Atonement

1 And the LORD called unto Moses, and spake unto him out of the tabernacle of the congregation, saying,
2 Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, If any man of you bring an offering unto the LORD, ye shall bring your offering of the cattle, even of the herd, and of the flock.
3 If his offering be a burnt sacrifice of the herd, let him offer a male ***without blemish****: he shall offer it of his own voluntary will at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation before the LORD.*
4 And he shall put his hand upon the head of the burnt offering; and it shall be accepted for him to make atonement for him.
Lev 1:1-4

Have you ever wondered *why* God commanded Israel to offer blood sacrifices to atone for their sins? After all, in Hosea 6:6 He said, "*For* ***I desired*** *mercy,* ***and not sacrifice****; and the knowledge of God* ***more than burnt offerings***". And, in 1 Sam 15:22, the prophet Samuel stated, "*Hath the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices,* ***as in obeying*** *the voice of the LORD? Behold,* ***to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams***". And, in Deut 10:12-13 Moses said, "*And now, Israel,* ***what doth the LORD thy God require of thee****, but to* ***fear the LORD thy God****, to* ***walk in all his ways****, and* ***to love him****, and* ***to serve the LORD thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul, To keep the commandments of the LORD****,* ***and his statutes, which I command thee this day for thy good****?* And, in the book of Micah, the Prophet said…

6 Wherewith shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before the high God? shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves of a year old?
7 Will the LORD be pleased with ***thousands*** *of rams, or with* ***ten thousands*** *of rivers of oil? shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?*
8 He ***hath*** *shewed thee, O man, what is good; and* ***what doth the LORD require of thee****, but to* ***do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God****?*
Mic 6:6-8

So clearly, what our Heavenly Father wants is our *love*. And God's 'love language' is *obedience* to His Laws, Statutes and Judgments (i.e. His Word, John 14:15, 23). And, *before* Jesus Christ shed His blood (Heb 10:10) He also wanted them to give blood sacrifices as well. Of course, He does not want us to do so anymore, because Jesus Christ has *already come* to pay for our sins, *once and for all* (Heb 10:10). But, even before Jesus Christ came, the Scriptures make it clear that, the blood sacrifices *themselves*, were *not really* pleasing to Him. In fact, the blood sacrifices were actually quite *offensive* to Him if they weren't given *sincerely*, as Psalms 50 clearly points

out [https://t.me/BibleStudyBooks_Psalms/592]. Thus, it has *always* been our sincere love, ***and*** *obedience*, that *really* pleases our Heavenly Father. So again, *why* did He command them to offer blood sacrifices? Because, sin *has* to be atoned for *in some way*. In the Hebrew, the word '**atonement**' means ***to cover*** and, figuratively, it means ***to expiate*** or ***condone***, to ***placate*** or ***cancel*** (#3722). So, in simple terms, it means to 'make amends' with our Heavenly Father. And we *should* want to 'make amends' with Him, for He is our Creator and thus, our *only* source of *eternal* life! And since **He** is the one we *must* please (if we want *eternal* life), that means we *have* to 'make amends' with Him in *the way* that **He** sets forth. And 'the way' He told Israel (*before* Jesus came) to 'make amends' with Him was by giving Him blood sacrifices. As Paul explained, in Heb 9:22, *almost all things are by the law* ***purged with blood****; and* ***without shedding of blood is no remission.*** The word '**remission**' means ***freedom*** or (figuratively) ***pardon*** (#859) and the word '**purged**' means ***to cleanse*** (#2511). So then, *why* did God ask *blood* to be offered for the 'remission' (pardon, i.e. forgiving) and 'purging' (cleansing) of sins (i.e. breaking God's Law)? Well, He actually explained this in the book of Leviticus…

