

BIBLE STUDY

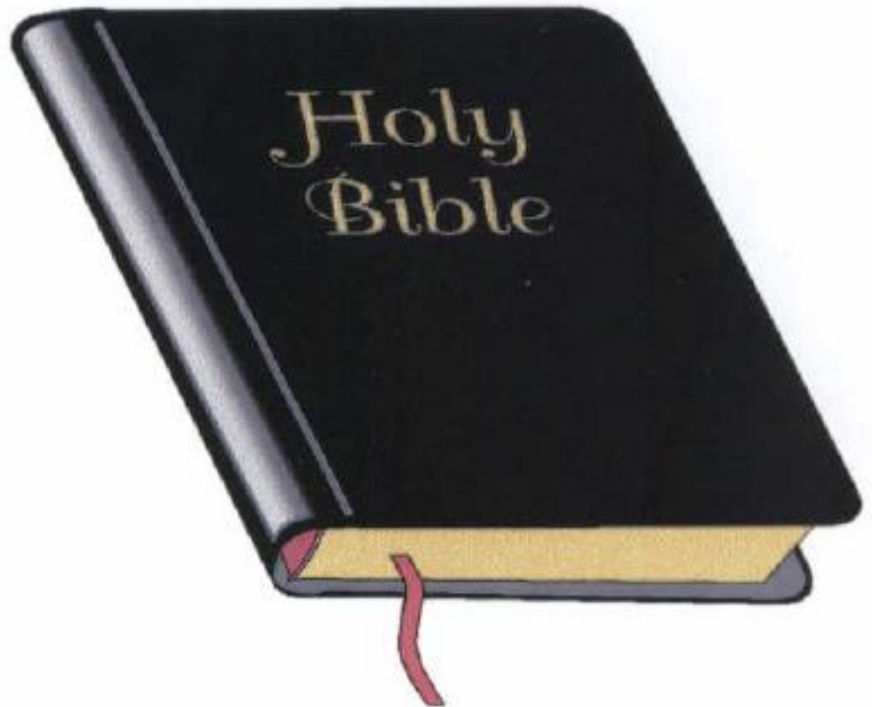
THE THIN RED LINE OF SCRIPTURE

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NOTE *Letter a, after reference, means first part of verse, letter b means second part of verse.*

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND DEDICATION

Members of 'ThingKing' for their participation in

'The Thin Red Line of Scripture Study' - January to July 2001

Eva Clayfield and Marie O'Brien for Proof Reading the Study Booklet.

'The Thin Red Line of Scripture Study Booklet' is dedicated to the late **Helen Hargrave** in appreciation of her friendship during the last few months of her life.

PREFACE

THE THIN RED LINE OF SCRIPTURE Bible study began as a seed the Lord planted over forty years ago. It is a message, about God's Salvation in Christ, revealed like a thin red line or thread, as if woven throughout the pages of the Bible. Over the years, this basic study of the Scriptures has been taken with several adult and teen-age groups. The subsequent study booklet started as handouts and now in its present form has been prepared for downloading free of charge on the Internet.

The Thin Red Line of Scripture is a study primarily for adult and teen-age groups, led by a Christian group leader or group leaders taking the sections in turn. It is important for each group member to have a copy of the script in order to write in the Bible references in the spaces provided.

This will take time and application, but when completed in this way, with prayer for God's guidance, the study booklet will give a good understanding of both the Old and New Testaments. It will be especially helpful for students wanting to study both the Bible and English as a foreign language.

The Thin Red Line of Scripture is also suitable for personal study by Christians or Seekers wanting a deeper knowledge of the Bible and how the two testaments are closely related to form

the whole and wonderful counsel of God.

THE THIN RED LINE OF SCRIPTURE

INTRODUCTION

What do you think the title means? Read Hebrews 9: 14

Why is the **Blood** of Jesus Christ, God's only Son, so important and sacred in the Bible?

ANSWER: The problem of Man's sin versus God's holiness.

REMEDY: - God sent Jesus to be the Saviour of the world to die for sin by shedding His Blood.

Luke 2:11 -----

Matt.1:21She(Mary)-----

God is good. The cry and purpose of God's heart is to dwell with His people.
The Bible promises: - Redemption - Restoration - Blessing.

The root of Man's problem is SIN originating in the Garden of Eden



Sin is an archery term meaning falling short, missing the mark - the Bull's Eye.
Sinners are unfit to approach God, sin being worse than death to a Holy God, so the sinner must die.

Lev.11:44a-----

Ezekiel18:4-----

Lev.17:11-----

God is good - and one of the 7 things God hates is:

Proverbs6:17*hands*-----

There is a book entitled, 'Christ in all the Scriptures', and it is the same for the word BLOOD, hence the title: 'The Thin Red Line of Scripture'. The word is not mentioned in every book of the Bible but sacrificial blood is implied in the Old Testament animal *sacrifices* and *offerings*.

What other words in the Scriptures have the same indication?

Even the protective wings of the Lord may signify the *wings* of the Cherubim in the Most Holy Place of the Tabernacle where the blood was poured. Read Ps. 91:4

Ruth2:12-----

There is a need today for an understanding of the *Power of the Blood*:

- To deepen our knowledge of God - His love, holiness, wisdom, justice and righteousness.
- To deepen our understanding of the Old and New Testaments, the whole counsel of God.
- To give a deeper gratitude for our Salvation in Christ and for the gift of the Holy Spirit.

§ To deepen our commitment to the Lord and according to the Royal Law (Leviticus 19:18 and James 2: 8) our love for others.

The *Blood of Christ* is a sacred line throughout the Bible and Jesus said:

Luke24:44-----

Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me --- What a claim!

THE THIN RED LINE OF SCRIPTURE

KEYWORDS



Atonement

God's love to make the sinner at one with Himself through the work of Christ on the Cross.
(At-one-ment)

Romans3:25a-----

Advocate One called to stand beside and plead in favour of the accused in a Court of Law.

