him by your evil thoughts and actions. Yet now He has reconciled you to Himself through the death of Christ in His physical body. As a result, He has brought you into His own presence. You are holy and blameless as you stand before Him without a single fault." That is powerful.

### **His Blood paid our Ransom**

"You know that God paid a ransom to save you from the empty life you inherited from your ancestors. 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." (1 Peter 1:18–20)

Revelation 5:6, "I saw a Lamb that looked as if it had been slaughtered."

Revelation 5:9, "You are worthy to take the scroll and break its seals and open it, for You were slaughtered and Your blood has ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation." This blood not only restores us and ransoms us, and pays for our sins and reconciles us to God, this blood purifies us.

1 John 1:7, "If we are living in the light as God is in the light, then we have fellowship with each other, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin."

Revelation 1:5, "Jesus Christ is the faithful witness to these things. 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."

Revelation 7:14, "These are the ones who died in the great tribulation. They have washed their robes in the blood of the Lamb and made them white." Not only does this blood wash us from sin, reconcile us to God, justify us, it overcomes the devil.

Revelation 12:10–11, "I heard a loud voice shouting across the heavens, 'It has come at last, salvation and power in 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.'" It blesses me just doing the homework on this. It blesses me reading these passages. It blesses me believing these passages. My blessed co-host, what do you think?

**Scott:** I already took a shower today. However, I feel like my soul just got a bath.

**Steve:** Amen.

**Scott:** I can't know how else to describe it. I love reading the Old Testament and there's lots of great stuff. We can find Jesus there. It's beautiful. When I need to be reminded of this stuff, man, I listen to this podcast again. Just hearing you read all those verses, like, "Oh my gosh," I feel this weight lifting. I just want to praise God.

**Steve:** Amen. You're going to make me cry because I feel the same way. There's power in the blood of Jesus and reading about it. We know faith comes from hearing and hearing by the word of Christ, but these passages that God has brought together here are just astounding. I don't know if I want to wreck it with a song, but I have to.

**Steve:** For nothing good have I, whereby Thy grace to claim, I'll wash my garments white in the blood of Calvary's lamb. Jesus paid it all, all to Him, I owe, sin had left a crimson stain, He washed it white as snow.

**Scott:** Amen.

**Steve:** Isn't that awesome?

**Scott:** I love that song.

**Steve:** There's so many songs. "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded," I was thinking of the song, "There's Power in the Blood." They're rich. They're Biblically based. That's the point. They're not just hopeful. They are truthful.

Father, thank You. Thank You. Thank You. Thank You. We're going to have an eternity to give thanks to You. I'm looking forward to it. I don't think it's going to be tiring. I don't think it's going to be repetitive. Our eyes are going to continue to be opened to the majesty and the power and the long, far-reaching implications of the blood of Jesus.

That was the event that has changed history. That is the event that broke the power of the devil, and that death of Jesus on the cross when the water and the blood poured from His being. That spelled not only our salvation and new rebirth and hope, but it also spelled the end of death and the end of the devil.

You were manifested, You were revealed to destroy the works of the devil. Someday, You're going to wipe away every tear. We won't even know what tears are for or why we even shed them in the past. Thank You for the power of the blood of Jesus.

Thank You for shedding. Thank You, Father, for watching it happen. Thank You, Spirit, for helping Jesus to give His life for our sins. We worship You today 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](mailto:spdemme@gmail.com). If you have a question for me, you can reach me at [scott@unsocializedmedia.com](mailto:scott@unsocializedmedia.com). Thanks for joining us. Have a great week.