

“To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father—to him be glory and power for ever and ever. Amen.”

(Revelation 1:5b,6 NIV)

Chapter 7

Standing in Victory and Celebrating the Victory

Divine Love Expressed

Jesus expressed a magnificent act of love as He went to the cross, embracing the will of His Father. He took the punishment for the sins of mankind on Himself as He endured pain, torture and suffering. An eternal source of Holy blood from the perfect, unblemished Lamb of God was opened for all who will receive it by faith.

Deliverance from Satan

The blood of Jesus Christ is the foundation for the believer's salvation. Jesus' blood conquered Satan and provided the means for the believer to live with God forever in eternity. It also provides ongoing deliverance from the ravages of sin. We have a vicious enemy who *“prowls around*

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like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour" (1 Peter 5:8b NIV). Satan hopes we do not know and understand our kingdom inheritance. We have to remind him we are blood bought and washed, and our sins are removed as we confess them and walk in the light. 1 John 1:7 NIV assures us, "*But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus, His Son, purifies us from every sin.*" We overcome the enemy by the provision of our Father when we proclaim aloud the benefits of the blood. We come to our place of service in God's kingdom with the power of our victory over Satan gained by Jesus' death. We march on, and no power of the enemy is able to stand against us.

Each believer is to bear witness to the atoning sacrifice of Jesus Christ and its power to save mankind. "*Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, Whom He hath redeemed from the hand of the enemy*" (Psalms 107:2 NKJV). We are redeemed from the hand of the enemy. We must remind our enemy of that truth and enforce it by the *audibly spoken* word of Scripture.

A friend of mine shared a powerful story with me about her mother who was a praying woman. This mother claimed the protection of the blood covenant over her daughter daily. One Sunday, Edna's mother laid hands on her and claimed the blood as a protection over her as she left for work. Part of Edna's summer job was traveling every Sunday in a small private plane with her boss, a physician, to provide medical care to indigent people.

After they had completed the day's work, Edna and her boss were driven to the open field to fly home. While taxiing through the tall grass, the plane's tire suddenly hit a huge rock, causing the plane to flip over a couple of times,

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eventually landing upside down. Edna was trapped under the pilot's seat. She was drenched with gasoline. The man who had driven Edna and her boss to the airstrip saw the accident, quickly got out of his truck, and ax in hand, freed Edna and the physician. As they walked away, the plane burst into flames and blew up. Edna's mother told her later that she had felt a real urgency to pray for her at the exact time of the accident.

This story encourages us to be steadfast in prayer for the protection of others as well as for ourselves. The blood is a mighty force of protection as the believer declares his faith in the blood of Jesus.

Just as the high priest in the Old Testament took a basin of blood physically into the inner court, the Holy of Holies, (to sprinkle for the sins of the people), so we, by faith, symbolically take the blood of Jesus and sprinkle it on situations in our lives and those around us by the word of our testimony. We declare we are blood-covenant children. We take the blood, by faith, from the cross and verbally proclaim its power in our daily lives.

The life of Jesus is in the blood, as all life is in the blood. (Leviticus. 17:11) When we, by faith, call on the power of the blood we are calling for the life of Jesus to come to bear on the situation facing us. The Children of Israel applied the blood with the hyssop to their door posts. We, as believers, receive the blood covering over our hearts (the doorway to our personhood) when we experience the new birth. Then we become responsible for claiming the benefits Scripture promises us. Revelation 12:11 NIV declares, "*They overcame him (Satan) by the blood of the lamb and by the word of their testimony.*" The word of our testimony is our hyssop.

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It is what we use to declare the blood over an individual situation to cause the power of the blood to come to bear on the need that is present.

Blood Cry of the Believer

When we call on the blood we cry for mercy from the mercy seat in heaven where Jesus is seated with the Father—His Father—our Father. The whole realm of God's power is opened when the child of God honors, uses, and audibly claims the blood of Jesus. There is a royal bloodline, and the great destroyer cannot get through it.

We must remember to appropriate the blood by speaking its benefits in faith in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. It is *not a passive faith* in the blood that brings victory. It is an *active proclaiming of faith*. But proclaiming the blood of Jesus without obedience to the Word of God will avail us nothing! Disobedience breaks the bloodline and allows Satan entrance into the circumstances affecting our lives.

