

ORIGINAL
BEST SELLER

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REVEALING THE POWER OF
THE BLOOD OF JESUS FROM
GENESIS TO REVELATION

the miracle of the

Scarlet Thread

EXCERPT

The Miracle of the Scarlet Thread

Chapter 2 The Blood Covenant

In the previous chapter we learned that God made a covenant with Himself to do for us what we could not do for ourselves. We studied the major previews on the earth of the “divine agreement” God made in heaven. We read in the New Testament how Jesus said the Hebrew Scriptures were foreshadowing Him as the One who would make covenant with the Father on our behalf.

In this chapter, we will define the meaning of the word covenant, study the Hebrew ritual, and see how it points to Jesus and applies to our lives today.

The two divisions of the Bible have been called the Old Testament and the New Testament. The word testament comes from a Latin word, *testamentum*. However, the more proper name for these two divisions is “covenant.” The Bible, therefore, tells the story of an Old Covenant and a New Covenant.

In the Bible, the word “covenant” means a binding agreement between two parties. The word actually means to “cut covenant.” It is an agreement to “cut a covenant by the shedding of blood and walking between pieces of flesh.” So, the two divisions of the Bible tell the story of an old blood covenant and a new blood covenant. As we learned in the previous lesson, the Bible speaks of this as “the blood of the everlasting covenant” (Heb. 13 :20-21).

Psalm 50:5 tells us that God’s covenant is based on a blood sacrifice:

Gather My saints together to Me, those who have made a covenant with Me by sacrifice.

A blood covenant is the most sacred and enduring of all compacts. It cannot be broken except by death, and

even then, it is passed down to the next generation. The “good news” recorded in the Bible is that the Almighty made a sacred blood covenant with Himself to do for us what we could not do for ourselves. God committed Himself to redeem us and restore His glory to us by the shedding of His own blood in the person of Jesus of Nazareth.

Past studies have revealed that all ancient peoples practiced some form of a blood covenant. God revealed it to them from the days of Adam. When they were scattered, they took the ritual with them but perverted it as they separated themselves from God. What God intended to be a visual aid of His plan of redemption became a demonic, pagan ritual.

The Hebrews had a blood covenant ritual which God used as a preview of the heavenly covenant He “cut from the foundations of the world.” For sake of clarity, the ritual is organized into the following nine steps.

Step 1 – Exchange Coats or Robes

The first step in the ritual is to exchange coats or robes. In a blood covenant ritual, the coat or robe represents the person who is making the covenant. By exchanging the coat or robe, the two parties are symbolically committing their lives to each other (1 Sam. 18:3-4).

Then Jonathan and David made a covenant, because he loved him as his own soul. And Jonathan took off the robe that was on him and gave it to David, with his armor, even to his sword and his bow and his belt. (1 Sam. 18:2-4)

Step 2 – Exchange Belts

The second step is to exchange belts. The belt holds the armor together. By exchanging belts, the two parties are pledging their weapons and strength to fight on behalf of the one with whom they are making covenant. If an enemy attacks one of the partners, the other is bound by covenant to defend him (1 Sam. 18:3-4).

Then Jonathan and David made a covenant, because he loved him as his own soul. And Jonathan took off the robe that was on him and gave it to David, with his armor, even to his sword and his bow and belt. (1 Sam. 18:3-4)

Step 3 – Cutting the Covenant

The next step is to actually “cut the covenant” by taking an animal and splitting it down the middle. After splitting the animal in half, each person stands in between the two bloody halves of the animal with their backs to each other.

As with the coat and belt, the two blood halves of the animal represent the two people entering into covenant. They then walk right through the bloody halves, making a figure eight, and then come back to a stop facing each other.

This action is a visual way of each partner saying they are dying to themselves and beginning a new walk with their covenant partner. And since the blood covenant is the most sacred of all compacts, they expect to also be “split down the middle” if they break the compact (Gen. 15:9-17; Ruth 1:16-17; Jer. 34:18).

And he said, “LORD God, how shall I know that I will inherit it?” So He said to him, “Bring Me a three-year old heifer, a three-year old female goat, a three-year old ram, a turtledove, and a young pigeon.” Then he brought all these to him and cut them in two, down the middle, and placed each piece opposite the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. (Gen. 15:8-10)

But Ruth said, “Entreat me not to leave, or to turn back from following after you; for wherever you go, I will go; and wherever you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people, and your God, my God. Where you die, I will die, and there will I be buried. The LORD do so to me, and more also, if anything but death parts you and me.” (Ruth 1:16-17)

And I will give the men who have transgressed My covenant, who have not performed the words of the

covenant which they made before Me, when they cut the calf in two and passed between the parts of it. (Jer. 34:18)

Step 4 – Cutting the Palms

In the next step, the covenant parties raise their right arms, cut their palms, and bring them together so that their blood intermingles. They then swear allegiance to each other.

As their blood intermingles, symbolically, their lives are intermingling. They are becoming one. In their minds, they are putting off their old nature and putting on the nature of their blood covenant partner (Isa. 62:8).

The LORD has sworn by His right hand and by the arm of His strength ... (Isa. 62:8)

Step 5 – Exchanging Names

The fifth step is to exchange names. In Bible times, a person's name told something of the nature and character of the person. When you heard a person's name, you expected them to think and act according to the meaning of their name. In the blood covenant ritual, the two parties take on each others last name. They are then known as the name bearers (Gen. 17:5,15).

No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you a father of many nations. Then God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her name Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name." (Gen. 17:5, 15)

Step 6 – Make a Scar

In this step, the two parties rub their blood together and make a scar as a permanent testimony to the covenant. The scar will always be there as a reminder of their covenant rights and responsibilities to each other. It is the guarantee and seal of the covenant. Through it, the parties are reminded that there is another human being in the world that is committed to them and will never leave them nor forsake them (Isa. 49:16).

*See, I have inscribed [carved] you on the palms
of My hands; your walls are continually before Me. (Is.
49:16)*

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