



There is Power In the Blood of Jesus...

Reflections from Mityana, Uganda. William Mather 8/4/03.

This follows the recent ten-day SOMA mission to Mityana, involving much teaching on "cleansing the land" and spiritual warfare. This was then followed by travel to a number of different rural churches to exercise intercessory prayer.

The blood of Jesus poured out on the Cross cleanses from all sin and has victory over all the powers of Satan and death in heaven, earth and sea.

Satan uses blood and needs blood. Unlike Jesus he has not come on earth in bodily form. Satan needs blood for life and power and he keeps on needing it, as do his demonic minions.

People make blood sacrifices to provide Satan and his demons with blood – to feed and appease them. This then gives power to the Satan worshipper, which they can then use to bring further destruction and blood-letting. This can be the cause of unexplainable accidents or deaths in certain places. In such cases, Satan-worshippers, by appeasing demons are able to use them for their own ends. The work is therefore evil and demonic.

Such activity is also idolatrous as worship is taking place for somebody or something other than God. In this respect idolatry can encompass any activities where some person or work of creation is worshipped other than God. Idolatry can include Satan worship, Spirit worship, mediumistic activity, sexual immorality, pornography, worship of prominent figures such as kings, politicians, actors, pop-stars, artists. It can also include worship of the sun, moon, stars, trees, or mountains such as Mt Kenya.

In the western capitalist world such idolatry can include the "worship" of making money, of your bank balance, business deals and expertise, cars, houses, boats, families. In other words anything that is placed on a higher level than God, or reckoned to be more important than him, is a form of idolatry. That thing or person becomes, in effect, an object of worship.

When many people are involved in such activity, or such activity is very pervasive, it nullifies the work of the Kingdom of God. Christian churches suffer.

Clearly such activity needs to be identified and removed before the work of Jesus Christ can prosper. This is the work of spiritual warfare: discerning where the spiritual problems lie and then through prayer removing them. The result is a cleansing of the land.

First "spiritual mapping" is needed to discern and identify strongholds of satanic enemy activity. Here, intercessors skilled in spiritual warfare operate in the form of "prayer warriors". This is a particular calling to discern idolatrous enemy activity and wage warfare.

Central to this is the victory of Jesus on the cross, bringing freedom to all who trust and believe in Him. This applies to all creation, including people and places.

The powers exercised by idolatrous spirits are broken by repentance and by invoking the power of the blood of Jesus given once and for all on the cross, thus enabling a release of the person or the place from Satanic activity.

For individuals this is only made real by personal repentance, confession of sin and idolatrous practices to Jesus and asking for his forgiveness and mercy.

There is also a partial measure possible through what has become known as "identificational repentance". Here the intercessor discerns the area of sin or idolatry and repents personally of that sin – even though he or she may not have committed it (Nehemiah 1 or Daniel 9: 4-17).

This identificational repentance can apply to a person or to a people or a nation. For a person to fully enter in and experience freedom they need to own it personally. But the intercessor can repent on behalf of another and in this way bring them to Jesus – our 'advocate' in heaven - who in turn is able to appeal to the Father – the "judge" – for mercy.

In intercession for places and nations it is giving notices in the spiritual realms that time is up for such forces in the name of Jesus Christ. It may mean physically visiting and praying in such places.

What in effect is happening is that the intercessor is releasing the power of the blood of Christ given at Calvary and bringing it to bear in the person or situation concerned.

The blood of Jesus has been given once and for all on the Cross and is powerful for all time to overcome and break the power of Satan. Demonic power released through blood sacrifices is broken; all demonic powers attained through idolatry are broken. But first they must be discerned, recognised, repented of and forgiven.

In severe cases the New Testament blood of Jesus, symbolised in consecrated communion wine may need to be sprinkled in an affected or infested area or with an afflicted person. The sprinkling of water that has been set aside for this purpose through prayer can also be used as part of

the process of cleansing, in the same way that oil can be used in healing prayer. All such consecrated elements can be used powerfully to bring release and cleansing in the process of healing and deliverance.

It follows therefore that prayers invoked in the name of Jesus and claiming the blood of Jesus are powerful in the hands of the intercessor to cut through the powerful blood-lusts and sacrifices of Satan.

In Genesis, after Cain murdered his brother Abel, we read that the blood of Abel calls out for vengeance from the ground. This is a classic invitation to demonic beings to respond to such a blood call in order to promote vengeance and thus more blood.

Rather than vengeance the answer is to fight blood with blood – a blood that is more powerful than any instrument of Satan. The blood of Jesus is the only all-sufficient atonement for sin and idolatry and it is only through applying the blood of Jesus that true freedom can be realised. At the heart of this is confession of the sin, repentance and forgiveness.

All of this can only be done in and through the enabling power of the Holy Spirit in the name of Jesus.

The net result is people and places set free in the all-embracing love of the Father, for whom the only appropriate response is “Abba – Daddy – my Father.”

In the words of the hymn:

Glory be to Jesus, who in bitter pains
Poured for me the life-blood from his sacred veins.
Grace and life eternal in that blood I find;
Blest be his compassion, infinitely kind.

Blest through endless ages be the precious stream
Which from endless torments did the world redeem.
Abel’s blood for vengeance pleaded to the skies;
But the blood of Jesus for our pardon cries

Oft as it is sprinkled on our guilty hearts
Satan in confusion terror-struck departs
Oft as earth exulting wafts its praise on high,
Angel-hosts rejoicing make their glad reply.

Lift ye then your voices; swell the mighty flood;
Louder still and louder praise the precious blood!