Drawing on the Blood Provision

Looking back to the Old Testament, priests applied blood to those to whom he was ministering. This figuratively is a picture that the blood will cleanse and sanctify all that enters into our ear, everything we put our hand to, and covers every path our foot treads upon during the course of our daily walk.

Exodus 12:24 NKJV says in referring to the application of the blood on the door posts: “*And you shall observe this thing as an ordinance to you and your sons forever.*” Hebrews.

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9:12 tells us Jesus went once for all into the Holy of Holies with His own blood to secure a complete redemption—everlasting release for us. We have the benefits of His blood sacrifice available to us. Yet, it is the believer's privilege to draw on this deposit. Just as we write a check to draw out of our financial bank account, we must also draw on the spiritual bank of benefits of the blood by speaking in faith. The hyssop available to us today is the declaration with our mouth as we draw on the provision made possible by the blood. Just as the Children of Israel used the hyssop to apply the blood to their doorposts, we must speak the blood promises over our concerns. We are calling for the power of Jesus Christ to come to bear on the situation.

A lady told me that when she was eight years old she had rheumatism in her knees. Her mother felt led to set a day aside to fast and pray, pleading the blood over her child. At the end of the day she laid hands on her young child and prayed for her healing claiming the power of the blood. The next day the affliction was completely gone and has never returned.

Often we must battle with unseen demonic forces before we can get answers to our prayers. Proclaiming the blood will confound the opposing evil spiritual forces that often delay God's answers. Declaring the authority of the blood of Jesus has a primary place in all intercessory prayer.

Power in the Blood

The life of Jesus is in His blood. When we point to the blood sacrifice provided by Jesus Christ at the cross, we are calling on the power of His life to come to bear on the

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situations we face. Each time we proclaim, in faith, the power of the blood, we are bringing the life force of Jesus Christ to bear upon whatever crisis is at hand. We claim and proclaim the blood of Jesus and command Satan to loose his grip in the name of Jesus. We always remember that it is the indwelling Holy Spirit who gives us strength to do this. It is not rote, fleshly chanting or ritual. It is the blood-bought child of Father God standing boldly and confidently in the gracious salvation provided at the cross by the shed blood of the Lamb of God.

Revelation 5:9 NKJV speaks of the twenty-four elders in heaven falling down before the Lamb: *“And they sang a new song: ‘You are worthy to take the scroll, And to open its seals; For you were slain, And with your blood you purchased men for God from every tribe and language and people and nation. You made them be a kingdom and priests to serve our God and they will reign on the earth.’”* Hebrews 10:19 NIV states, *“Therefore brothers, since we have confidence to enter the most Holy place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is his Body, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water.”* This verse makes clear we are to have full confidence to enter the Holy of Holies (the interior portion of the Old Testament tabernacle symbolizing, for the present day believer, the place closest to God) by the power and virtue of the blood. Hebrews 4:16 AMP states, *“Let us then fearlessly and confidently and boldly draw near to the throne of grace—the throne of*

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God's unmerited favor [to us sinners]; that we may receive mercy [for our failures] and find grace to help in good time for every need—appropriate help and well-timed help, coming just when we need it.”

The story is told of a child born with a tear duct that was too small so that the fluid from her right eye did not drain properly. Her grandparents laid hands on her and prayed over it but saw no visible results for almost two years. One day, while studying the blood covenant, one of the grandparents reminded the Lord of the situation in prayer and then declared aloud for the enemy Satan to hear, “This child is part of our family and is in the blood covenant. This tear duct has to yield to the power of the blood. This has gone on long enough! Satan, get your hands off this situation, the blood of Jesus is against you and is applied, by faith, to this eye duct.” On the next visit to the doctor, the eye was completely clear of drainage which had collected in her eye on a regular basis.

Believer as Priest Proclaiming the Blood Covenant

Scripture makes it clear the believer is a priest. 1 Peter 2:5 AMP states, “[Come] and as living stones be yourselves built into a spiritual house for a holy (dedicated, consecrated) priesthood, to offer up [those] spiritual sacrifices [that are] acceptable and well pleasing to God through Jesus Christ.” We are also ministers of reconciliation according to 2 Corinthians 5:18 NIV. It tells us we are reconciled (brought into harmony) to God through Jesus Christ and we have a ministry of reconciliation—that by word and deed we might aspire to bring others into harmony with Him. “All this is

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from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation.” We place our trust in the finished work of the cross and we proclaim that message of reconciliation out to the world in our daily walk with the Lord.