1 John 2: 1b A.V. And *if any man sin,* -----

Justification (just as if we have not sinned)God, our Judge, declares the sinner righteous through faith in Christ by the shedding of His blood on the Cross.

Romans5:9-----

Propitiation God's wrath against all sin appeased or removed by the offering of Christ.

1John2:2AV-----

Redemption The penalty of sin (death) removed and the sinner freed by the payment of a price. Jesus is our Redeemer. Slaves were redeemed in the slave market by the payment of a price. Ephesians 1:7a-----

Ransom The price paid for freedom or deliverance. The price paid by Jesus when He gave His life, shedding His blood on the cross, for our deliverance from sin and death. In the Old Testament the Children of Israel were delivered (redeemed) from slavery in Egypt. The ransom or price paid for their deliverance was the death of the Passover lambs. 1 Timothy 2: 6 -----
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Reconciliation The enmity between God and Man, because of sin, removed. Colossians 1:20-----

Romans 5:10-----

THE OLD TESTAMENT or COVENANT PART 1

THE GARDEN OF EDEN

Everything there was very good - but there was one condition!

Genesis 2:17-----

Gen 3:15-----

(Christ will crush Satan's head - the Serpent will strike His heel) This promise fulfilled in Christ's victory on the cross.

Rev.13:8b

theLamb-----
--

God's *rescue plan* started in the very beginning.

Gen.3:21-----

Blood was shed to cover their sin. What must they have felt when the animals were sacrificed? Today, likewise, a blood sacrifice is abhorrent and distasteful to some but SIN to a HOLY GOD is worse. After the Creation green plants only were eaten with no meat consumed until the time of Noah. Adam and Eve were rejected from the Garden of Eden. This was the second rejection because they had rejected God first!

CAIN AND ABEL (a tiller and herdsman respectively)

Read Gen 4: 1-16 Cain offered the fruits of the soil and Abel, the firstborn of his flock.

God accepted Abel's offering but not Cain's.

WHY?

Sin was crouching at Cain's door but Abel was forgiven by offering a life from the flock.

These are hard sayings, to many people, but we serve a holy God. The soul who sins is the one who will die

Remember - one of the things God hates is the shedding of innocent blood. Cain's anger and jealousy caused the premeditated murder of his brother, an act of violence that totally disregarded conscience.

In anger, he did make a blood sacrifice - *his brother!* A violent shedding of blood, not sacrificial.

Gen4:10-----

WHY DID CAIN MURDER HIS BROTHER? *For vengeance!*

What does the Bible say?

Romans12:19-----

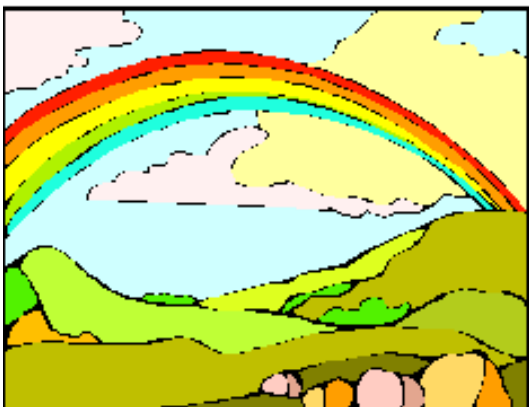
1John3:12

Abel's murder is recorded in the New Testament's great chapter on Faith, his blood still speaking Hebrews 11:4

Another fact in Scripture - the shedding of blood pollutes the land; for the earth is the Lord's. Numbers 35:33

In His love and mercy, God stopped any revenge killing of Cain by putting a mark on him. Human life is sacred to God, for He created Man in His own image; so life should be sacred to us.

GOD'S COVENANT WITH NOAH (to one Man) The *Rainbow* is the sign of the Covenant.



This Covenant was a pledge, a solemn agreement, not to destroy all life on earth by the waters of a flood ever again.

Read Gen. Chapters 6 - 9:17

After the Flood, Noah built an altar to the Lord and offered sacrifices to take away sin. This was an aroma, a pleasing and righteous fragrance to the Lord, when this covenant was made with Noah and all life on earth.

Gen.9:4-----

Gen.9:6-----

Read Leviticus 17:10-12 Life is sacred so the eating of meat with the blood in it was forbidden.

V.11-----

Read Deuteronomy 12: 23-25 The Jews still today never eat meat with the blood in it (not Kosher).

CALL OF ABRAHAM

Read Gen. 12:1-7 (God's covenant relationship with a family)

V. 2-----

V. 4 Abram was-----years old.

Read Ch. 15 (Abram promised a son, the land of Canaan, and his seed to be as numerous as the stars in the sky)

V. 6-----

Justification by faith alone, not works. (For explanation of the word Justification see **Keywords**)

The Covenant with Abram was sealed by blood; and accepted by God when a blazing torch passed between the pieces.

Read Gen. Ch. 17 V. 1 Abraham was now-----years old.

Abram was given a new name (Abraham, meaning *Father of a Multitude*)

Abraham was again promised the whole land of Canaan and to be the father of many nations in an everlasting covenant. Ultimate seed from Abraham's line is Christ including the followers of Jesus today, the spiritual descendants of Abraham.

Vs. 15-16 Sarai was also given another name (Sarah, meaning *Mother of Nations and Kings*)

Vs. 9-14 **THE COVENANT OF CIRCUMCISION**

Just as the rainbow was God's sign or token of the covenant with Noah, the irreversible sign of the covenant with Abraham was *circumcision*.

This cut, shedding blood, was the mark of ownership; and is still continued by Jews in the 21st century. It was a sign of total consecration to the Lord and again Abraham showed his obedience.