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.*
Lev 17:10-14

So, because the life of our flesh body is 'in the blood', He allowed the blood of *animals* to be given as a *substitute* for **our** blood. Now, our Heavenly Father knows we're not perfect; we all sin at times, no matter *how hard* we might try not to (Rom 3:23). Therefore, He's provided us with a way to have our sins forgiven by Him. And that 'way' is through 'the blood' *because* that's the 'life of the flesh'. But note, the Lord (YHVH) did *not* ask us to shed *our* blood for our sins because, truly, that would be counterproductive. However, even if we did shed our own blood in the flesh (*for* our sins), even *that* wouldn't save our soul and spirit (inner man) from *spiritual* death. Further, we will all die in the flesh someday anyhow (Heb 9:27). So, it is truly *spiritual* death our Heavenly Father is trying to save us from, *because* the death of our *soul and spirit* is permanent (i.e. we'll exist *no more,* Rev 20:10-15). And that's *exactly* **why** God sent His

only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, to die ***for* us**. It was not to save us from *physical* death but rather, from *spiritual* death of our soul (spiritual body) and spirit (heart and mind). So then, because the blood of animals cannot truly atone for our sins – and not even the blood of our own flesh body could atone for the sins of our *soul and spirit*… that means we need *another* way to obtain forgiveness from our Heavenly Father.

And that's why the Lord (YHVH) *never* intended blood sacrifices (of animals) as a way of obtaining 'atonement' (i.e. making amends with God) to continue on *forever*. As Paul pointed out, *it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins* (Heb 10:4) and that's why the blood sacrifices were only to be performed ***until*** the One whose blood ***could*** take away (atone for) our sins. As Paul explained in Heb 9:10, those blood sacrifices (and other rituals) were *only* 'imposed' on Israel (*and* the other races who wanted to worship the *true* God, YHVH) *until* the 'time of reformation', which means until the time of *rectification*, i.e. the Messianic *restoration* (#1357). In other words, God gave Israel the blood sacrifices (and other ordinances) to perform (to obtain forgiveness from Him) *until* the **true** Messiah came to shed HIS blood for our sins. And of course, the *true* Messiah has *already* come (i.e. Jesus Christ) and shed His blood (on the cross), which *forever* paid for our sins. You can read the book of Hebrews [https://t.me/BibleStudyBooks_Hebrews/25] (especially chapters 8-10) to get a *very* detailed explanation of this.

So clearly, the blood of animals was only a 'type' of the *real* blood that was to going to be shed for our sins, that is to say, the blood of Jesus Christ. And, to reiterate, until the Messiah came, God *ordained* the blood of animals to be offered. But, the offerings were still *not* accepted unless the offeror was *earnestly* repentant and *truly did* believe in God. And, to truly believe in God, they *also* had to believe in the Savior that God promised to send (Gen 3:15, Deut 18:18-19, etc.). And, God's 'Savior' (Jesus Christ) is actually *what* the sacrificial animals *symbolized*, i.e. they were a 'type' for Jesus Christ's great 'Sacrifice' of His *own* body, for *our* sins. Now, Jesus Christ was the *only* one who ever lived in a flesh body *without* sinning (Heb 4:15, 2 Cor 5:21, 1 Peter 2:22, 1 John 3:5). And that's *why* His blood *could* pay for the sins of the *entire* world (once and for all, Heb 10:10) - for *He had no sin*. As Paul explained, in 2 Cor 5:21, God *hath made him to be sin for us, **who knew no sin**; that we might **be made** the righteousness of God **in him***. Or, said another way, *that **the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit*** (#Rom 8:4). So, to reiterate, even if we did try to pay for our sins with the blood (via death) of our flesh body, it still would *not be enough* to cover the sins of our 'inner man' (i.e. our soul and spirit) because we *all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God* (Rom 3:23). And that's why ***only*** the blood of Jesus Christ can atone for (make amends for) the sins of our 'inner man' (soul and spirit) - for He is the *only* one who is *truly* righteous, because He's the *only* one who is *without sin*. Therefore, it is only *through faith in* Jesus' blood, being able to atone for our sins, that we are forgiven (and justified *freely*) by God's grace. Therefore, it

is our faith in the *righteousness* of Jesus Christ (i.e. that He never sinned) that *causes* God to forgive us for our past sins, as Rom 3:24-26 explains.