We must call on the blood of Jesus where there is stress or any action that opposes God's will on earth. *“You have come to Jesus, the one who mediates the new covenant between God and people, and to the sprinkled blood, which graciously forgives instead of crying out for vengeance as the blood of Abel did”* (Hebrews 12:24 NLT).

Satan is behind all damage to our bodies whether directly or indirectly. He tempts us with bad health habits, passivity to exercise, proneness to worry, and anxiety. W.H. Whyte teaches that when the blood of Jesus is applied in faith, it acts as a covering and “the natural healing processes in our body quickly do their work, for they are not hindered by Satan. The blood of Jesus is the finest covering and disinfectant in the world. It is perfect!”⁽¹⁾

Whyte also states that: “When the blood covers us and we know it and we have placed it by faith upon our hearts, lives, homes, and loved ones, then we have created a condition where Satan cannot get through. So keep under the blood! This is one substance all the devils in hell cannot penetrate. But it is not automatically obtained—we must claim it by faith and maintain it by continuing in that faith. We are not to let down our faith in the blood. There is more power in the blood than anyone ever imagined.”⁽²⁾

Whyte's strongest Scriptural reference is Zechariah 13:1, which speaks of a fountain that “is described as a river, a continually flowing river into which we may plunge daily

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to wash away our sins and sicknesses and sorrows. This stream ever flows before Satan and all his host; and as we honor it, sing about it, talk about it, plead it out loud, the blood of Jesus pleads mercy, forgiveness, pardon, healing, protection, deliverance and multiplied joy and peace.”⁽³⁾

We believe in the historic blood of Calvary and we also believe the power made available by that fountain of the precious blood of Jesus is available today by faith. We avail ourselves of its power and life by faith. We proclaim it to enforce Jesus’ victory over Satan in every aspect of our lives. The havoc in the life of a child of God is addressed through a personal declaration of the power of the blood covenant. During the Old Testament Passover, the blood applied to the doorpost provided the means for peace of mind. It took away the power of the destroyer. It was the applied blood that halted the destroyer. Action was required in putting the blood on the doorposts of the dwellings.

So it is with the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. It is effective in the life of the believer on a day-to-day basis when the person declares his faith in the victory over Satan secured at the cross by Jesus. Colossians 2:15 NKJV—“*Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it.*” Revelation 12:11 NIV states, “*They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony; and they did not love their lives so much as to shrink from death.*”

Three guidelines are presented in this Scripture. 1) The basis of our power and authority over the enemy is the blood of the Lamb. 2) The word of our testimony is the *speaking aloud* of scripture to our adversary declaring what the blood

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of Jesus provided for us as His followers. Jesus demonstrated this pattern for us in the wilderness when He used the sword of the Spirit (the word) against Satan. He said, "*It is written*" as He responded to the temptations. (Matthew 4:3) We deal with the "self life" when we declare we love not our own lives.

Under the protection of the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ, and through the authority He imparted to us, we notify Satan he is a defeated foe. God promised His people that He will deliver them from the destroyer when He sees the blood (the Passover account discussed previously in chapter six). God keeps His promises. Our responsibility and privilege is to declare the victory over Satan that Jesus' death on the cross secured. "*Submit yourselves, then to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you*" (James 4:7 NIV).

While washing her hair under the kitchen sink, my friend, Brenda turned her head in such a way that water went into her left ear very forcefully causing *complete* loss of hearing. The doctor treated her with medication but her hearing did not return. She then went to an ear specialist who told her "You are deaf in this ear! This just happens sometimes for no reason. There is nothing that will help. You will just have to get used to it."

Brenda immediately thought of the men Moses sent out to spy the land of Canaan. (Numbers 13). Caleb said, "*We are well able to overcome . . .*" but the men who went up with him brought an evil report. Brenda decided she would not receive a bad report regardless of its medical basis. *She did not let the words of the doctor take "root" in her.* Psalms 112:7,8 NIV says of the man who fears the Lord: "*He will have no fear of bad news; his heart is steadfast trusting in the*

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Lord. His heart is secure, he will have no fear; in the end he will look in triumph on his foes.”

Brenda asked others to stand with her in prayer including an elder who anointed her with oil and prayed for complete restoration of her hearing. He reported the prayer for healing just seemed to gush out of him. Brenda felt movement in her ear as he prayed.