V. 24 -----

In the bond of marriage the wife and the children were consecrated to God, as well. The family unit is basic in the sight of God. More important, than the outward sign of circumcision, was the inward obedience of the heart, the spiritual sign of true faith.

Deuteronomy 30:6 -----

-----New Testament References Luke 2:21a -----

****JESUS****

Romans 2:29a -----

FAITH OF ABRAHAM

Read Gen. 17:15-27

Abram's faith was indeed tested while he waited many years for God's promise of his son Isaac.

V. 5 Abraham was ----- years of age when his son Isaac was born.

Isaac's name means 'Laughter'

Sarah was ----- years of age when she bore Isaac.

Read Gen. 18:10-15 Sarah laughed!

Gen. 17:17 (often not remembered but Abraham also laughed!)

Read Genesis 21: 1-7 **THE BIRTH OF ISAAC**

Later, God further tested Abraham's faith and obedience when God told him to sacrifice Isaac, the promised and beloved son of his old age.

Read Gen. 22:1-18

V. 7b Isaac's question 'Father? The fire and -----

V. 8a Abraham's answer '-----

From Scripture we know that God does not delight in sacrifices.

Isaiah 1:11 b 'I have no pleasure -----

Read Hosea 6: 6, Read Psalm 51:16-17

V.17 -----

The ram caught by its horns was unblemished; a spotless animal for sacrifice instead of Isaac. Abraham called this place, on Mount Moriah, Jehovah Jireh. The ram would otherwise have died a slow and miserable death. Mt. Moriah (Jerusalem) is the traditional site of the intended sacrifice of Isaac and where God chose to place His Name.

What does Jehovah Jireh mean? Genesis 22: 14 -----

The Thin Red Line of Scripture continued in the succeeding generations with the building of altars for burnt and thanksgiving offerings to the Lord.

Read Gen. 26: 24-25 God's blessing and Covenant promise to Abraham now given to Isaac.

V. 25a-----

JACOB AND ESAU

Read Genesis Ch 27. Jacob deceitfully receives the *Covenant Blessing* from his father Isaac.

Read Genesis 28: 10-22 *Jacob's Dream at Bethel*

Jacob's Farewell and Covenant Meal with Laban, his Father-in-law.

Gen. 31:54a-----

Read Gen. 32:22-32 *Jacob Wrestles with God* and is renamed *Israel*. On returning to the Promised Land Jacob builds an altar to *El Elohe Israel* (the God of Israel).

Gen. 33:20-----

Read Gen. 35:1-15 Jacob (Israel) builds another altar (El Bethel) on his return to Bethel. The *Covenant Blessing* promised first to Abraham then Isaac, is given to *Israel* (Jacob).

MOSES AND THE EXODUS

The Chosen People, the Israelites, were now slaves in Egypt--prophesied to Abraham. (Read Genesis 15: 13-14 Abraham's descendants were to be slaves for 400 years). Israel's favourite son *Joseph*, Prime Minister over all Egypt, was now forgotten.

The *Exodus* from slavery in Egypt was:

- God planned
- Purchased by blood (the Passover Lambs)
- An act of divine power

The *Ten Plagues* were God's punishment on the nation of Egypt and its gods. The first, significantly, was the *Plague of Blood* and the tenth, the *Death of the Firstborn*.

Ex. 7:20b *Moses struck* -----

Read Exodus Chapter 11 *The Plague of the Firstborn*

Ex. 11:5 -----

THE PASSOVER

Read Exodus Ch. 12

The Israelites were redeemed from slavery by the death of the Passover Lambs, the blood marking the lintel and sides of the doors, so saving the lives of all the firstborn males of the Children of Israel, but not the Egyptians, or their firstborn male animals! V.13 -----

THE FEAST OF PASSOVER

New calendar--- beginning of months for Israelites (Ex. 12: 2)

Institution of the Feast of Passover or Feast of Unleavened Bread (Ex. 12: 14)

Youngest child to ask the meaning

(Ex. 12: 26-27) Why did God deliver the Children of Israel out of Egypt? Ex. 29: 46 -----

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

Read Ex. 20:1-17 The Law of Moses or Sinai Covenant, including the Ten Commandments, was with a nation - the Children of Israel. The sign of the Covenant was the Sabbath (rested). Unlike the signs to Noah and Abraham, the Sabbath was to be a pattern of behaviour for all the Children of Israel, the Chosen People.

(4th Commandment) Ex. 20:8-----

(6thCommandment) Ex. 20:13 -----

Read Ex. 24: 4-8 The blood of the covenant was the seal of their oath of obedience. V. 8 -----

THE TABERNACLE

Read Ex. 25: 1-22 The Tabernacle, God's holy dwelling place or sanctuary, was a rectangular area (47m long and 23m wide or 150 x 75 ft.) containing a Holy Place and, behind a shielding curtain called the Veil, the Most Holy Place. This portable tent in the wilderness for God's worship was built with gifts of various kinds, a willing and abundant offering of the people.

THE TABERNACLE

- 1. Most Holy Place
- 2. Holy Place
- 3. Courtyard
- 4. Entrance

Why was the Tabernacle built? Ex. 25:8 -----

----- God's instructions for the design of the Tabernacle started with the most sacred piece of furniture the altar. It was called the **Ark of the Covenant**, and like the ark in which Moses was placed in the bulrushes, it was a place of safety. This was a box or chest (115 x 70 x 70 cm) in dimension and made of acacia wood covered with pure gold, very beautiful and the only piece of furniture in the Most Holy Place. The Ark of the Covenant was also called the Ark of the Testimony because it contained the two tablets of stone on which the Ten Commandments were written. Above God's standard of judgement was the Mercy Seat or Atonement Cover, a lid of solid gold, made in one piece with the two golden Cherubim. Their outstretched wings shaded the sacred place where the blood of the animal sacrifice was poured out or sprinkled meaning a life offered to forgive sin. The Tabernacle teaches us about our Salvation through the Lord Jesus Christ, pointing to His sacrificial blood shed on the cross for us.

