

The DEFENDER—October 2021



“. . . defending the faith once delivered unto the saints” (Jude 3)

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IN DEFENSE OF TRUTH radio broadcast



FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK: Keeping it Simple

This shouldn't take long. In fact, it is so easy and simple to understand that even a Democrat should be able to figure it out. And if that offends you, too bad. You're a major part of the problem. But if this article shames you, there may yet be some hope for you. And before any of you Republicans get to feeling high and mighty, let me remind you of a long standing truth in politics. The Democrats may be the party of evil but the GOP has long been the party of stupid. I'm trying not to mince any words here because the Book I read doesn't mince them.

I've asked my Lord to forgive me for waiting so long to take the gloves off. In past issues I've tried to be diplomatic, understanding that you may be able to catch more flies with honey than with vinegar. That may work with flies but being kind and gentle with brutal killers doesn't work. It's time to drench them with honey and set them on fire. It's apparently the only language that demons understand.

America is dying, right before our eyes. And to find the reason why we only need look into our nation's collective mirror. It's our own fault, Republicans and Democrats alike. And let's not forget God's people—the Christians and Jews. We're all at fault. We've allowed the godless practice of abortion to continue unabated for 50 years and we are witnessing the promises of God coming true in real time. Paul told the Galatians (6:7) that we reap what we sow, and because we've sown the seeds of death in our young we are now reaping the whirlwind (Hosea 8:7) of the invisible and ubiquitous scourge of Covid-19. I've yet to hear any prominent Christian or Jewish leader voice their opposition to this sin which is an abomination in the eyes of God. The Catholic Church claims to be pro-life yet they won't sanction America's Catholic politicians and their pro-death stance. Most Jewish people are lifelong Democrats who support their party's platform of murdering babies in the womb. And I'm still waiting on Protestant leadership to lead a march to the doors of their congressional representatives and demand that they do more than give lip service to the unborn every election cycle. And where are the good Christian citizens who could and should be running to replace the crooked, lying politicians who never want to leave their well-paying jobs in the swamp?

God is long-suffering, but His timing is what is important. And time may have just run out for America. God is clear in His Word that He is willing to forgive those who repent of their sins. Righteousness exalts a nation (Proverbs 14:34) and blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord (Psalm 33:12). God is clear in what He will and won't do. When will the so-called righteous in our land stop halting between two opinions (1 Kings 18:21) and be either hot or cold (Revelation 3:16)? I think we know the answer.

Rev. David Lewis

The Blood of Jesus Christ

Part I – God’s Chosen Sacrificial Lamb

By Robert Luthardt, Sr.

From the Garden in Genesis, the blood of an innocent shed for the guilty was an integral part of God’s salvation plan (Gen. 3:21). We can infer from God’s sacrifice for “skins” to cover Adam and Eve that Abel had been taught that God’s plan included the substitutionary death of innocent animals when offered in faith (Gen. 4:4). This was in anticipation that the “seed of the woman” would judicially satisfy the atonement with His own Divine Blood when He appeared (Gen. 3:15). Later the Biblical record shows Noah offering animal sacrifices in thanksgiving to God (Gen. 8:20-21).

In Exodus, before the Law was given, God told Moses that every household must sacrifice a lamb without blemish and take its blood and “strike it on the side posts and ... upper door post” (Ex. 12:7-8). “I will pass through ... Egypt ... and smite all the first born ...” (vs. 12) “the blood shall be ... a token [of Christ’s blood] and when I see the BLOOD, I will PASS OVER YOU” (vs. 13). “And this day shall be ... a memorial ... a feast by an ordinance forever.”

When later the Law was given, Aaron and all succeeding High Priests, went once a year with the blood of an unblemished innocent Lamb to the altar being what God commanded for a sin atoning offering for the sins of Israel (Ex. 30:10). God instructed Moses, “... it is the blood that maketh an atonement [PARDON] for the soul” (Lev. 17:11).

