

The Blood Gate Crisis

Main Text: I John 1:9 “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from **all** unrighteousness.”

What is the Blood Gate?

Let it be carefully noticed that the effect of our sins being forgiven, and all of our unrighteousness being cleansed, is the imputing of God’s perfect righteousness and true holiness.

Elementary knowledge right? The wonderful end result of Spirit humbled confession, and being forgiven of our sins, yes, but the process behind the end result seems so often **not to be understood** quite as well. In fact, the spiritual consequences and benefits of true Spirit born confession doesn’t seem to have found a lodging place in the hearts and minds of the average believer.

It is vital that we understand that **true Spirit born confession** is initiated by the loving ministry of the Spirit of God and of Christ. Being aware that we have yielded to the temptation of sin, upon being drawn away by **our own lust, and enticed**, the Holy Spirit lovingly begins his ministry of reconciling us to God and restoring us to his fellowship.

This process of reconciliation and restoration seems to begin with a Spirit produced sensation of guilt. Guilt, by definition, is a state of awareness of having done wrong, or having committed an offense against God.

Through Spirit humbled confession, God’s beloved, yet wayward child, will be reconciled to his grieved Father. It is interesting to note that the concept of reconciliation bears the meaning of “being made friendly again by settling an offence or quarrel.

We must consider the fact that at the same moment we are reconciled, we are restored to fellowship with the Father and the Son. The more we understand the **supernatural love** of our Father, and the **price he paid** for a fellowship that he had longed for since the Garden of Eden, the more we

will be able to comprehend the seriousness of our yielding to our carnal desires for temporal pleasure, and fellowship with this present evil world.

Keep in mind that **guilt** is our Father's **tool**, by his **intended design of creation** to awaken us to our evil doings against a loving Father, and a Holy God. God seems to have designed our **conscience** to be his **alarm system** that is activated by the Holy Spirit. When there is an unlawful trespass or offence, our conscience begins sounding off, **guilt! guilt! guilt!**

So, what is the Blood Gate? When we respond to our alarm system of guilt with Spirit humbled godly sorrow unto repentance, the Spirit of God and of Christ takes us by our spiritual hand and leads us to the I John 1:9 Blood Gate where our sins are forgiven, and **all our unrighteousness** is cleansed. It is here that our fellowship is restored with the Father and the Son. It is here that we are no longer walking in darkness but in the light.

I John 1:7 says it this way, "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**."

It is vitally important to understand that this is not the end of the story, but the beginning. The loving Holy Spirit not only takes us by our spiritual hand and leads us to the Blood Gate, but through the Blood Gate as well into the Kingdom of God. Romans 14:17 reveals to us that this is God's kingdom of righteousness, and peace, and joy **in the Holy Ghost**.

On one side of the Blood Gate is the kingdom of this world and of Satan, while on the other side is the Kingdom of God. The Kingdom of God is where we live our heavenly citizenship in fellowship and partnership with the Father and the Son in the Holy Ghost, or the very Spirit of Jesus Christ himself.

Hebrews 10:19 says, "Having therefore, brethren, boldness to **enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus Christ**." When we enter into the Kingdom of God and of Christ by the washing of the blood of Jesus Christ, we are entering into the **holiest or holy of holies**. Yes, we are entering into the very **throne room of God**.

Hebrews 10:21 tells us that we are entering the “**house of God**” over which our **HIGH PRIEST** is continually ministering on our behalf. What a great place to live the abundant life! This is the home of the New Man which is Christ in us, the hope of glory and glorious living. This is our **Home Sweet Home** with **Welcome** written in the blood of Christ. Glory!!

Home of The New Man

Do we understand that the Kingdom of God is purposed by our Father to be the dwelling place of the New Man in Christ? It could accurately be said that the throne room is the living room of the New Creature. The New Man is not only the New Creature in Christ, but also Christ in you, the hope of glory. (Colossians 1:27) There is no fear of carnal shame here but only the **continual hope of glory**. The fear of shame and blame besets us when, in a state of carnal pride and rebellion, we say to our Lord, **Not thy will, but mine be done**.