What did the Cherubim look at? The blood sprinkled on the Mercy Seat.

Ex. 25:20b The cherubim are to face -----

What did God look at Ex.25:22 -----

The Tabernacle and its furniture, Aaron - the first High Priest, his sons and the priestly garments were all consecrated by blood. Ex. 29:21 -----

----- Read Ex. 29:44-46

Read Ch. 40 What happened when Moses finished building the Tabernacle?

V.34

THE SACRIFICES

For a life to be saved, because of sin and guilt before a holy God, a life had to be offered, hence the animal sacrificial system for worship given by God to Moses and continued throughout the Old Testament.

Remember Lev. 17:11 -----

For the forgiveness of sins the father in each household would lay his hand heavily on the animal to identify with the sacrifice.

Read Lev. Chapters 1-7 about the various sacrifices: Burnt, Sin, Guilt, Peace etc.

THE DAY OF ATONEMENT

The Day of Atonement is the most solemn day of fasting in the Jewish year, a lasting ordinance on the 10th day of the 7th month in their calendar. This day in October is called Yom Kippur. Read Leviticus Chapter 16 about the Day of Atonement, the two goats and the origin of the word :

SCAPEGOAT

The Day of Atonement was the only day in the year that the High Priest entered the Most Holy Place, and never without blood; the smoke of the incense concealing the lid of the Atonement Cover - the Mercy Seat. The High Priest entered through the Veil with extreme reverence, knowing he could die in the awesome place of God's throne and holy presence.

Habakkuk 1:13a -----

Aaron, the High Priest, sprinkled the blood first for His own sin and then for the people, being the mediator between God and man.

Lev. 16:33 *The high priest is to make* -----

In the successive generations countless animals have been offered, both in the Tabernacle and later in the Temple, but not all the hearts of the people were righteous in the sight of God. Since the Exile by the Romans in AD 70, not even one generation after the Crucifixion of Jesus, no sacrifices have taken place. Now back in the Promised Land of Israel, some Orthodox Jews are preparing to build a Third Temple and resume the animal sacrifices!

CITIES OF REFUGE

THE SIX CITIES OF REFUGE

West Bank of the River Jordan

East Bank of the River Jordan

Kedesh

Golan

Shechem

Ramoth

Hebron

Beze

God provided 6 Cities of Refuge in the Promised Land to prevent the Israelites killing in revenge, after unintentional killing or killing by accident. There were 3 in the West and 3 on the East of the River Jordan where a manslayer could flee and safely reside.

Although safe in one of these cities, it was a definite punishment for freedom was lost until the death of the High Priest. This could be a long time, even longer than the life of the manslayer!

One of these cities was Golan in the Golan Heights, often in the News today; another was Hebron, likewise well - known.

Read Numbers 35: 6 - 15, 22 - 28

Read Joshua Chapter 20

Numbers 35:15 -----

REDEMPTION OF THE FIRSTBORN

A reminder every year at Passover that the Children of Israel were redeemed by the shed blood of the Passover lambs. One entering the Promised Land, a price or ransom had to be paid because their firstborn sons had not died in the tenth plague. The firstborn male animals were the Lord's and were sacrificed. The firstborn sons were redeemed with a lamb, being consecrated to the Lord by their life, not death; unlike the detestable child sacrifices in neighbouring pagan countries.

Read Ex. 13:11-16

Ex. 13:2 -----

This was to be sign or reminder, at Passover, that the Lord brought the Israelite slaves out of Egypt with a mighty hand.

REDEMPTION MONEY

Read Exodus 30: 11-16 and Numbers 1:1-3

The payment of *Redemption Money* was a further reminder that the Children of Israel were a redeemed people purchased by the blood of the Passover lambs.

Redemption or Atonement Money

Redemption or Atonement Money was the payment by all Israelite men, over 20 years old, of half a silver shekel on being numbered for military service. Each man paid this ransom money to the Lord for his life. Half a shekel (about 5p+) was a small amount, but when added up from over 600,000 males (not Levites) would be about £40,000 today.

Read Numbers 1:46-54 and 3:11-13

The Levites were *not* numbered for military service, being in charge of the Tabernacle service of the Lord.

The first *Census* or numbering took place in the wilderness near Mt. Sinai (in Arabia?) between the giving of the Law and the building of the Tabernacle.

The silver was used for the 100 silver sockets, set in the sand, for the bases of the pillars of the outer court and the entrances to the sanctuaries.

The Tabernacle, therefore, rested on a foundation of Redemption.

Exodus 30: 12 -----

Exodus 30: 16 -----

KING DAVID

Read 2 Samuel Chapter 24 *David's Census*

Three hundred years later, King David unwisely (? pride and not trusting in the Lord) ordered a military census. The Redemption Money was not collected and the plague fell. It was only stopped when David paid silver and gold to Ornan (Araunah) the Jebusite for his threshing floor on Mount Moriah and offered sacrifices there, where God chose to place His name. This is the same site where Abraham was willing to offer Isaac, his promised son; where Solomon, King David's son, built the Temple in Jerusalem and where, outside its walls, God gave His only Son to die for the sins of the world.

David had already brought the Ark of the Covenant to Jerusalem, having captured Mount Zion (David's City) just south of Mount Moriah. Read 2 Samuel Chapter 6

Read Deuteronomy 12: 11-14

V. 13 -----

Read 2 Chronicles 3:1

1 Kings 11: 13b **Jerusalem**, -----

With the completion of the Temple the elaborate system of animal sacrifices no longer took place in the portable Tabernacle, the people now settled and living in houses. The most sacred part, again, was the Most Holy Place containing the Ark of the Covenant. Its last Biblical record was in the reign of Josiah, who returned the Ark to the Temple after being removed during the reign of an apostate king - probably Manasseh.

