

- a. God is perfectly just and righteous, which means that all sin must be judged.
 - b. God's perfection is manifested into Creation by His word, and His word cannot be delivered and not be truth.
1. Therefore, when God said to Adam that eating the fruit would mean death, then by that word death must be the penalty for sin.
 - ☐ So as Adam and Woman ate, they sinned, and in their sin they incurred the penalty God's word proclaimed.
 - a. After they sinned, they immediately became aware of their jeopardy before God.
 - b. Their consciousness reflected this spiritual change by experiencing feelings of guilt and vulnerability and shame.
 - c. Even without God present, they sensed their jeopardy, and after God appears, they hide in fear for the same reason
 - These feelings caused them to sense a need for physical covering.
 2. They could no longer feel at ease without it
 - ☐ Their spiritual exposure brought with it a physical exposure
 - a. They could not cover or correct for their spiritual exposure, so they did the only thing they could.
 - They sought physical covering.
 3. The Lord gave Man and Woman covering of animal skins, which were made available to them by the sacrifice of an animal.
 - ☐ In Gen 3:21 we're told that God accomplished that first sacrifice for Man
 - a. He sacrificed an animal, spilling its blood, and used the skins to clothe them
 - That sacrifice was the first physical death in God's creation.
 - It was made necessary because of sin.
 - b. So the blood of the sacrifice was a spiritual covering while the clothing was a physical covering.

Through this example, we learn about...

The Relationship between Sin and Blood and Covering.

First... sin in any form immediately makes necessary death

- ☐ If God is to make an escape possible for sinful man, His wrath for sin must still be satisfied, since God's word still stands.
 - a. So there must be a payment of death for sin.
 - b. And according to scripture, the life of a living creature is held in the blood.

Leviticus 17:11 *'For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it to you on the altar to make atonement for your souls; for it is the blood by reason of the life that makes atonement.'*

- The blood is the life of every creature
 - If the blood is poured out of the body, then the life is taken out of the body as well.
- b. So where sin exists, a pouring out of blood must take place to satisfy God's word concerning sin.

Second... the sacrifice must be a substitute without sin itself.

- ☐ We sacrifice animals since they are not creatures capable of sinning against God's Law
 - a. Yet they are under the curse of the Law, since they are from the earth which God has cursed.

- Finally, the sacrifice must be offered in a pure and holy manner, apart
- b. So though they are acceptable to God, animal sacrifices cannot put away sin altogether.

Finally... the sacrifice must be offered in a pure and holy manner, apart from sin, or else the sacrifice is defiled and it is no longer a suitable substitute.

- The priests were sinful men, but for the time they served in the tabernacle, they engaged in ritual cleansing and sacrifice that provided spiritual covering.
 - a. Their garments provided physical covering
 - b. These things were appointed under the Law so that as the priest's fulfilled their duties under the Law, they were acceptable to the Lord.
- So under the Law, the priests are required to wear special clothing as part of the process of making themselves acceptable to God in performing their duties on behalf of the people.
 - a. Ultimately, these sacrifices were insufficient to address sin.
 - b. Men offered the sacrifices in obedience to the law.
 - c. Their faith brought salvation apart from the Law.
 - d. But the rituals of sacrifice were a constant reminder that sin requires death unless an acceptable covering is provided that is acceptable to God.

We can draw Two Parallels or Illustrations from these things...

First... Christ's work on our behalf is pictured in lesser form by all these details.

- a. Christ lived a sinless life making Him a perfect sacrifice.
- b. He died and spilled His blood to pay our debt.
- c. His blood covered the offense of sin, not in an earthly tabernacle but in a Heavenly tabernacle.
- d. Furthermore, since He was not born under the curse but was born of the Holy Spirit, His death could accomplish what no other could.
- e. Finally, Jesus was born in human form so He could serve as man's representative before the Throne.
 - Since our Representative must be made like us but without sin.
 - Just as the High Priest of Israel represented his people but only after being consecrated.

Secondly... we see a picture of how the saints must serve the Lord today

- Paul says this in **Romans 12:1**

- a. As we serve in God's house, we serve as priests in the sense that we present our bodies to the Lord as our sacrifice.
 - But we must present them in a holy way.
 - We must have a covering for our sin before our spiritual service is acceptable to God.

- Hebrews puts it succinctly in **Hebrews 11:6**

- Romans 1-11 describes God's plan for salvation

- a. Romans 12 and onward describes the response of a believer to their salvation
- b. You can't do Romans 12 unless you've already lived Romans 1-11
- c. Just like the priests, we must be covered by the sacrifice of Christ, consecrated for service by our faith, before we can serve the loving God. **218**