So, what this boils down to is that: in order to be forgiven by our Heavenly Father (the one, and only, *true* God), we *must have faith in Him* (YHVH, our Creator) and *the Savior* He has sent us, which **is** Jesus Christ (John 17:3). For it is the *lack of faith* in God's righteousness (or that He even exists at all) that causes people to *rebelliously* sin against Him in the first place, which you can learn more about in the special study on **The Rebellion** [https://t.me/BibleStudyTruth/1288]. And that is *why* it is *so* important to believe that Jesus Christ **is** God's only begotten Son, that He **is** *totally* righteous (without sin), that He *did* die, *and* rose again, and then ascended to heaven to be at God's right hand. For truly, our faith in Jesus Christ *confirms* we truly have faith in the *true* God (YHVH). Why? *Because*, of a truth, ***Jesus Christ is none - other - than God Himself incarnated***, as the studies on **Two Separate People** [https://t.me/BibleStudyGodsWord/460] and **Was Christ Here On Earth Before His Birth** [https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/485] clearly explain. That's why *Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip?* ***He that hath seen me hath seen the Father****; and how sayest thou then, Shew us the Father*? (John 14:9). And that's also why John 1:1 said that, *the Word was God* and in verse 14 said *the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us*. That's also why Heb 1:3 says that Jesus Christ was the *brightness of* God's *glory*, and *the express* [exact #5481] *image of his person*. That's also why Cold 1:15 says that Jesus Christ ***is*** *the image of the invisible God*! So, if we don't believe in Jesus Christ, *then we don't believe in our Heavenly Father* who is the one, and only, *true* (Living and Enteral) God Almighty, i.e. the Creator heaven and earth, *including us* (Ezek 18:4). That's why Jesus said that, ***he that believeth on me****, believeth not on me, but* ***on him that sent me****. And he that seeth me* ***seeth him that sent me*** (John 12:44-45).

And we could go on and on documenting this (John 8:42, 12:49, etc.) but, the point is that, believing in Jesus Christ – that He is righteous and shed His blood for our sins – means we *truly* believe in God Almighty **and** that He ***is*** also righteous, as in *totally without sin*. As Ps 145:17 says, *the LORD is righteous in all his ways, and holy in all his works*. And Deut 32:4 states, *He is the Rock, his work is perfect: for all his ways are judgment:* ***a God of truth*** *and* ***without iniquity****,* ***just*** *and* ***right is he***. So again, when we have faith in Jesus Christ's blood, that means we have *faith that His blood is able to save us* (atone for our sins) *because* of His total and complete righteousness, for He as (and still is) *without* sin. And that means, **our Heavenly Father** (our Creator) - who is the *Supreme* God, the Almighty, Self-existent, and *Eternal* (Yehovah, #3068) - **loved us *so much* He *literally* came down to earth, into a flesh body** (as Jesus Christ), **specifically *to shed His blood to atone for our sins*.** You can learn more about this in the study on **How Much Does God Love Us** [https://t.me/BibleStudyTruth/1344] as well as the study on **Jesus - Our Kinsman Redeemer** [https://t.me/BibleStudyTruth/1347]. Thus, it is *our faith in* the fact that our Heavenly Father (YHVH) came down to earth (incarnated as Jesus Christ), to teach us *truth* (John 18:37) ***and*** to shed His righteous blood to atone for *our* sins, that

truly justifies us. As it is written, Abraham *believed in the LORD;* and God *counted it to him for righteousness* (Gen 15:6, James 2:23). But if we deny that God Himself (as Jesus Christ) came to earth to save us, via His death, resurrection and ascension… then you really do not believe (have faith) in Him *at all*.