2 Chronicles 35: 3b Josiah said to the Levites ‘Put the sacred ark -----

King Josiah served the Lord with all his heart and repaired the Temple. When the Book of the Law was found the Covenant was renewed in humility and the Passover was truly celebrated.

Read 2 Chronicles 35: 16 - 19

Josiah's reforms took place about 50 years before the Exile, when Nebuchadnezzar carried away Jerusalem's treasures in 586 B.C. There is no mention of the Ark in the inventories of Temple articles taken to and returned from Babylon 70 years later.

Read 2 Kings 25: 13-15, Ezra 1: 7-11

THE PROPHETS AND THE NEW COVENANT

'HEAR THE WORD OF THE LORD'

ISAIAH 43: 25 *The Lord said*, ‘-----

Read Isaiah 53 c the well-known and great prophetic chapter about the Messiah, the Lord Jesus Christ.

V. 12b *He poured* -----

Isaiah 55:3b *I will make* -----

JEREMIAH 31:31-34 gives God's promise of a **NEW COVENANT** or Testament (Latin) to His rebellious people, soon to go into exile

The term *New Covenant* is only used once in the Old Testament.

V.31 ‘*The time is coming*, declares the Lord, ‘-----

V. 33 b *I will put my law* -----

V. 34b *I will forgive* -----

32:40a *I will make* -----

EZEKIEL 36: 24-27

V. 26 -----

37: 26a -----

THE THIN RED LINE OF SCRIPTURE

OLD TESTAMENT SUMMARY

The Problem: - God's holiness--Man's sin

God's Plan: - Forgiveness of sin through the shed blood of the Christ.

God's Purpose: - To dwell with His people.

The great theme of the Bible is ***Redemption*** , ***Restoration*** and ***Blessing***.

THE THIN RED LINE OF SCRIPTURE

THE NEW TESTAMENT

PART 2

INTRODUCTION

God's purpose of His heart is to dwell with His people.
SIN makes people unfit to approach a holy God.
SIN is so serious, the sinner must die.
The Judgement and Mercy of God manifested in Jesus Christ.

Hence the need under the Old Covenant for the elaborate system of animal sacrifices in both the Tabernacle and the Temple. Part 1 of 'The Thin Red Line of Scripture' finished with the promised New Covenant, the high point of the book of the Prophet Jeremiah, for the blood of animals could never take away sin.

The Old Testament sacrificial offerings and the prophesied New Covenant pointed to **Jesus Christ, the Son of God; the Saviour** and mediator between God and Man. His once and for all sacrifice removed the necessity of countless animal offerings year after year. When Jesus died on the cross He was the perfect, sinless sacrifice acceptable to God, for without the shedding of blood there is no remission or forgiveness of sin, the life of the flesh being in the blood.

'The Thin Red Line of Scripture' that sacred line of Blood forgiving sin, is evident throughout the Old Testament. With the coming of Jesus Christ, God's rescue plan for His Creation is victorious at the Cross. At Calvary, outside Jerusalem's city walls, our redemption was secured.

We are redeemed, not by Passover lambs or Redemption money, but through the precious blood of Christ, the sinless Lamb of God.

This is the GOSPEL the GOOD NEWS of JOY to the WORLD

Sins forgiven.

The Gift of Eternal Life.
The Gift of His righteousness.
The Gift of the Holy Spirit.

Yes, what a Saviour! Jesus gave His life for the sins of the whole world, paying the price for all mankind. He was the ransom for all men although not all would receive His Salvation.

Mark 10: 45 -----

Read John 1: 1-14

V.12 -----



THE THIN RED LINE OF SCRIPTURE

THE NEW TESTAMENT

THE GOSPEL John 3: 16 -----

Read Luke 1:67-79 Zechariah's Song on the birth of John the Baptist about the coming Messiah.
The Messianic Age had come!

THE GOSPELS

John 1: 14 -----



John 1: 29b John the Baptist said, '-----

John 2: 19 Jesus said, '*Destroy this temple (His Body)* -----

Read Matthew 16: 21 Jesus is the greatest of all the prophets. He foretold his death, telling His disciples He would be killed and raised to life on the third day. His disciples failed to understand.

Mark 9: 31 Jesus said, '-----

Read John 6:53-58

V.54 Jesus said, '-----

V. 60b Many of His disciples said, '-----

Jesus also foretold His death by crucifixion.

Matthew 26: 2 Jesus said to His disciples, '-----

Read John 7: 30 Jesus always knew He had an *hour* or *time* to come and a bitter cup to drink.

Luke 12: 50 '-----

--

Read John 11: 45-50 The Pharisees and the chief priests plot to kill Jesus.

Caiaphas, the High Priest, prophesied that Jesus would die for the Jewish nation.

Judas Iscariot, one of the disciples, was seeking a way to betray Jesus.

THE THIN RED LINE OF SCRIPTURE

THE LAST SUPPER



Jesus confirmed the New Covenant on the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread during the Passover Meal.

Now called the Last Supper it is recorded in all four Gospels.

Luke 22: 19 He took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying:

'-----

Matthew 26: 27,28 He took the cup, gave thanks and offered it to them, saying,
'Drink

Jesus broke the bread but also broke this outstanding news to His disciples, filled with amazement and consternation, for the blood of the Covenant would be His own-- for them!

After supper was over, Jesus and His disciples went across the ravine of the Kidron to the Garden of Gethsemane on the Mt. of Olives, where Jesus prayed. The agony of Jesus had begun, with His sweat like drops of blood - a medical condition the result of extreme physical and mental stress.

Read Luke 22: 39-46

V. 44

THE BETRAYAL

Read Matthew 27: 1-10 Judas betrayed Jesus to the chief priests for 30 pieces of silver and later was filled with remorse when Jesus was condemned.

V.4 a

The chief priests used this Blood Money to buy the Potter's Field to bury foreign paupers.