The only blood that is salvific [ACTUALLY SAVES] is the blood of the “Lamb of God” (Is. 53:7; John 1:29, 36) Jesus Christ, God’s eternal Lamb. The New Testament is replete with references to the absolute necessity of, and power in, the blood of Christ. Spiritual birth and new life by belief in Christ is nourished by the divine life in Christ’s blood that makes us one with Him – and keeps us (John 6:53-56, 17:20-23). The very purchase price of inclusion in His Body [CHURCH] was God’s own blood (Acts 20:28). Without it no sinner is saved. In THE REVELATION, Christ is called a Lamb 17 times, “And they overcame him [SATAN] by the blood of the Lamb” (Rev. 12:11, 5:6; 6:1; 7:9; etc.).

The best news is that God, “... commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were YET SINNERS, Christ died for us” (Rom. 5:8). “For God so loved the world that He gave His only BEGOTTEN Son [to bleed and die] that whosoever BELIEVETH in Him should NOT PERISH but have everlasting life.” Christ died, the sinless for the sinner so we have redemption through His BLOOD” (Ep. 1:6-7). Now we CAN stand justified before a perfect holy God (Acts 13:38-39; 2 Cor. 5:21; Heb. 3:14).

What is a sinner’s duty regarding salvation? We can only stand like a forsaken beggar who can demand nothing. All a sinner can do is hold out an empty hand to receive a completely underserved “gift.” God first opens hearts to receive light (Acts 16:14) softening its stoniness (Job 23:16; 2 Cor. 3:3) circumcising (cleansing) it and opens the mind to new understanding (Luke 24:45).

The new believing beggar has been raised from spiritual death to new life in Christ (Ep. 2:1). Now the thankful beggar cries, “Abba Father” (Rom. 8:14-16; Gal. 4:6) in true repentance receiving forgiveness. “If we confess our sins, He is faithful ... to forgive us ... cleanseth us, the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin” (1 John 1: 7-9).

Our peace with an offended Holy God was purchased for us by our Lord Jesus Christ at Calvary, “by the BLOOD of His Cross” (Col. 1:20). It is important to know that though the Holy Spirit (Christ’s comforter – John 14:16-17) now resides and works in every blood-washed believer; He comes only after Christ’s work is finished (John 17:4, 19:30). “But ye shall receive power AFTER the Holy Ghost is come upon you,” without any of man’s “good works” (Titus 3:5-7).

Taken alone, to be self-convicted of sinfulness (usually after being exposed) only reveals the souls’ danger. A sailor who awakens to find his vessel is about to hit the rocks and sink will perish if he returns to sleeping. Awakening to your house in flames means a change is immediately necessary. When one’s eternal life is still unsecured, to rely on human understanding, even deeply held convictions of men’s wisdom, is a house built on sand (Matt. 7:26-27). Cain, Balaam, Judas, and others had very deep convictions; so too did those who refused to look at the brass serpent; they all perished in the hardness of their hearts (Numb. 21:8-9; John 3:14-15). We are to look to Jesus Christ who “... bore our sins in His own body on the tree.” Any who cast themselves in simple child-like faith on Jesus Christ (Matt. 18:1-4; Mark 10:13-15) shall be saved once enabled to call (Rom. 10:13).

Christ provided the only acceptable atonement (Heb. 9:12) His own blood: for those chosen of the Father (2 Tim. 1:9) and secured by the sinless perfection of Christ, mercifully imputed to us (Rom. 4:20-25) “... upon all them that believe.”

Sinners justified by Christ no longer need fear death for there is now, “... no condemnation to them that are in Christ Jesus...” (Rom. 8:1). A new believer is simply to, “Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved” (Acts 16:31). The eternal promise is to, “... whomsoever believeth.”

Scripture declares we are saved by grace alone (Ep. 2:8), the gift of God through Christ (Rom. 6:23). Salvation is not reward or wages due us. God chose to love us when we were wholly unlovable. Simply, God has mercy on those He intends to save by the infinite value of Christ’s blood. The death penalty we owed, He paid in our place. All who believe and trust Christ’s sacrifice alone are set free. God now gives His called-out sons and daughters, “All things” (Rom 8:32).

Indeed, can anyone fully understand that God dwells in us, that we are His TEMPLE (1 Cor. 3:16, 6:19; 2 Tim. 1:14; John 14:20, 17:23). His gift of faith purifies and sanctifies us (Acts 15:8-9). He plants His law in our hearts and minds (Heb. 8:10). He declares His mercy, “to their unrighteousness ... their iniquities will I remember no more” (vs. 12). The question is never can we ourselves remove our own guilt and moral corruption and our deserved perdition? The salvation by works religion teaches the lost they must first repent and obey, mourn, weep, pray and perform meritorious works to earn God’s favor. A sinner must first purge all evil and only then come to Christ. But the plague of our sin-sickness requires the healing of the Divine Physician by His apothecary – the blood of the everlasting covenant (Heb. 13:20-21).