So, through studying the Scriptures, we can begin to see *why* God set forth (ordained) the shedding of blood to be an atonement for our sins (in Lev 17:11). For He had planned, *from the very beginning*, to shed **His** blood (as Jesus Christ) for our sins - and the blood of animals was only a 'type' of the *true* Sacrifice (Jesus Christ, who is God incarnate) that would later come. And so, as Paul explained, the law (especially those ordinances of blood sacrifices) was simply *our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, **that we might be justified by faith**. But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster. For ye are all the children of God **by faith in** Christ Jesus* (Gal 3:24-26). Now, in Heb 9:13-14, Paul tells us something very important concerning this, when he wrote that, "*for if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the **purifying of the flesh**: **How much more** shall the blood of Christ, who **through the eternal Spirit** offered himself **without spot** to God, **purge your conscience from dead works** to serve the living God*? The words '**without spot**' mean ***unblemished*** (#299) which is *exactly* what the Law called for in a physical sense (Lev 1:3). But Jesus wasn't *only* perfect (unblemished) in His flesh body, His 'inner man' (Soul *and* Spirit) was *also* 'without spot' because He was *without sin* (Heb 4:15, 2 Cor 5:21, 1 Peter 2:22, 1 John 3:5). And that really is an *amazing* feat (a miracle even) if you consider how hard it is for you to go just *one* day without sinning… and really, there probably isn't one of us who doesn't go a day without sinning, even if only in some *small* way (if we're honest with ourselves anyhow).

So, Jesus Christ *was* able to live perfectly (i.e. without sin), and that's *why* He was 'without spot' and *able* to offer Himself up as the *perfect* Sacrifice - *to* God - *for us*. In other words, Jesus *perfectly* fulfilled the requirements of the Law to be *the* 'Great Sacrifice' for *our* sins. And while animals had to *continually* be offered, because *it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins* (Heb 10:4), Jesus Christ only had to die ***once*** for our sins, because His blood truly *does* 'purge' (cleanse, #2511) our conscience from dead (fruitless) works (i.e. sin) (Heb 9:6-15, 10:1-23). So again, we see that the blood of animals was only a 'type' of the *real* 'Sacrifice' *that* would come, which was indeed Jesus Christ (i.e. God incarnate). But *don't* overlook the fact that Jesus Christ offered Himself – *through* the *eternal* Spirit (which is the Holy Spirit), and *without spot* – **for the purpose of** (not cleansing our flesh body but) **cleansing our *conscience* from 'dead works'**. And, *that's actually the **very** reason that Jesus Christ shed His blood to atone (pay for) our sins*, i.e. ***to clean our conscience*** (inner man, i.e. heart and mind) ***from sin***. For, as Jesus explained in Mth 15, and Mk 7, *sin begins in our heart* and then *manifests to our actions*. So, the *only* way sinful actions (and words) can truly be cleansed, is by cleaning out our heart (desires, emotions, feelings, intentions, motivations) and mind (thoughts). Again, that is *exactly* **what** Jesus Christ shed His blood for.

But… how exactly does His *physical* blood purge (clean) our conscience (as Heb 9:14 above said), which is *spiritual*? And Hebrews 9:14 isn't the only place that makes that statement. The apostle John does too, in 1 John 1:7, when He says, "*But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and* ***the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin***". So again, how can physical blood cleanse us from our *spiritual* sins (i.e. within our heart and mind)? Well, for sure Jesus' blood atones for our sins, which means to make amends with God (for us) by paying for our sins *with His own* blood. And, of course, that's only IF we earnestly believe in Jesus Christ and have actually repented for our sins too. But, **just because we've been forgiven *doesn't mean we are spiritually clean inside***. Now, of a truth, our record in heaven is clear when we believe in Jesus Christ and *earnestly* repent for our sins; but **there's *more* to repentance than just saying you are sorry - *for we must be cleansed spiritually***. And the reason *why* is: if we are not cleansed *spiritually*, we'll just go *right back* to sinning *willfully*… and then we'll be back in 'bad standing' with our Creator (Ezek 18:4).