At this juncture, we are no longer walking in the light and in the Spirit, where we are under the control of the Spirit of Christ. It is here that we choose to put off the New Man and put on the Old Man. Furthermore, we choose to **exit the Kingdom of God**, and enter the Kingdom of Satan and this present evil world which has always been the home of the Old or Natural Man.

It is important to understand that this is where we experience spiritual death, no longer being enabled by the Spirit of Christ to live his resurrection life of righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost. When we choose to walk in or after the flesh, we often choose to continue going to church, and even serving in some capacity, which in reality is simply going through religious motions, to include praying.

We should be reminded that Jude 20 says, “But ye beloved, **building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost.**” Only the New Man that abides in the Spirit of Christ in the Kingdom of God **can pray in the Holy Ghost**.

One of the most essential truths in scripture is that our God and Father only chooses to hear the prayers of the New Man prayed in the Holy Ghost.

Sad to say, there are vast numbers of believers that have chosen to exit the Kingdom of God, yet have a form of godliness with **no power or life thereof**. They live with the deception of having a prayer life, while being guilty of idolatry, as they offer their sacrifices of their time, energy, and resources to the gods of this world.

We find many of these believers in Revelation 3:14-22 attending the church of Laodicea. A cursory reading of this passage reveals believers that are walking in the flesh, whose gods are **gold and goods (Gk. Merchandise)**. These believers do indeed have a form of godliness, but no power thereof. They attend church and serve in a variety of capacities and offices, to include teachers and preachers as well.

God says that these carnal believers are “**wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked**”.

The heartwarming news is that our loving Father offers in verse 18 to cover the shame of their carnal nakedness with the **white raiment of his righteousness** that is reserved for the New Man in Christ. The Father goes on in verse 19 to make it clear that his heart's desire is that they be zealous for the Lord and repent. He also gives them a **solemn warning** that if they refuse to come to repentance, putting off the Old Man, and putting on the New Man, **they will come into God's judgment** through his chastening.

We find the Lord Jesus in verse 20 seeking reconciliation for those that have chosen to be carnal enemies of God. Jesus paints a beautiful picture of the process of reconciliation in simplified brevity. Jesus pictures himself standing at their heart's door, which they chose to close at some point in the past, when they were enticed and drawn away from the Kingdom of God, and their heavenly citizenship. He ministers to them through the **power and voice of his own Spirit**, offering forgiveness freely unto intimate throne room fellowship.

Their cleansing by the blood of Jesus Christ is obviously implied, as is their being ushered into the Kingdom of God, **if they will open their heart's door unto surrendered confession unto repentance and renewed faith**, whereupon they will be enabled to put off the Old Man and

put on the New Man, which is created in righteousness and true holiness.
(Eph. 4:24)

Discovering The Crisis

By definition, Crisis is a state of reaching a turning point where how we conduct our business, or life as usual must terminate, or suffer irreversible consequences.

We find this crisis state in our personal relationship and fellowship with our Father and his Son when we choose to walk in the flesh, rather than in the Spirit. We are at this point choosing to walk in darkness instead of walking in the light. We are choosing to put off the New Man and our heavenly citizenship in the Kingdom of God, as we choose to put on the Old Man and his earthly citizenship and fellowship with this world.

II Corinthians 6:17-18 says, "Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you.

And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty."

God had already told these believers in verse 14 not to be unequally yoked in fellowship with unbelievers, or this world's citizens. He tells them in verse 17 to come out from among them and separate themselves from them. He goes a step farther telling them to " **touch not** the unclean thing." The idea behind the word "touch" is to not become attached to, or bonded to.