Following this prayer, Brenda began to attack the enemy who tries to kill, steal, and destroy. (John 10:10) The Lord uses Brenda in a ministry of listening to hurting, troubled, anxious people, especially by telephone. Satan would have loved to thwart that ministry. Like a good soldier, she went to battle enforcing the law of redemption which she believes includes provision for her body as well as for her spirit. She picked up the sword of the spirit (Ephesians 6) and attacked Satan with it.

Three times a day Brenda anointed her ear with oil and declared the power of the blood over this affliction. She recounts standing and looking at herself in the mirror and literally *preaching the healing word of Scripture to her ear*. “This ear is whole in the name of Jesus. It has perfect hearing because Jesus died to provide for my physical as well as for my spiritual wholeness. I will not allow Satan to come and steal, kill, and destroy my hearing. I am a child of the most High God—El-Elyon. The precious blood of Jesus bought me. As God’s daughter, I have every right to expect this ear to hear. This left ear problem will bow to the name of Jesus and His will. His will is for me to hear.”

The Lord had led Brenda to Matthew 11:5 which declares that “*the deaf hear,*” Brenda declared this promise a

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number of times over her ear with the belief that Jesus had pain in His ears on the cross to cover this affliction. Blood ran down and covered His ears. “He deposited all I need on the day he died. It is in my account. I have to draw on it. I am healed by the stripes of Jesus (Isaiah 53). I know I have my hearing. I see myself with perfect hearing.”

During this time Brenda's husband came home from an overseas job. She asked him to lay hands on her ear and pray over it, which he willingly did. Their daughter was getting married during this time, and it would have been easy for Brenda to think she was too busy to focus on this hearing problem. This did not happen. She went after this healing with the Word of the Lord, knowing the Word will not return void (Isaiah 55:11). After four weeks, her hearing was completely restored as it became progressively better over the last few days of this period. She was using the Word as medicine (Proverbs 4:20). Medicine does not always take care of the symptoms immediately as it is working on the disease at the source.

Brenda says that she now has an enlarged compassion for people with negative reports. She has been empowered with more of a heart for hurting people. She has walked through training that God will use as she ministers to others.

The fountain of blood was provided at Calvary but it must be *activated by confession*. (We have understood the importance of confession for receiving Jesus as Savior.) Now we come to understand receiving Jesus as healer. Just as you have water in a water fountain (in a country with adequate water supply), you have to turn the handle to start the water bubbling up. We, too, as believers, draw on the

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fountain of blood provided by Jesus Christ's sacrificial death on the cross. The fountain starts to flow in the spirit realm as we *audibly declare our faith in the power of the blood*.

Whyte believes that "If every Christian who names the name of Jesus would plead His precious blood every day *out loud*, the result would be catastrophic in Satan's Kingdom and great deliverance would be felt in the church and the nation."⁽⁴⁾ This also extends to our private lives as well. We remind ourselves to stay under the blood protection through faith and obedience. Our Father will hear His children when we stand on earth and sound the blood cry. Our enemy is turned back when we proclaim the blood sacrifice of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

I am indebted to the renowned Bible scholar, Derek Prince for the following.

Confession for Overcomers

My body is a temple for the Holy Spirit, redeemed, cleansed, and sanctified by the Blood of Jesus. My members, the parts of my body, are instruments of righteousness, yielded to God for His service and for His glory. The devil has no place in me, no power over me, no unsettled claims against me. All has been settled by the Blood of Jesus. I overcome Satan by the Blood of the lamb, and by the word of my testimony, and I love not my life unto the death. My body is for the Lord and the Lord is for my body. Amen.

As you will recognize, all these statements are the pure Word of God from various Scriptures.

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I have had two dramatic experiences of victory using this confession of the Word.

My husband, daughter, and I were traveling and stopped for overnight. I awakened about 4 A.M. racked with severe pain in my left mid-back area. The pain was unmistakably related to a kidney stone, which I had experienced before. As I thrashed around in the bed, trying to get into a position which would offer some relief, my husband awakened. I asked him to lay hands on me and pray for me.

I am a nurse by profession and believe in practical measures as well as the spiritual. I got in the shower and let the hottest water I could stand beat down on the pained area. For 15–20 minutes I proclaimed the Overcomer's Confession, which I had committed to memory.

I said this audibly while the hot water ran on my back. I was combining a scriptural declaration with a practical comfort measure. After about fifteen minutes of speaking the Word, the pain was completely gone and has never recurred in the ensuing 12–15 years.