As the great book of Proverbs points out, ***By mercy and truth iniquity is purged****: and by the fear of the LORD men depart from evil* (Prov 16:6). The word '**mercy**' here means ***kindness*** (#2617) and the word '**truth**' does mean ***truth***, as well as ***stability, certainty*** and ***trustworthiness*** (#571). And then, the word '**iniquity**' means ***perversity***, i.e. (moral) ***evil*** (#5771), and it comes from a prim root that means ***to crook*** (literally or figuratively) (#5753). So, **iniquity means** having a ***perverse*** (perverted, crooked) spirit, or even an ***evil*** *spirit*. And, do you want to guess what this word '**purged**' means? It's #3722, which means ***to cover*** and, figuratively, also means ***to expiate*** or ***condone, to placate*** or ***cancel***… this is the *same* Hebrew word often rendered as '*atonement*' in the Old Testament. So, while we can obtain God's 'mercy' (kindness to forgive us) via our faith in the blood of Jesus Christ (which atones for our sins), it also takes *something else* to purge our iniquity (i.e. to clean our heart and mind). Did you catch what it was? By mercy *and*… **truth**! Yes, we *must* receive (accept) **truth** in order for our 'iniquity' (perverse or evil spirit) to be cleansed away. **And THAT is the 'key' to understanding how Jesus' physical blood cleanses us from all sin** (Heb 9:14, 1 John 1:7).

So, while Jesus' blood *does* atone for our sins ('makes amends' *for us*, with God) *it* ***also*** cleanses our *inner* man (heart and mind). [https://t.me/BibleStudyTruth/1017]. And that's because, after Jesus Christ paid for our sins, He then *raised Him* from the dead, which means Jesus Christ ***defeated death*** (Heb 2:14), which you can learn more about in **How Jesus Destroyed Death** [https://t.me/BibleStudyTruth/2799]. Further, after Jesus Christ died, there was an earthquake that literally rent the vail of the Temple *wide open* (from top to bottom, Mth 27:51). And that was symbolic for how, *after* Jesus Christ rose from the dead, and *then* ascended into heaven (forty days later, Acts 1:3-9), He then **opened up a way for us to be able to communicate *directly* with God**, *when* we pray in His name (John 14:13-14, John 15:17, John 16:23-26) to show God we *believe in* Jesus Christ. You can learn more about this in the two-part study on **The Vine** [part

1 https://t.me/BibleStudyTruth/992 and Part 2 https://t.me/BibleStudyTruth/993]. And then, after Jesus ascended up to heaven, **He then sent His Holy Spirit *into* the hearts *of those who believe upon Him*, and *obey Him***. **And it is the Holy Spirit of God which helps us to understand the truth (God's Word), which is *what we need* in order to have our 'inner man' (soul and spirit) *cleansed*!** So, God gives us 'mercy' (forgiveness) when we believe in Jesus Christ and repent for our sins. But then He gives us *truth* - via the Holy Spirit *within us*, helping us to understand His written Word, as we put out the effort to learn it - which is *what* cleanses our inner man (heart and mind). As Rom 8:26 explains, the Holy Spirit helps us with our weaknesses (infirmities) even when we don't know *exactly* what to pray for (or even *exactly* what our sins and/or problems are).

And so, it is through **the Holy Spirit of God** (given to us by faith in Jesus Christ) **that cleanses our heart and mind**. That's why Jesus said, "It *is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: **the words** that I speak unto you, they **are spirit**, and they **are life*** (John 6:63). Did you catch that? The flesh profits nothing - **only** the Spirit (i.e. the Holy Spirit) can 'quickeneth' (which means to (***re-) vitalize*** #2227), our 'inner man'. Thus, **the '*words*' Jesus spoke** (which are God's Word, John 7:16) **are *what* give life to our spirit**. In other words, *only* God's Word (the truth) can give us *eternal* life (John 17:3). And, because God's Word **IS** His Holy Spirit (in written form), as Jesus explained in John 6:63, it is *also* the Holy Spirit that 'quickens' (re-vitalizes) *our spirit* (inner man), as Rom 8:10-11 points out. So, while the 'life of our flesh' is in *physical* blood (because it nourishes, and cleanses our physical body), the 'life of our spirit' is God's Holy Spirit *within us,* for it cleans, and nourishes, our spirit (heart and mind) ***with the truth*!** And that's *why*, after ascending to heaven (to be at God's right hand), Jesus Christ then sent His Holy Spirit into the hearts of those who love, and obey Him. So, if we want to live eternally, ***we need God's Holy Spirit within us, just as our flesh body needs blood***!