Take careful notice of the words that follow this admonition, "and I will **receive you**". The word "receive" means to bring into a place of favor. The implication here is that if we choose to touch or become attached to an unbelieving citizen of this world, our Father will choose not to receive us, and be a Father of favor to us. Furthermore, God goes on to say in verse 18 that if we choose **not to touch** the unclean citizen of this world, he **will be a Father** unto us, here again implying that if we choose to disobey him and become attached to a worldling, he **will choose to not be a Father of**

favor to us. He will choose not to receive us, which means being brought into a place of divine favor and blessing. And finally, in the latter part of verse 18, we find that our Father will not choose to receive us as sons and daughters, **“saith the Almighty”**.

Keep in mind that positionally we are saved by grace through faith, and are seated together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus until Jesus comes, or until we go to Jesus upon dying. This passage is not conveying position truth but practical truth, or how we practice our faith, and the consequences thereof.

When we disobey God, we put off the New Man with his righteousness and true holiness. We immediately become unrighteous and unholy when we choose to put on our old unsaved nature, or the Old Man. The Old Man has a carnal mind, and the carnal mind is **spiritual death and enmity against God** according to Romans 8:6-7. Practically speaking, or in regards to the practice of our faith, we are no longer subject to the law of God, or the God of the law. We have forsaken our favored position as sons and daughters of **“the Lord Almighty”**. In the practicing of our faith, we no longer have the relationship, rights, and privileges of a son or daughter of God.

This crucial state of crisis must soon terminate at the Blood Gate, or face divine consequences, some of which may be irreversible. We find this **crisis** in our personal relationship with the Lord Almighty when we choose to walk in the flesh, rather than in the Spirit, under the control of the Spirit of Christ and his Word. In this state of crisis, we are choosing to lay down our **cross of self crucifixion and self denial**. Sad to say, this is a crucial state of being where Jesus Christ and the blood he shed for our forgiveness is scorned and mocked temporarily. Why temporarily one might say? Because we can rest assured that our Father’s chastening hand is at hand.

Galatians 6:7 says, “Be not deceived; God **is not mocked**: for whatsoever a man soweth, **that shall he also reap.**”

Many believers in our churches today seem to have no desire to come to the turning point of repentance, where they choose with a Spirit humbled will to put off the Old Man and put on the New Man.

Romans 13:12-14 says, “The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore **cast off the works of darkness**, and let us put on **the armour of light**.

Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying.

But **put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ**, (in the person of his Spirit) and make no provision for the flesh, (Old Man) to fulfill the lust thereof.”

We obey these verses when we surrender to the convicting and reproving work of the sweet Spirit of Christ. This allows him to exercise his pleasure of leading us to and through the Blood Gate into the Kingdom Throne Room. At this point, our Father’s pleasure in his sons and daughters is restored unto a divine reception and bestowal of his bountiful favor.

The Crisis of Unacceptable Service

Another sobering aspect of the Blood Gate Crisis is found in Romans 14:18 in these words, “For he that **in these things SERVETH CHRIST is acceptable to God**, and approved of men.”

May we let it soak into our soul that only the New Man has the God given desire and spiritual capability to serve Jesus Christ in an acceptable manner. We find in the words “he that in these things’ the **qualifying elements** necessary for our service to be acceptable to our Lord.

We find in verse 17 that **these things** seem to be righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost. A true servant of God is characterized by, and endowed with these virtues and this virtuous state of being filled with the Holy Ghost or the Spirit of Christ.

Our divinely bestowed credentials make the servant of God and his service acceptable unto God our Father, and the ensuing testimony of Christlikeness enables us to be approved of men. It goes without saying but must be said, that only the New Man can qualify to be a **true servant of God**.

The underlying contextual crisis is that there are no doubt a multitude of believers, to include many that are well meaning, but ignorant of these truths, that are “**serving Christ**” leaning to their own understanding, while so very deficient in their spiritual understanding of God’s required qualifications to be a **true servant of God**. Here again, they have a form of godliness but no Holy Ghost power thereof. Their service is an unrewarding struggle much of the time, leaving them frustrated and wondering why peace and joy seems to evade them. They are missing the key qualifying virtues, and virtuous state of being filled with the Spirit due to the fact that they are not serving in the Holy Ghost under the control of the Spirit of Jesus Christ.