V.8

Read Zechariah 11:12-13 (in the scroll of Jeremiah - the major prophet)

TRIAL BEFORE PILATE

Read Matthew 27: 11-26

The Roman Governor, Pontius Pilate, releasing the murderer, Barabbas, instead of Jesus, washed his hands in front of the people with these words:

V. 24b 'I am innocent

V. 25b The people said, '

For believers - the only way to be saved!

And so Jesus suffered for us--betrayed, arrested like a criminal and unfairly tried, deserted and denied by His disciples, mocked, scourged and finally crucified.

THE CRUCIFIXION AND DEATH OF JESUS

Read Matthew 27: 32-49 Jesus was not put to death by stoning, the Jewish death penalty, but by the Roman method of Crucifixion, so fulfilling the Scriptures.

Written by the cross in 3 languages was the inscription, "JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS."

John 19: 19 b 1. -----2. -----3. -----



The only crown He wore was the Crown of Thorns.

In all this Jesus suffered silently.

Isaiah 53: 7 -----

Read Deut. 21: 22,23

Galatians 3:13 -----

Read Psalm 22

V.16 b they have pierced-----

It was not the excruciating physical pain but the pain of separation from His Father, when the sins of the whole world were laid upon Him that caused Jesus to cry out in a loud voice,

Matthew 27: 46 ‘Eloi, -----

Jesus completed on the Cross the work He came to do with the words:

John 19:30b ‘-----

Read Luke 23: 44-49

V. 46 *Jesus called out with a loud voice,* ‘-----

Matthew 27:51 -----

What fear and consternation for the ministering priests, offering the Passover lambs, seeing for the first time inside the Most Holy Place! The Veil of Herod's Temple was then about 7 cm. thick.

Read John 19:31-37

V. 34 -----

Medically, because blood and water poured out, Jesus died of a burst or broken heart!

Isaiah 53:5a -----

Read Zechariah 12: 10-14

Jesus Christ is the only one who has given his life for His followers.

Mohammed has not died for anyone! Buddha has not died for you!

THE RESURRECTION



JESUS -- WHO WAS CRUCIFIED

THE MESSAGE OF THE ANGEL

Read Matthew 28: 1-10

V. 6a -----

The Resurrection of Jesus three days later ratified the New Covenant, *'for God so loved the world.*
It was outside Jerusalem's city wall, that Jesus had died and shed His blood to take away our sin.

As if in the garden, where the Lord's Body had been placed in a tomb three days before, reflect on the awesome wonder of the women there on that first Resurrection morning. Pause -- as you consider the amazing fact that Jesus, the Son of God, had arisen from the dead and was alive for evermore. This is the Gospel of Peace - peace with God by faith in Jesus Christ; planned from the foundation of the earth. There was irrepressible JOY at the reality of seeing Jesus **ALIVE!**

The tears of Mary Magdalene, weeping in the garden, turned to tears of joy on hearing Jesus call her name - *'Mary!'*

Jesus calls each one of us by name. Reflect now on the great love Jesus has for you. Meditate on His forgiveness and the gift of Everlasting Life for all who believe and receive and that's very **good news!** When He lives in us, He changes us and we can say:

2 Corinthians 9: 15 -----

THE JOURNEY TO EMMAUS

Read Luke 24:13-35

What do you think the two disciples saw that caused them to recognize Jesus when He took bread, gave thanks, broke it and gave it to them? -----

Like Mary, early that same morning, their sadness was also turned to JOY and they remembered His words:

Vs. 26,27 -----

Jesus, through His Holy Spirit, is in all the Scriptures and His Blood is the means of our personal -

- Forgiveness
- Righteousness before God
- Gift of Eternal Life

Ephesians 5: 2b *Jesus gave Himself up for us* -----

Similarly, in the Old Testament, God was pleased with the sacrificial worship of His people. Being forgiven and made righteous by the blood, their sacred offerings were a fragrant aroma to the Lord. Like the holy frankincense offered with their sacrifices in the Tabernacle, our lives are to be fragrant in His service by the indwelling fragrance of the Spirit of Christ.

JESUS APPEARS TO HIS DISCIPLES

Read Luke 24: 33-49

V.39 '-----

Jesus used the phrase, *'flesh and bones,'* not flesh and blood, His blood having been shed for us.

Read John 20: 24-31 (Thomas was not present when Jesus appeared to the disciples).

V.25b Thomas said, *'Unless* -----

A week later when Jesus was with the Eleven, He said to Thomas:

V.27 '-----

V.28 Then Thomas said to Jesus: '-----

THE POWER OF THE RESURRECTION

The Christian faith stands on the truth of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

John 11: 25 Jesus said to Martha, 'I am -----

The Resurrection of Jesus did not only have a great impact on the lives of believers but also on the World. Passover Friday became Good Friday in the Christian calendar and History divided into B.C and A.D. Christians celebrate the Resurrection on Easter Day while the Jews still celebrate Passover. There were no animal sacrifices after 70 A.D. on the destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans. Most Jewish people still do not believe that Jesus is their long-awaited Messiah, but today they are more open to the Gospel than for centuries. Now many Jews are reading the New Testament, especially students and the younger generation. More are therefore coming to Christ in these days and are known as Messianic or Hebrew Christians. They are *completed* Jews because of their knowledge of the Old Testament and fulfilled understanding of the New.

Read Matthew 28: 16-20 *The Great Commission*

V.19 Jesus said: Go and make-----

V.20b Jesus promised: 'Surely -----

Philippians 3: 10a Paul said: '-----

THE COMMUNION SERVICE is a fellowship meal remembering the Lord's death until He comes. It is a commemorative meal known as the Lord's Supper, the Breaking of Bread or the Eucharist (thanksgiving) and celebrates with joy the Resurrection, God's gracious forgiveness and gift of Eternal life. The bread and wine are emblems of the Lord's broken Body and shed Blood.