Therefore, while the shedding of the blood of animals simply was a 'type' that looked forward to the *physical* blood that Jesus Christ would shed to atone for our sins… it *also* looked forward to **the 'shedding' of His Holy Spirit *into the hearts* of those who love, and obey, Him**. And that truly is *how* Jesus Christ 'saves us'. In other words, Jesus Christ 'shed forth' His blood to atone for our sins, *but* He *also* 'makes amends' with God (*for us*) by *giving us His Holy Spirit* to help us learn *how* to obey God **and** (just as important) helping us create a 'new heart' (i.e. 'new man) so that we *want* to *obey* Him. And that is why, through faith in Jesus Christ, God *continues* to 'shed forth' His Holy Spirit into the hearts of those who earnestly believe in, and obey, Jesus Christ to this very day. In Heb 10:22, Paul calls it "*having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience*". And that's why the atonement of Jesus Christ – by shedding His own blood for us – is so precious for us *to remember*. But *just as important* to remember (and thank God for) is the fact that Jesus *raised* from the dead, *conquered* death (Satan himself, Heb 2:14) and therefore 'shed forth' His Holy Spirit *into our hearts*, which is what helps us to change inside by creating a

'new man' in us (i.e. 'new heart', Ezek 18:31, 36:26), which is *what* we *need* in order to live *forever*!

So, we see that there is more to 'atonement' than 'meets the eye'. For, God didn't let Jesus Christ *stay* in the tomb, after He shed His righteous blood (for us) on the cross, *and then died*. Dying for our sins was only *part* of Jesus' mission. For it was *through Jesus' resurrection* that 'death' was destroyed, as Heb 2:14 points out. And this *also* means that Jesus defeated Satan's *power over us*… which means his power to deceive us *and* use our carnal (fleshly) mind (rom 8:5-8) to *seduce us in to sinning*. And once we give ourselves over to sinning (wholeheartedly, i.e. habitually and rebelliously – not just messing up every now and then), we are then under Satan's *control*! And that's part of *what* Jesus' resurrection destroyed too, which you can learn more about in the study, **How Jesus Destroyed Death** [https://t.me/BibleStudyTruth/2799].

Therefore, it was vital for Jesus to die so He could atone for our sins; otherwise, we would *never* be able to obtain forgiveness from our Heavenly Father (Rom 3:24-25, 5:11; Eph 1:7; Col 1:14). But, it was *just* as vital for Jesus to *overcome* death (via the resurrection) because we cannot overcome the 'programming' of our carnal mind *without* the help of the Holy Spirit of God. And we couldn't receive of His Holy Spirit *without* Jesus' death **and** resurrection. As Jesus said, after He told His disciples He was soon going to die… "*because I have said these things unto you, sorrow hath filled your heart. Nevertheless, I tell you the truth; It is* ***expedient*** [to our advantage, #4851] *for you that I go away:* ***for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you****; but* ***if I depart, I will send him unto you*** (John 16:6-7). In other words, it is *far more* profitable for us to have the Holy Spirit *within us* than to only have Jesus Christ here with us physically! So, Jesus Christ not only had to die (to atone for our sins, Rom 5:11) *and* resurrect (to defeat death and break the 'enmity', which is our carnal mind, Heb 2:14, Rom 8:5-8) but He *also* had to ascend into heaven. Why? **So, He could send the Holy Spirit to us**! As Peter said on Pentecost day (speaking of Jesus Christ), "*Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father* ***the promise of the Holy Ghost****,* ***he hath shed forth this****, which ye now see and hear*" (Acts 2:34). The people were amazed when they heard the apostles speaking in their own language, even in their own dialect, when they were all Galileans. And, after some suggested they were drunk, Peter got up and (filled with the Holy Spirit) explained that, what they were hearing was the *promise* of the Holy Spirit, speaking through the apostles [https://t.me/BibleStudyTruth/1186] in a language *everyone* could clearly understand (called the 'cloven tongue'. So, God' shed forth' (poured forth, bestowed to, #1632) His Holy Spirit to the apostles, so they could speak the 'wonderful works of God' (i.e. the Gospel of Jesus Christ) to ***all*** the people listening, in a language they could *fully* understand, *no matter what* their nationality, or language was (Acts 2:11).

