

## Life in the Blood

By Red Miller

*In Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ. Ephesians 2:13*

Twenty three years ago I was rushed to the hospital emergency room with symptoms of a heart attack. A heart catheterization revealed a 99% blockage in the aorta artery. The doctor called it the widow maker. I was on the verge of a massive heart attack.

During the catheterization the medical team did an angioplasty procedure. The Doctor informed me it could get very painful as they approached the blockage and to let him know if it got to where I could not stand the pain so he could momentarily back off.

Just as I was about to say I needed a break the blockage was opened and the pain immediately gone. The sudden rush of blood through the opened artery made the heart able once again to pump blood more effectively to the rest of my body giving me new life.

We also can have new life through the blood of Christ. In Hebrews 9:12, we read, *“With his own blood—not the blood of goats and calves—he entered the Most Holy Place once for all time and secured our redemption forever.”*

In Old Testament times, believers symbolically transferred their sins to an animal, which they then sacrificed, the animal died in their place to pay for their sin and to allow them to continue living in God’s favor. Now, real cleansing from sin comes with Jesus, Jesus did not die for his own sins; he had none.

Instead, by a transaction that we may never fully understand, he died for the sins of the world. When we commit our life to Christ and thus identify ourselves with him, his death becomes ours. He has paid the penalty for our sins, and his blood has purified us. Just as Christ rose from the grave, we rise to a new life of fellowship with him.

A preacher was speaking from the text, “The blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.” Suddenly, he was interrupted by an atheist who asked, “How can blood cleanse sin? “For a moment the preacher was silent; then he countered, “How can water quench thirst?” “I do not know,” replied the infidel, “but I know that it does.” “Neither do I know how the blood of Jesus cleanses sin,” answered the preacher, “but I know that it does.”

Pondering all these things I believe that God’s Spirit infuses my heart with the blood of Jesus, bringing me to everlasting life. My heart is now alive and I have new life, both here on earth and for all eternity with Christ.

*In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy! Phil.1:4*