

## **What Was Different About Jesus' Blood?**

In all four of his biographies Jesus declared that his blood was capable of forgiving human sin. “This is my blood of the covenant which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.” <sup>(1)</sup> In addition to this bold declaration, Jesus promised, “Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day.” <sup>(2)</sup> Jesus’ announcements about the qualities of his blood thoroughly shocked many of his disciples. <sup>(3)</sup>

So what was different about Jesus’ blood? What made it unique?

### **He Inherited Blood Untainted By Sin**

God didn’t create sinners. The first two humans shared their Creator’s purity of character and loving nature. Furthermore, he did not create them robots incapable of making choices and decisions. Regrettably, Adam and Eve willfully and deliberately turned against the loving God who gave them existence.

“Sin entered the world through one man” <sup>(4)</sup> and infected all humans with a proneness to rebel against God and his ways. None of us are accountable for Adam’s sin or the sin of any of our ancestors. However, we inherit their tendency to disdain the Lord and follow our evil ways. “For all have sinned.” <sup>(5)</sup> Things seemed so hopeless for the human race.

The God of hope came through for humanity by the virgin birth of Jesus. Without sexual union, God, the Holy Spirit, conceived Jesus in Mary. <sup>(6)</sup> So both Jesus and Adam are sons of God—one by creation and one by conception. The beauty of Jesus’ conception is this: he did not inherit blood contaminated by Adam’s sinful human nature.

Jesus was truly human like Adam before Adam rebelled against the Lord. Jesus was a fresh beginning, a new hope for mankind. Through Jesus we can be set free from our inclination to reject God and return to loving him with all our hearts!

### **Jesus’ Blood Remained Untainted by Sin**

Jesus began life with blood unfouled by Adam’s propensity to act sinfully. From the moment of conception Jesus experienced heavenly Father’s sinlessness. On the other hand, Jesus was truly human and had to face numerous choices to either reject or respect his heavenly Father’s wishes and ways.

Remarkably, the Adam of Genesis chapters one, two and three had everything going for him. He was God’s creation and thereby shared God’s unpolluted nature. Idealic circumstances surrounded him. Peace and harmony made it easy to fellowship with God in private communion. God and Adam walked together as familiar friends.

Unlike Adam’s environment, Jesus came into a world filled with

innumerable dangers, struggles and enticements. Nothing was easy for Jesus. Satan lurked on every hand. He desperately wanted to draw Jesus into his control. After all, had not the first man easily succumbed to a tiny temptation? Satan confidently expected the same from Jesus.

But we must remember that Satan isn't the only source of temptation. Scripture refers to the human social system as "the world." "World" doesn't refer to planet earth, to terra firma. By "world" Scripture means the collective sinfulness of society, nations and cultures. So life on earth plunged Jesus into a sea of sinful people whose example he could have followed. But he didn't!

Another source of our sinfulness lies within us. Even if there were no devil or sinful society, we face the task of defeating our internal inclination to think and act in ways that displease the Lord. Jesus did not inherit this weakness from Adam, but he could have yielded his nature to the thoughts planted in his mind by Satan. "Worship me," Satan commanded Jesus.<sup>(7)</sup> This awful thought wasn't sin. Jesus rejected it and therefore did not become guilty of sinfulness. Who knows how many times evil thoughts entered Jesus' mind? What we know is this—he disarmed, defeated and destroyed every one of them!

The apostle Peter encouraged the followers of Christ with these words: "You were redeemed...with the precious blood of Christ...without blemish or defect."<sup>(8)</sup> Yes, Jesus was the first and the last human to inherit blood totally uncorrupted by sin. Also, he is the one and only human who died with blood uncorrupted by the slightest evilness.

## **Jesus' Blood Restored Power Over Sin to Us**

When we place our faith in Jesus, his "blood...purifies us from all sin."<sup>(9)</sup> Immediately a sense of guiltlessness lays hold of us, and confidence in God's approval floods us. However, we need more than forgiveness of sins—we need power to quit sinning!

Jesus' presence infuses us with divine energy to reject temptation to sin. Through his power we refuse enticement to walk away from God's pleasure. The blood of Jesus delivers us from powerlessness and permeates us with powerfulness. We are no longer slaves to sin, but victors over it! Leviticus 17:11 states that "life...is in the blood." Therefore, Jesus' blood transmits to us his power to conquer sin and live righteously. We are winners!

Let us take courage in the blood of the one and only sacrifice sufficient to cleanse sin from every human. Praise God! Although sinners and sinfulness surround us, through Jesus' powerful blood we "keep [ourselves] from being polluted by the world."<sup>(10)</sup>

**Footnotes:**

1. Matthew 26:28
2. John 6:54
3. John 6:66
4. Romans 5:12
5. Romans 3:23

6. Luke 1:35
7. Matthew 4:9
8. 1 Peter 1:18-19
9. 1 John 1:7
10. James 1:27