So again, *because* Jesus Christ 'shed forth' His righteous *physical* blood, God then 'shed forth' His Holy Spirit *to us*. And do you remember what His Holy Spirit **is** to our spirit? Jesus candidly

explained it in a chapter that many people struggle with understanding, even today. In John chapter 6, Jesus told us…

51 I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.
52 The Jews therefore strove among themselves, saying, How can this man give us his flesh to eat?
53 Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, ***Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you.***
54 Whoso ***eateth my flesh****, and* ***drinketh my blood****,* ***hath eternal life****; and* ***I will raise him up at the last day.***
55 For my flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed.
56 He that eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, dwelleth in me, and I in him.
57 As the living Father hath sent me, and I live by the Father: ***so he that eateth me, even he shall live by me.***
58 This is that bread which came down from heaven: not as your fathers did eat manna, and are dead: ***he that eateth of this bread shall live for ever****.*
John 6:51-58

Now, as the *Companion Bible* points out, Jesus was using a very well-known figure of speech back in those days (*Metonymy*, of subj, apx 6), which still resounds with us today. Just as we have a 'Readers Digest' so too did they understand that, to say you must 'eat' (or 'drink') something (other than food) meant to *spiritually* eat (and digest) it… i.e., to *understand* it. So, Jesus was simply saying (via a common figure of speech back then) that, **in order to have eternal life, we must take His Words *into* our spirit and *spiritually* digest them *so we truly understand (and believe) them*** (John 17:3 explains this too). And Jesus clearly explained this later, to His apostles, when He said: *It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing:* ***the words*** *that I speak unto you, they are* ***spirit****, and they are* ***life*** (John 6:63). So, just as we need food and water to live physically, so to do we need the Word of God to live *eternally*. So, God's Word is the only *true* 'Bread of Life' and 'Living Water' that gives our 'inner man' (soul and spirit) life *eternal* (John 10, 4). And yet also, just as the life of our flesh body is *our blood*, so too is the life of our soul and spirit *the Holy Spirit*… i.e. the *truth*, which is *God's Word*! **And that's *why* Jesus' ascension into heaven was also *so* important**. So, from Jesus' death (atonement), to His resurrection (overcoming death) to His ascension into heaven (to give us His Holy Spirit), **these truly are *all* parts of God's Salvation given to us, *through* Jesus Christ.** And, as Paul explains so well in Romans 6…

3 Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?

4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that ***like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.***
5 For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, ***we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection:***
6 Knowing this, that our ***old man is crucified with him****,* ***that the body of sin might be destroyed****, that henceforth* ***we should not serve sin.***
7 For he that is dead is ***freed from sin.***
8 Now ***if we be dead with Christ****, we believe that* ***we shall also live with him****:*
9 Knowing that ***Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more****;* ***death hath no more dominion over him.***
10 For in that he died, ***he died unto*** [for] ***sin once*** [Rom 8:3]*: but in that he liveth,* ***he liveth unto God****.*
11 Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be ***dead indeed unto sin****, but* ***alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.***
12 ***Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof****.*
13 Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but ***yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God.***
14 For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.
15 What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid.
16 ***Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey;*** *whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?*
17 But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ***ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you.***
18 ***Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness****.*
Rom 6:3-18

Paul does an excellent example explaining *what* Jesus' death, resurrection, and ascension into heaven *really* means to us spiritually. And he explains how, just as Jesus died and rose again, we too should *spiritually* die (to sin) by putting of the 'old man' (that wants to sin) and then 'raise again' by 'walking in a newness of life'. And we do this by creating a 'new man' (spirit, i.e. heart and mind) *inside of us* that *wants* to do what's right *instead of* sinning. So, when we truly accept Jesus Christ as our Savior and King, we must work to ***put off*** the 'old man' (i.e. our carnal mind, *which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts* (Eph 2:22) and earnestly strive *not serve sin any longer* (Rom 6:6). And, as we earnestly strive to do so (every day), the Holy Spirit **will** help us to ***put on*** the 'new man', which *is created in righteousness and true holiness* (Eph 4:24) by *renewing the spirit of our mind* (Eph 4:23) *as we earnestly study God's Word* (Col 3:10). And, as Gal 5:24 so aptly says, *they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts*. The word '**affections**' here means ***emotions*** or other carnal ***influences*** (#3804). And that's exactly what causes us to sin against God, which is what then causes us Him to get angry with us