The second experience with this powerful declaration of Scriptures occurred at a Celebrate Jesus board meeting, where I served in the capacity of prayer chairman. As prayer requests were given, the leader assigned me to pray for a gentleman who held up his hand and said he was in severe pain from a kidney stone. I sat trying to discern how to pray—being one of only two lay women in the room in the midst of a number of pastors of various denominations. I was a little intimidated and didn't feel I could rise up in a full gospel, "shake-the-rafters" kind of prayer. When it was my time to pray, I tapped the shoulder of one of the ministers so he would join me.

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Another man came as we circled the table where Gary sat. The two of them laid hands on Gary, anointed him with oil and prayed. Then I said, "I need to stop for a moment and share my kidney stone experience" which I did very briefly. Then I said, "I want to proclaim the Overcomer's Confession over Gary, which I did inserting his name where appropriate.

The Lord had prompted me to take one of the printed Overcomer's Confession cards to the meeting that day. I left it with Gary after the proclamation. About twenty minutes further into the meeting, Gary raised his hand and said, "I have a praise report: the pain is gone." I see Gary frequently and he testifies the pain has never returned in the two-plus intervening years. It is good to remind ourselves that the Word of God is our sword (Ephesians 6:17). I was speaking the pure Word of God over Gary, not my own thoughts. "*God sent His Word and healed them*" (Psalms 107:20). We were within scriptural guidelines as the pastor and elder laid hands on him and anointed him with oil. There were a number of scriptural principles present here including proclamation of the power of the blood.

Would You Be Free

Would you be free from the burden of sin?
There's power in the blood, pow'r in the blood;
Would you o'er evil a victory win?
There's wonderful pow'r in the blood.
Would you be free from your passion and pride?
There's pow'r in the blood, pow'r in the blood;
Come for a cleansing to Calvary's tide
There's wonderful pow'r in the blood.

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Would you be whiter, much whiter than snow
There's pow'r in the blood, pow'r in the blood;
Sin stains are lost in its life giving flow,
There's wonderful pow'r in the blood.
Would you do service for Jesus your King?
There's pow'r in the blood, pow'r in the blood,
Would you live daily His praises to sing?
There's wonderful pow'r in the blood.

Chorus

There is power, pow'r, wonder working pow'r
In the blood of the Lamb;
There is pow'r, pow'r, wonder working pow'r
In the precious blood of the Lamb.

L.E. Jones
Great Songs of the Church—Number Two
Standard Publishing

One night in a church service a young woman felt the tug of God at her heart. She responded to God's call and accepted Jesus as her Lord and Savior. The young woman had a very rough past, involving alcohol, drugs, and prostitution. But the change in her was evident. As time went on she became a faithful member of the church. She eventually became involved in the ministry teaching young children. It was not very long until this faithful young woman had caught the eye and heart of the pastor's son. Their relationship grew and they began to make wedding plans.

However, problems began as about one half of the church did not think that a woman with a past such as hers was suitable as a wife for the pastor's son. The church be-

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gan to argue and fight about the matter, which led to a meeting. The meeting got completely out of hand with tension building during the arguments. The young woman became very upset over all the things being brought up about her past. She began to cry. The young man could not stand to see his beloved in such pain. He stated, “My fiancée’s past is not what is on trial here. What you are questioning is the ability of the blood of Jesus to wash away sin. Today you have put the blood of Jesus on trial. So, does it wash away sin or not?” The whole church began to weep as they realized they had been slandering the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Too often, even as Christians, we bring up the past and use it as a weapon against our brothers and sisters. Forgiveness is a very foundational part of the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. If the blood of Jesus does not cleanse the person in question completely, then it cannot cleanse us completely. If that is the case, then we are all in serious trouble. What can wash away my sins? Nothing but the blood of Jesus. There is no case or charge that can be brought against the *blood-bought* child of God!

Celebrating the Victory Through Communion

Jesus and His disciples were celebrating Passover together in the upper room. The time was at hand when Jesus, the Lamb of God (John 1:36) would offer His blood as a sacrifice for the sins of all mankind (Mark 14:16–26, Matthew 26:17–30). We remember it was at the Passover, as the Israelites prepared to leave Egypt (Exodus 12), they ate of a sacrificial lamb without spot or blemish.. The father

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was commanded to apply the blood of the lamb to their doorposts so that God's judgment would pass over their homes. Communion pictures this Passover act: we partake of the bread representing Jesus' body and drink the fruit of the vine representing His blood.