Read 1 Corinthians 11: 23-34



Words of the Institution of the Lord's Supper

V. 24b 'This is my Body, -----

V. 25b 'This cup -----

THE BOOK OF ACTS

INTRODUCTION

Luke, the writer, begins with Jesus' instructions to the Apostles before He ascended into heaven.

Read Acts 1: 1-11 **THE ASCENSION**

V. 8 -----

The Ascension took place forty days after the Resurrection, followed ten days later by Pentecost.

Read Acts 2: 1-13 **THE COMING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT AT PENTECOST**

The indwelling Holy Spirit is the guarantee of all God's precious promises in Christ to the believer. **Our Lord did not leave His followers alone.** The gift of the Holy Spirit gave power and guidance to the disciples for their work of witness.

The theme was always the Gospel - the good news of the gift of salvation in Christ, through His atoning sacrifice on the cross of Calvary. The Book of Acts is a dramatic story about the growth of the Church. With fervour the Apostles urged the people to repent and believe and so receive the seal of the Holy Spirit.

Read Acts 2: 22-24

Acts 2: 38 Peter replied, ' -----

In the name of Jesus there were many signs following - miracles of healing and deliverances. **Read Acts 3: 1-10**
Healing the Crippled Beggar

Acts 4: 10b *It is by the name* -----

The Apostles and believers suffered persecution, imprisonment and some even martyrdom.

V. 12 -----

The Apostle Paul persecuted believers of "**The Way**", before his conversion to Christ.

Acts 11:26b The disciples -----

Read Acts 13: 16-33, 38-40

Paul's Farewell to the Elders at Ephesus

Read Acts 20: 28 (elders or shepherds of the flock are also called overseers or pastors)

V. 28b *Be shepherds*-----

Read Acts 26: 12-18 (the account to King Agrippa by Paul of his conversion to Christ)

V. 18 Jesus said to Paul, '*I am sending you to them* -----

LETTER TO THE HEBREWS

The letter (epistle) to the Hebrews explains the new order of priesthood of the Lord Jesus Christ and the spiritual meaning of the ***Old and New Covenants***.

For a full understanding of the superior New Covenant, Christians need to read and study the Old Testament as well.

The letter to the Hebrews is the Leviticus of the New Testament.

THE ORDER OF MELCHIZEDEK

Read Genesis 14:18-20 Melchizedek, King of Salem, (Jerusalem) blessed Abraham.

Melchizedek was the Everlasting King of Salem (Peace) and his name means King of Righteousness.

Read Hebrews 5: 6, 10

Jesus Christ of the tribe of Judah is our **Everlasting Priest** and **King**, in the order of Melchizedek and not of Aaron from the tribe of Levi.

Heb. 6:20b *Jesus has become* -----

Read Heb. Ch. 7

Ps. 110:4 -----

Heb. 7: 22 -----

The Old Testament Laws of the Old Covenant were written on tablets of stone.

The Tabernacle and Temple high priests offered the blood of Paschal lambs unlike the Lord Jesus Christ who poured out His own blood.

Jesus is King of kings of David's line (Judah) and our great High Priest, now ascended into heaven.

Read Heb. 8: 1-13 Jesus is our Great High Priest of the New Covenant's excellent and better promises prophesied in Jeremiah 31: 31-34

The New Covenant is written on the mind and in the heart by the Holy Spirit.

THE LETTER TO THE HEBREWS

WORSHIP IN THE TABERNACLE

Read Hebrews 9: 1-15

V.7 -----

The Levitical priests brought daily animal sacrifices into the Tabernacle to atone for sin, but Jesus was sinless and His one sacrifice was for all time.

V.12 -----

V.14 -----

Read Hebrews 10: 1-14

V.4 -----

The Levitical priests of the House of Aaron *stood* to minister; whereas Jesus *sat down* at the right hand of God on His Ascension, the position of authority, having finished the work of Salvation.

V.12 -----

Mark 16: 19 -----



THE OLD AND NEW TESTAMENTS

Read Heb. 9: 16-28. The words, *last will and testament*, only come into force on the death of the testator. With the death of Jesus, His blood being shed on the Cross; the superior New Covenant of the New Testament came into effect, fulfilling the Old Covenant of the Old Testament.

Read Exodus 24: 4-8 Moses built an altar at the foot of Mt. Sinai and sealed the Old Covenant by sprinkling blood on the altar and then on the people.

Heb. 9: 18 -----

Heb. 9: 22 -----

Read Exodus 29: 21, 44-46 Leviticus 16: 32-34 The altar, Aaron, his sons and their garments were all consecrated by blood. The man-made Tabernacle was only a copy of the heavenly sanctuary where Christ has entered with His own blood, a once for all perfect sacrifice.

THE BELIEVER AND THE NEW COVENANT

THE CHURCH--THE BELIEVERS

THE BODY OF CHRIST

Read Hebrews 10: 19-25

V.19, 20 *Since we have confidence* -----

A Solemn Warning

Read Hebrews 10: 26-31

How much greater the punishment to anyone: V.29b---*who has trampled* -----

THE GREAT CHAPTER 11 ON FAITH



V.4 *By faith Abel* -----



V.17, 18 *By faith Abraham,*



V.28 *By faith Moses kept*

Read Hebrews 11: 39 - 12: 2



Hebrews 12: 2

THE TWO COVENANTS

MOUNT SINAI AND THE OLD COVENANT

Read Heb. 12: 18-21

V.21 -----

Read Exodus 19: 16-25, 20: 18-21---the people trembled in fear when they saw the thunder and lightning, the mountain in smoke and heard the trumpet blast.

THE OLD COVENANT - obey the Law and you will live.

