What about the Blood?

What can wash away my sin?
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

What can make me whole again?
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Oh! Precious is the flow
that makes me white as snow;
No other fount I know,
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

- Robert Lowry (1876)
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In one of our previous studies we determined that Jesus Christ is indeed the only way to God. Remember John 14:6: “Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” Accepting Jesus as your Lord and Savior means that, in spite of your past sins, you will spend eternity with God. How is that possible? How is it that a Holy Righteous God could allow a sinful man to spend eternity with Him? What can wash away those sins?

Before we seek the answers to those questions it’s necessary to establish a few basic points. Please read the following verses and fill in the missing words. (All scriptures are taken from the NIV.)

- Romans 3:23 “For _______ have _________ and _________ short of the glory of God,”
- Romans 6:23 “For the __________ of _______ is ___________, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Now read Galatians 5:19-24 and fill in these blanks:
- (v. 19) “The acts of the _______ are obvious.”
- (v. 21) “Those who live like that will ________ inherit the kingdom of God.”
- (v. 22) “But the_________ of the ______ is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,”
- (v. 23) “gentleness and _________ - _______. Against such things there is no law.”
- (v. 24) “Those who belong to _______ have _________ the sinful nature with its passions and desires.”
So from these scriptures we can see that all men have sinned and the wages of that sin is death (separation from God.) We see that we have a sinful nature that is contrary to the nature of God and as such we do not ‘deserve’ to spend eternity with God.

Let's read again *Galatians 5:19-21* and then answer these questions,

- Do you see any of the acts of the sinful nature in your life? __________
- Or in your past? __________
- Do you deserve eternity with God? __________

So we come to the question; what can wash away my sin? Let’s read *Hebrews 9*, and then let’s look at a few verses. Please fill in the blanks.

- *Hebrews 9:22* says that without the shedding of blood there is no ____________.

In *Hebrews 9:1-6* we read of the first covenant (Old Testament) method of atonement or the covering over of sin. But that atonement was only for a certain set timeframe.

- In verse 7 we see that the High Priest was required to enter in and make the sacrifice of atonement once per ____________.
- In verse 7 we also see that the sacrifice was ____________.

A deeper study would require that we look at the book of Leviticus, primarily chapters 1 – 5, and determine the requirements for the sacrifice. But for today’s study let’s just look at *Leviticus 1:10* and fill in the blank.

- "If the offering is a burnt offering from the flock, from either the sheep or the goats, he is to offer a male without ________________.”

So here we are; God proclaimed that the wages of our sin is death (separation from Him.) But He loves us enough (read *John 3:16*) to allow a substitution for our death. That sacrifice had to be perfect and the shedding of blood was required.

Now let’s return to *Hebrews 9:13-15*. Read these verses and answer the following questions:

- (v. 14) What can cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God? The ____________ of ________________.
- (v. 15) Who is the mediator of the new covenant so that we may receive the promise of eternal life? ________________.
- (v. 28) “So Christ was sacrificed ____________ to take away the sins of many people.”

As we wrap up this brief study on the blood of Christ, please read the following scriptures and answer one last question.

- *1 Peter 1:18-25*
- *Colossians 1:13-22*

What can wash away our sin? Nothing but the ____________ of Jesus!

*Suggestion: Please pick a verse that spoke something to you and memorize it.*

*It’s also important to note that this is certainly not a comprehensive study of the Blood of Christ and its power. There are many good books and web sites which will help you learn more but the best place to learn about the theology of the blood of Christ is in your local church and by a deeper study of God’s Word, the Bible.*