It was at this time that Jesus instituted what is known in the Protestant churches as the Lord's Supper or Communion, known in the Catholic Church as the Holy Eucharist. He took bread, gave thanks, broke it and said, *"This is my body which is for you; do this in remembrance of me."* In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, *"This cup is the covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."* For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes" (1 Corinthians 11:24–26 NIV). As believers in Christ we have the wonderful promise in Jesus' words in John 6:54–56 NIV, *"I tell you the truth, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day. For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in him."*

Remembering

Each time we come to the Lord's table, it is an occasion for confession of faith in Jesus' sacrifice. We are calling to remembrance the Lord's death—proclaiming the benefits of Jesus' redemption over our lives. We have the opportunity to call to memory and appropriate the benefits Jesus' death provided for us and for all those who receive Him as Lord and Savior.

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God desires that communion be a time of intimacy with Christ. We enter into His presence with awe in great reverence and thankfulness with our hearts focused on Christ and His ministry of total salvation. We have the privilege of entering into a supernatural union with Jesus as we receive the bread and cup. It is a sacred meeting with Christ where we experience a bond of fellowship. We enter the divine presence with our hearts focused upon Christ and His ministry of salvation. It is a “supper of memory.” When we look at the bread and cup we travel back in time to the cross and the memory of the Passover time when the perfect Lamb was sacrificed. He was the lamb slain from the foundation of the world. (Revelation 13:8) We kneel in our spirit at the foot of the cross, and by faith the healing rays come off the cross and cover us as we wrap the righteousness of Jesus around us. We bask in His presence.

Self Examination/Discerning the Lord's Body

We are cautioned to examine ourselves so as not to eat and drink in an unworthy manner. We examine our life asking God to reveal to us any sins that need to be confessed, repented of, and renounced (1 John 1:9). Communion offers us a spiritual cleansing.

We bring judgment upon ourselves if we do not discern the Lord's body. We are cautioned in 1 Corinthians 11:29 that we open ourselves up to weakness, sickness, and death (premature) if we do not discern the body of Jesus. Isaiah 53:5b AMP clearly states: “*With the stripes that wounded Him, we are healed and made whole.*” His body was bruised, beaten, and pierced for our sickness/physical affliction.

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Physical wholeness is part of the redemptive work of Christ. Matthew 8:17 and again 1 Peter 2:24 make it clear that Jesus bore our diseases. He sustained in His body wounds to provide for my physical well being, and out of those wounds His blood flowed to cover my sins.

We also recognize that we are part of the body of Christ—believers all over the world who are also in the blood covenant. We acknowledge our spiritual union within that body who are also partakers of Jesus' body and blood. Remember that Christ is the head of the church and we are members dependent on Him and on one another. We are part of His body and are to dwell in unity in the family of God. The Holy Spirit makes unity possible. It is the responsibility of each believer to do his or her part to maintain the unity.

Partaking

When we partake of the cup we celebrate His taking our sins. When we partake of the bread, we draw on the healing listed in Psalm 103:3 as the second benefit of the Lord. We exchange weakness for strength, inadequacy for adequacy. The divine exchange is there, but we must recognize it and draw on it. We are, by faith, feeding on the life of Jesus as we take the bread and cup into our own bodies. We are drawing on His life.

Indeed He is our life. We, by faith, draw on the healing rays that come off the cross.

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The Cross of Calvary

By your stripes I have been healed
By the blood that flowed down from your head
By your wounded side and nail-scarred hands
To reveal to me redemption's plan
I begin to see your heart towards man
How you died for me so I could stand in you.

The cross of Calvary it stands for victory
It stands eternally for all to see
The cross of Calvary has made a way for me
And sets this captive free to honor thee.

Words and music by Matthew Ward and Ann Herring
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Day Rain
Journey of My Heart Album / Kelly Wilkerson Vocalist

When we celebrate communion, we recall the benefits provided by His sacrifice on Calvary. We proclaim the power of the cross in our lives, as well as proclaim Jesus' triumph over Satan at the cross. We take refuge in the shadow of the cross. We enter the divine presence with our heart focused upon Christ and His ministry of salvation. We are committed to share that life wherever he provides opportunity. Jesus' blood is a mighty spiritual force that binds the believer to God in blood covenant.