MOUNT ZION AND THE NEW COVENANT

The New Covenant or agreement was between God, the Father, and Jesus; so cannot fail. When we believe and receive Christ, (born again - God calling us by His Spirit) we are joined to that agreement a pledge of God's pure grace and undeserved favour, with joy. By contrast there was terrifying fear, even for Moses, accompanying the giving of the Law of the Old Covenant on Mt. Sinai.

THE NEW COVENANT - I will do it for you.

Read Heb. 12: 22 --29 (Heavenly Jerusalem and not Mt. Zion in Jerusalem) You have come:

V.24 -----

The Blood of Abel cried out for justice whereas the blood of Jesus speaks of forgiveness. Unlike Mount Zion the heavenly Jerusalem cannot be shaken. Let us worship our holy and righteous God with reverence and awe,

V. 29 -----

--

Let us offer sacrifices of praise with joyous thanksgiving.

Read Heb. 13:11-16

V.12 *Jesus* -----

V.13 -----

V.15 -----

V.16 -----

THE ETERNAL AND EVERLASTING COVENANT

These next verses from Hebrews are often used as a Benediction or Blessing.

Heb.13:20,21 -----

SHALOM

OTHER NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURES

The A.V. of the Bible uses the word *blood*, unlike some modern translations that omit or use words such as - '*the death of Jesus*. Yes, Jesus died for us but it was to offer freely His blood to our holy and righteous God, for without the shedding of innocent blood there is no forgiveness given to sinful Man. Through the Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ we are accepted in the Beloved.

Read **ROMANS** 3: 21-26

V. 23 -----
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V.25a *God presented him (Jesus)* -----

5:9 -----

12:1b *offer your bodies* -----

1 CORINTHIANS 10: 16a -----

-----?

EPHESIANS 1: 7, 8 *In (Jesus)* -----

2:13

COLOSSIANS 1:14 A.V.

Read 1: 15-20

A.V. or N.I.V. V. 20b---through (Jesus) *to reconcile all things---on earth or things in heaven,*

Read **1 PETER** 1: 1, 2.

V. 2b---*chosen---for obedience*

V. 18a---*it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold you were redeemed -*

V. 19

1 JOHN 1:7

Read 5: 6-12

V.6

REVELATION

Revelation 1:5b *To Him* -----



Read Rev. 5: 1-10

V. 5 *‘Do not weep!
See, the Lion of the tribe of Judah,
the Root of David, has triumphed.
He is able to open the scrolls and its seven seals.*

V.9 *And they sang a new song:* -----

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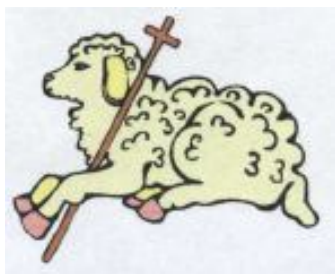
Read Rev. 7: 9-17

A GREAT MULTITUDE

V.14b *‘These are they* -----

Read Rev 12: 10-12

V.11 They overcame him (Satan) -----



Yes, they overcame by the Blood of the Lamb, for there is power in the **BLOOD**. When you are in need of protection from temptation, satanic attack, danger, fear or anxiety, pray in the power of the Blood of Jesus, This works! In such circumstances of need, pray the Blood all around you to cover and protect. Trust Jesus completely - and you will be safe. You will have the peace of His Spirit, for nothing - absolutely nothing will get through the covering of the Blood to harm you.

The Thin Red Line of Scripture has now been followed through from Genesis to Revelation.

In the Old Testament, the Children of Israel were protected under the covering of the blood of sacrificial lambs on the doors of their houses.

Exodus 12: 13b---*when I see the blood I will pass over you.*

HOW MUCH MORE WILL THE BLOOD OF CHRIST AVAIL FOR YOU!

Like the Israelites of Old Covenant, believers are to be a Kingdom of Priests to serve and honour God, worshipping Him in spirit and in truth.

John 4: 24 -----

--

Matthew 22: 37-40

Jesus said: This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it.

Read James 2: 8 The Royal Law

V.8 b -----

In priestly ministry, believers serve others **best**, by worshipping **God first** in praise and thanksgiving for His mercy through the blood of Christ. As tools in His hands, believers are a royal priesthood, motivated by God (not themselves) in the power of the Holy Spirit, for service in His kingdom for His glory. In other words to produce much fruit: worship God first and secondly serve in His Kingdom. Understand this foundation order fully and the order of your life will be fully changed!

Romans 12: 1 -----

1 Peter 2: 9 -----

Psalm 119: 130 a -----

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Read Rev. 19: 11-16 **FAITHFUL AND TRUE AND HIS NAME IS THE WORD OF GOD**

V.13 -----

‘KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS



PART 3 (OPTIONAL BIBLE STUDIES)

1. On completion of the Study, underline the word **blood** in red in Parts 1 and 2 - (sacrificial blood - not blood shed in violence).
2. Underline with a dotted red line all words implying, **THE THIN RED LINE OF SCRIPTURE** eg. sacrifice, offering, covenant, redemption, atonement, crucified, slain, etc.
3. Make a list of people in the Old Testament, omitted in this Study, who offered sacrifices to the Lord, our God.
(Give Bible references)
4. Find and make a list, with references, of the Covenants in the Bible. (7 altogether)
5. Find texts with other names for the New Covenant. There are at least three.
6. List and briefly describe the Tabernacle sacrifices in Leviticus.
7. In the hours before the Crucifixion (when Jesus *died* as a sacrifice for sin) list, describe or discuss the other times when Jesus shed blood.

What were the words of Jesus at these times?

What is the significance for Believers from the following texts?

Matthew 26: 39; Isaiah 53: 5 A.V.; Genesis 3: 17 b, 18 a; Galatians 3:13; Luke 23: 34

DOXOLOGY

Jude 24, 25 To Him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you before His glorious presence without fault and with great joy c to the only God our Saviour be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and for evermore! Amen.

THE THIN RED LINE OF SCRIPTURE