We find a powerfully enlightening passage in Ephesians 5:14-18 regarding being filled with the Spirit. Verse 14 reveals why they weren’t filled with the Spirit in these words “Wherefore he saith, **Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead**, and Christ shall give thee light.” Note carefully that God is talking to believers that were walking, and no doubt serving, in spiritual darkness and death.

If we follow the mind of the Spirit of Christ and the heart of their Father, we can see that their one compassionate desire was to bring their children back to life and the light through a spiritual resurrection. (“**arise from the dead**”) Having overcome their spiritual crisis at the Blood Gate, Christ would now be able to live his resurrection life through them, and they could say, the life that I now live I live by the faith of the Son of God. It is here that they would be enabled to walk circumspectly (Vs.15), Redeem the time (Vs.16), Understand what the will of the Lord is (Vs.17), and be filled with the Spirit (Vs.18).

Consequences of an Unresolved Spiritual Crisis

We have learned in defining and studying the believer’s crisis of living and serving in the flesh, rather than in the Spirit, that there must be a turning point of repentance, or there will be a suffering of irreversible consequences meted out through our Father’s loving but just judgment.

I Corinthians 11:31-32 says, “For if we would **judge ourselves, we should not be judged.**

But when we are judged, we are chastened by the Lord, that we should not be **condemned with the world.**

We find in these verses our Father’s method of discipline or chastening his children. We see his graciousness, and his merciful compassion written all over them. He has made it possible for his children to judge their own sins through a **Spirit humbled willingness** to confess their sins and receive forgiveness at the Blood Gate. If they resist the convincing and reproving of the Holy Spirit with a rebellious spirit, this constitutes a Blood Gate Crisis that must be resolved by the Father’s judgment on that sin. He calls his correcting process chastening which is described in I Corinthians 11:30, where we read, “For this cause many are **weak** and **sickly** among you, and many **sleep.**” We can rest assured that through each of these steps of his chastening process, his Spirit is lovingly wooing and drawing his beloved sons to repentance and restoration.

The Judgment Seat of Christ Crisis

So what does the Blood Gate Crisis have to do with this futuristic event? Keep in mind that the nature of this crisis entails believers choosing to live and even serve in the flesh, or the Old Man, with unconfessed sins in their hearts. They are rebellious toward God’s authority over their lives, and the Lordship of Jesus Christ. They are both enemies of God and the true church of Jesus Christ.

This life of self deception and hypocrisy often goes undetected in the church due to it being such a common and accepted lifestyle. So many believers live a life of infrequent trips to the I John 1:9 Blood Gate through insensitivity to the voice of the Holy Spirit that their consciences have become seared unto even greater insensitivity.

But, there is coming a day when “Every man’s **work** shall be made manifest.” We find this truth in I Corinthians 3:13 which reads, “Every man’s work shall be made manifest: for **the day** shall declare it, because it shall

be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try **every man's work** of what sort it is."

When we choose in this life to walk in the flesh in self deception and hypocrisy, we are choosing to sow to the flesh, whereupon we are assured in Galatians 6:8 that we "shall of the flesh reap corruption." (bodily decay)

As if this physical deterioration of God's chastening judgment were not enough, we will also reap wood, hay, and stubble as our reward when our service and labor "**for Christ**" is tried by fire. Truly, God is not mocked at any level.

If our works and service are performed in the Spirit, under the directing and controlling of Jesus Christ, we will reap a **gold, silver, and precious stone rating of rewards**. May we earnestly consider that we are presently choosing the reward that we shall reap at the Judgment Seat of Christ.

In I Corinthians 3:10-11, we find these crucial words that must be obeyed as preparatory instructions for a prosperous rewarding, "But let every man take heed (**pay close attention**) **HOW HE BUILDETH** thereupon. For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ."

Every work that is done in the New Man, as we walk and serve under the control of the Spirit of Christ, when revealed by fire, will come forth as **gold, silver, and precious stones** to God's glory.