The Bible-based evangelist asks, “Will you have Christ to work faith, repentance, love, and all good in you by taking for you the beatings, the thorns, the nails, and the spear for you? To cleanse your sin polluted heart? He can and He will. God’s gift of Christ is an eternal redemption and is only one heartfelt genuine prayer away. There is no valid reason to remain forlorn and miserable. He can make pliable and soften the most hopelessly hardened heart when that one bows the knee to the Sovereign Savior in true belief (Luke 8:15, 18:13). Do you still feel you must do something? Then this is the work of God, that ye “believe” on Him whom He sent” (John 6:29).

A newly saved believer's foundation for peace, pardon, purity, and future glory is centered in their bleeding Savior (Rom. 5:8-10). First, they are directed to look, "behold the Lamb of God ..." (John 1:29) who brought and established their legal justification before God and their own anxious eyes. "It is CHRIST THAT DIED ..." (not the Father or the Holy Spirit – Rom 8:34). Once drawn by the Father to Jesus Christ then the Comforter directs our eyes to Christ. The Holy Spirit does NOT speak of himself, instead He brings glory to Christ alone (John 16:13-14). The Holy Spirit's role is to always bring to our remembrance Christ's lifework; His suffering and crucifixion for us (Luke 22:19), His manger, cross and tomb – all empty now – His return to heaven, His Throne and His soon return (Acts 1:9-11; John 14:1-3; Matt. 26:64).

Believers are drawn to Jesus (John 6:44) "to have redemption through HIS BLOOD," by grace (Ep. 1:7). "As many as received Him" ... are sons of God "born not of blood, not of the ... flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God" (John 1:12-13). We look first to the Lamb sacrificed at Calvary holding His glory in view to receive the "peace that passeth all understanding" (Phil. 4:7).

At times other means had their proper place such as bitter herbs and unleavened bread at the first Passover in Egypt, but the blood alone of the innocent Lamb secured salvation from the destroying Angel. God promised, "When I see the BLOOD, I will PASS OVER YOU" (Ex. 12:13). Bitter herbs and unleavened bread then, and bread and juice at Communion now, are good examples of obedience, but Christ's blood alone saves. To this suffering and death of Christ, the Holy Spirit brings to our remembrance.

It is Christ's finished work for our salvation we are to remember. God first sent Christ preaching peace and later, the Comforter to confirm Christ's work – through believers to all the world. The Holy Spirit now presents us perfect (complete) in Christ (Col. 1:28; John 16:13; 1 Pet. 1:2) making each of us teachable and useable.

Christ's work for our eternal pardon and salvation is FINISHED (John 17:4) needing nothing from man. The Holy Spirit's work of sealing and sanctifying is ongoing unto life eternal. To God be the glory, great things He hath done; so loved He the world, that He gave us His Son. Amen.

Keep looking up.

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Trusting God

By Nancy Long

Job 23:8-10 – *“Behold, I go forward, but He is not there; and backward, but I cannot perceive Him: On the left hand, where He doth work, but I cannot behold Him: He hideth Himself on the right hand, that I cannot see Him: But He knoweth the way that I take: when He hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold.”*

Jer. 29:11 – *“for I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.”*

John 16:33 – *“These things I have spoken unto you, that in Me ye might have peace. In the world, ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer: I have overcome the world.”*

Rom. 8:28 – *“And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose.”*

Eph. 1:6 – *“To the praise of the glory of His grace, wherein He hath made us accepted in the beloved.”*

Heb. 15:5b – *“..... I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.”*

There is much concern and anxiety in this life. It's not uncommon to know someone, or perhaps you just might be that particular person, who suffers from either anxiety or depression issues, fearing, to the point of dreading, the future. Through the news, social media, and the like, we're being overwhelmingly assaulted and bombarded regarding terrorism, riots, earthquakes, abductions, abuses, as well as murders, in cities, states and countries all over this world. Bringing it in even closer, each of us individually is either facing, or will be, in the future, challenged with various types of adversity. Some may be confronted with financial difficulties, loss of jobs, etc. Others possibly will go through the pain of a debilitating accident, or experience the heartbreak of a rebellious teenager, or perhaps even watch a loved one suffer the weakening effects of cancer or some other physical or mental disease the feeling of helplessness, that some know more than others.