and rightly so (because we're doing bad things). And that's *why* we must *spiritually* 'crucify' (stop them from controlling us) our affections (carnal inclinations) and lusts each day (Lk 9:23).

So, those who *sincerely* accept Jesus Christ (who is God incarnate) **will** work to 'crucify' (i.e. subdue and control) their carnal mind (i.e. our heart, the part of us that *wants* to sin and rebel, Rom 8:5-8) *so* they can obey God *from the heart* (Gal 5:24, Lk 9:23). Paul calls this putting off the 'old man' and putting on the 'new man. And, our 'old man' (the carnal mind) *is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts* (Eph 2:22), which is why we must work *hard* to kick out our sinful thoughts and desires (when we have them, which we all do while in a carnal body) so we do *not serve sin any longer* (Rom 6:6). But then, we also must put on the 'new man' by *renewing in the spirit of our mind* (Eph 4:23) *through studying God's Word* (Col 3:10). And as we continue to do this, the Holy Spirit will help us to change inside so that we (with time) learn to do what's right, *from the heart* (Eph 4:24).

So, in summary: **just as the life of the flesh is in the blood** (Lev 17:11) **so too is the life of *our* spirit *the Holy Spirit* - which is *Word of God* – which is *the truth*** (John 6:63, 17:17). And that's *why*, after Jesus shed His blood for us (atonement, Rom 5:11), raised from the dead (conquering death, Heb 2:14), and ascended into heaven (to sit at God's right hand *and* make intercession for us, Rom 8:26-34), He then 'shed forth' His Holy Spirit into our hearts (Jer 31:33; Heb 8:10, 10:16; Eph 3:17; Gal 4:6; 2 Cor 4:6). As it is written, *For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, **hath shined in our hearts**, to give the **light of the knowledge** of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ* (2 Cor 4:6). So, it is the Holy Spirit *within us* that helps us to *truly* understand God's Word *and **how*** to obey it in our everyday life (from the heart), no matter what circumstance comes up.

Therefore, Jesus shed His blood *for us* so God would *shed forth* His Holy Spirit *into our hearts*, because **His Holy Spirit** (which is the Word of God, and the truth, John 6:63, 17:17) **is the only thing that gives us *eternal* life**… As Paul said, *if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you* (Rom 8:11). So, it is *literally* **the Holy Spirit that gives us *eternal* life** - for the Holy Spirit is *literally* **the *life of our spirit*** (John 6:63) because *the Holy Spirit gives us truth* (John 17:17) by helping us to *understand* God's Word. So again, just as our blood is the life of our flesh body (because it cleans and nourishes us), so too, is the life of our very soul and spirit, *the Holy Spirit* - and for the very same reason, i.e. **God's Word** (i.e. the Holy Spirit, the truth) **cleans, and nourishes, our spirit** (heart and mind) ***with the truth***…

*6 For when we were yet without strength, **in due time Christ died for the ungodly**.*
7 For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die.

8 But ***God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us****.*
9 Much more then, ***being now justified by his blood****,* ***we shall be saved from wrath through him****.*
10 For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, ***much more,*** *being reconciled,* ***we shall be saved by his life****.*
11 And not only so, but ***we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement.***
12 Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:
13(For until the law sin was in the world: but sin is not imputed when there is no law.
14 Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression, who is the figure of him that was to come…
…19 For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, ***so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.***
20 Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound:
21 That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so ***might grace reign*** *through righteousness* ***unto eternal life*** *by Jesus Christ our Lord.*
Rom 5: 6-14, 19-21

May the Word of God, and the Holy Spirit, be your guiding Light *forever*…

AMEN.