Any work that is done in the Old Man, built upon the foundation of **man's making and understanding** shall be burned as wood, hay, and stubble, but he himself shall be saved; "**yet so as by fire**". (I Cor. 3:15)

So, what does this have to do with the Blood Gate Crisis? **Only everything** when all of what we call life is over, and we stand before the Judgment Seat of Christ. We are determining **NOW** what the outcome of our judgment is going to be **THEN**.

II Corinthians 5:9-11 says, "Wherefore we labour, that, whether present or absent, (from the body) we may be **accepted of him**."

For we must all appear before the **judgment seat of Christ**; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.

Knowing therefore **the terror of the Lord**, we persuade men; but we are made manifest unto God; and I trust are made manifest in your consciences.”

I readily and passionately join with the loving Spirit of God that was seeking through the heart and spirit of Paul to **persuade men of the coming terror of the Judgment Seat of Christ**. Believers should be terrified, who are building upon their foundation of Jesus Christ, wood, hay, and stubble **right now!** And all because they are determined not to put off the Old Man at the Blood Gate, and begin living the **abundant life of righteousness and true holiness** when they put on the New Man.

We must determine **NOW** to put off the Old Man and put on the New Man at the Blood Gate, where we will immediately be walking in the light of our Lord as he is in the light. It is here that we will be walking under the control of the Spirit of God and Christ, the **hope of glory and glorious living**.

It is here that we will not only be walking in the Spirit as he directs and leads us through his Word, but we will be serving and laboring in the Spirit, building our life and works on the foundation of Jesus Christ, such that when tried by fire, will come forth as **gold, silver, and precious stones**.

If we will allow the Holy Spirit to usher us into the Kingdom of God, and learn to make God’s throne room our **own room**, what lies ahead will not be anticipated with a spirit of fear or dread but **hopeful anticipation**.

Finally brethren, it cannot be stressed enough that at this **victorious and glorious stage of spiritual understanding** and life, you can confidently say, as Paul did in Galatians 2:20, “I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but **Christ liveth in me**: and the life which I **NOW LIVE** in the flesh I live by the **FAITH OF THE SON OF GOD, who loved me, and gave himself FOR ME.**”

This is where we have chosen to love him and have given our bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God. Though it is but our **reasonable service**, it is certainly a service that will be rewarded now and in the future.

A final word of advice would be to determine that you are going to allow God to train you to be continually aware of which side of the Blood Gate you are on. He will do this through sensitivity to the Spirit's voice and leadership gained from walking as consistently as possible in the Spirit.

P.S. While it is surely the believer's greatest blessing to put off the Old Man and put on the New Man, it is truly the **unbeliever's greatest blessing** to put off the Old or Natural Man and put on the New Man or Supernatural Man by becoming a New Creature in Christ. Just as a believer has **all his sins** forgiven and washed away by the blood of Jesus Christ, the unbeliever can have **all his sins forgiven and washed away** by that **same blood**. Just as the Holy Spirit provides the power to a believer to humble his rebellious and self destructive spirit unto repentance and **renewed faith**, so will he gladly do for an unbeliever, for he says in II Peter 3:9 that he is not willing that **any should perish, (in hell)** but that **all should come unto repentance**. The Holy Spirit enables the unbeliever to surrender their will, whereupon he grants repentance and salvation faith unto the free gift of eternal life. It is at this moment that the unbeliever becomes a New Creature in Christ, putting on the New Man unto righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.

II Cor. 5:17 says, "Therefore if **any man** be in Christ, **he is a new creature**: old things are passed away; behold, **all things are become new**."

John 1:12 says, "But as many as **received him, to them** gave he power to become the **sons of God**, even to them that **believe on his name**".

If you have realized that you have never really become a New Creature in Christ with the full assurance of eternal life, respond to the working and wooing of the Spirit today by expressing your willingness to him to **receive him**, whereupon he will give you the power to become the son of God.