One might tend to wonder during these times, *“Where is God in all this?”* Can you really trust Him? Is He dependable in times when you hurt and are full of pain? Do you have the assurance that the Sovereign One is with you in days of distress, even though you aren't able to **see** any clear evidence of His nearness, or **feel** His presence? It's not easy to trust God through seasons of affliction. No one enjoys the pain that's associated with it.

“In the world we shall have tribulation” (trouble, misery, sorrow, difficulty, grief). Our Lord has stated this very plainly. We cannot expect peace in this world in which we live only trouble. We believers though, are still to be encouraged. We are exhorted to *“be of good*

cheer”, to keep our focus on the trustworthiness of God whatever is pressing or threatening and be assured that *all* will be well. God’s grace is totally and completely sufficient (2 Cor. 12:9). He has a plan and a purpose for each one of His children (Jer. 29:11). **Believe it! Trust in His promise!** The Lord paid a tremendous price in order to bring us to Himself and uses the circumstances He’s provided to help purify hearts and draw us into a deeper relationship with Himself.

Looking in the rear-view mirror of life, one will see, there’s never been a trial or a pain, never any suffering or malady, that God didn’t somehow miraculously recycle, and use it for profit. In His sovereignty, He always knows what’s best, and has the power to work it out for His glory and our ultimate good (Rom. 8:28 and Eph 1:6).

It’s my prayer, Defenders, that we children of God, not be governed by feelings, but will pray the Holy Spirit causes the Scriptures to be made alive in our hearts, and develop our faith and trust in our omnipotent, omniscient, omnipresent, sovereign God. May we be as confident as Job who believed, even though he wasn’t able to see or feel God’s presence, God would bring him through this extremely difficult trial as *“purified gold”*. Trusting God, is knowing, believing, holding fast, and clinging to His promise, “I will never, ever, ever, leave thee, nor forsake thee” in life, in death, and forever!!



'Sheeple' Must Overthrow Tyrants

By Gary S. Johnson, Defender

Are we a free people or are we sheep? I suggest that we may need a new preamble to the Constitution, and I offer this:

"We the Sheeple of the increasingly divided States, having realized that our union no longer strives for perfection; that our justice system has been perverted by corruption and cronyism; that a flood of illegal aliens and the Black Lives Matter movement have destroyed our domestic Tranquility; that we are no longer entitled to a common defense; that we have exchanged the idea of personal responsibility for the creation of a Welfare state, undermining our national productivity, increasing our national debt and denying us the Blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do now relegate our Constitution to the ash heap of history unless we open our eyes and do something to stop this madness."

A free people would not let themselves be denied the blessings of liberty by the likes of Biden, Pelosi, Schumer and others of this ilk. A free people would not permit misguided individuals such as these to abuse their positions of authority without being held to account. A free people would not bend to their dictates but would instead stand up to the tyranny. These abusers of power are more than incompetent. They are traitors.

They have themselves said that no one, particularly President Trump, is above the law. A free people would show these people that this applies to them as well. The demanding of a personal or family benefit in exchange for performing a public duty is a crime. Cowardice in the face of the enemy is also a crime under military law. Giving aid and comfort to the enemy is treason. These traitors have committed these crimes and much more. They must be held to account. Our credibility demands it.

May God forgive us for our careless stewardship of His gift of liberty. May He help us now as we strive to regain our liberty.



Our mission through the broadcast of In Defense of Truth and the publication of The Defender newsletter is to earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints (Jude 3). Our vision today is just as strong as it was back in 1963 when Dr. John Dekker began this outreach. We pray that you will continue to stand with us as we hold true to God's holy Word.

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WRITE TO US!

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Upcoming Events!

If you are in or around the Baltimore area, we'd love to have you join us for these upcoming events!

Adult & Children's Sunday School	10:15 AM
Sunday Morning Worship & Children's Church	11:00 AM
Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study	1:30 PM
Wednesday Evening Bible Study	7:00 PM