

Programs 14 & 15

Now the Second provision offered at the Cross

Christ's broken BODY (the Exchanged Life)

Communion illustrates Blood and Body

Unveiling the deception which holds us in defeat and self-loathing!

The Provision For Daily Living--The Body Death Of The Cross

Sin is personified in Romans 5-8—

1. 5:21--A person who like a king reigns over me.
2. 6:14—who can have power over us, by Lording over people
3. 7:11—Who can deceive me into trying to do good by self-effort which kills me.
4. 7:17& 21—who can dwell in people and do things against their will
5. 7:9--It is quite alive and exceedingly active: so it must be the evil spirit of Satan, the evil one, dwelling, acting, and working in my fallen flesh.

Sin gets power over us simply because we don't know that we are dead, and subsequently we are try to live our own lives. Col. 3:3-4.

"Dead to the law" means that I am done with trying to live my own life by outer standards.

Romans 5:9-10- Saved daily from sin's dominion by his life. (Amplified Bible).

Romans 6:6—"The old man is crucified with Christ."

Galatians 2:20—"I am crucified with Christ, I no longer live, but Christ lives in me."

II Cor. 5:21—"Christ was made sin, that we might be made His righteousness."

Romans 6:2—"We are dead to sin."

Colossians. 2:11—"We are circumcised with Christ, putting off the body of sins."

Romans 6:3—"We are baptized into His death."

2 Peter 8:1—"We are partakers of the divine nature."

Colossians 1:22—"In the body of His flesh to present you holy, and unblameable."

Hebrews 10:10—"We are sanctified through offering of the body of Christ."

Hebrews 10:14—"By one offering He hath perfected forever them who are sanctified."

Through the CRUCIFIED BODY of Christ we are:

Delivered from the root of sin which is Satan/sin nature.

Luke 3:9—Cut to the root

2 Cor. 5:21—"Christ was made sin."

Rom. 6:2—"Dead to sin."

Rom. 6:3—"Baptized into His death."

Rom. 6:6—"The old man is crucified that the body of sin might be destroyed."

Rom. 6:7—"He that is dead is freed from sin."

Rom.7:4—"Dead to the law by the body of Christ."

Col. 2:11—"We are circumcised with Christ, putting of the body of sins."

Gal. 2:20—"I live, yet not I, but Christ."

Eph. 2:6—"Raised us up together, and made us to sit together in heavenly places."

Col. 1:22—"In the body of His flesh to present you holy, unblameable and unreprouable."

2 Peter 8:1—"We are partakers of the divine nature."

Through the CRUCIFIED BODY of Christ we are:

Delivered from the root of sin which is Satan/sin nature.

Dead to Sin (Satan the producer) Rom. 6

Old self is crucified with Christ. Rom. 6:6

**We have put off the body of sins. Same
Dead to the law, because I am dead to a self-sufficient self Rom. 7:4
We are made righteous, holy, unproveable and complete. Col. 1:22
We are cleansed from a sin consciousness (given a new mind). Heb.
9:14
Gives us a new identity, or a new self (Christ as me)—Gal. 2:20**

The question is, have we Christians even heard the "Rest of the Gospel?" My good friend, Dan Stone, wrote a book called "The Rest of the Gospel".¹ Dan's excellent book clearly reveals the truths concerning Paul's Romans epistle which proclaims that we are delivered daily by the indwelling resurrected life of Christ within us (Romans 5:10), and how by faith, we can know this abundant life of Christ right now.

The answer lies in the full meaning of the Cross of Christ. What is the meaning of the Cross? The infinite depths and unfathomable riches of the Cross will forever be discovered and rediscovered throughout all eternity. However, this booklet will be our attempt to bring to light some of its riches.

The Bible in Colossians 1:20-22 declares that there are two aspects of the Cross. It says, "*Having made peace through the blood of His Cross, by Him, reconcile all things unto Himself.*" Then in verse 22, "*In the body of His flesh through death to present you holy and unblameable and unproveable in His sight.*" Also, the book of Romans unfolds to us its revelation of the blood and the body. The first five chapters present to us salvation by faith and the forgiveness of our sins by the *blood* of Christ (Romans 3:25; 5:9), while Romans 6-8 presents the provision of the *bodily* death and resurrection (Romans 7:4).

The blood of Christ satisfied God's justice, while the body death of Christ satisfies us by the power of His resurrected life daily saving us from sin's dominion. "*Much more (certainly), now that we are reconciled, that we shall be saved (daily delivered from sins' dominion) through His (resurrection) life*" (Romans 5:10-Amp).

"How shall we that are dead to sin
live any longer therein?"
(Romans 6:2)

God became a human being by taking the form of His son, Jesus (John 1:14). Jesus **had** to become flesh because it takes a human to deliver the human race. Animal sacrifices could never finally deliver the human, for it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats could take away sins. God declares that, "sacrifice and offering thou wouldst not, but a **body** hast thou prepared me" (Hebrews 10:5-6). His human body was the

¹ Get THE REST OF THE GOSPEL by: Dan Stone at www.theliberatingsecret.org bookstore, or Christ, Our Life Ministries, Inc. ; PO Box 43268; Lou., Ky. 40253.

sinless vessel suited for the sacrificial work of reconciliation. "To wit, that God was in Christ Jesus, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them" (II Cor. 5:19).

The word "reconcile" means "to change from one state into another" or to exchange. What needs to be exchanged? Jesus told Nicodemus that he **must** be born-again of God's Spirit. At Nicodemus' birth he inherited a sinful spirit which had to be replaced by a holy and righteous Spirit. Without that Holy Spirit indwelling him, it was impossible for him to comprehend what Jesus was saying. He could not learn the things of God without the Holy Spirit. There had to be an exchange of spirits! The human vessel called Nicodemus wasn't the problem. It was a fallen satanic nature that caused his blindness and sinfulness. Nicodemus, as well as everyone born into the world **must** have an exchange take place in their spirit center. For only this spirit exchange can reconcile us back to God and produce in us the "new creation" (II Cor. 5:17) which is our new identity.

Through the fall, we were indwelt by a satanic nature which caused us to commit sin. Romans 6:17 says that we were "slaves to sin" or in bondage to Mr. Sin. This self centered sin spirit is so deep in our consciousness that it appears to be just naturally us. Ephesians 2:1-3 gives us biblical clarity on our fallen condition: "Wherein in times past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the **prince of the power of the air, the spirit** that now worketh **in** the children of disobedience." This passage is saying that Satan expresses his sinful nature through us, deceiving us and making us think it **is us**.

Jesus told the Pharisees that they were "of their father the devil" because they expressed the devil's lust through them as if it **were** them (John 8:44). So in our fallen state we have inherited a satanic nature that enslaves us in our spirit's center, and causes us to sin.

Through the redemptive work of the cross, God has provided a way for His children to be delivered from this satanic rule and brought back to Himself. God sent His Son Jesus to take our place on the cross, vicariously becoming what we were, so that we might become what He is. "Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he (Jesus) also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he (Jesus) might **destroy him** that had the power of death, that is, **the devil**; and deliver them (us) who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage" (Heb. 2:14-15).

Now how did God through his Son Jesus accomplish this? II Cor.5:21 gives us the key. "For God hath **made** Christ, who knew no sin, **to be sin** for us, that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him." Let us begin by looking at what the Bible calls "sin." There are two grammatical uses for "sin": one is "sins" (a verb), and the other is "sin" (a noun). "Sins" are the action of the producer Sin. The word "**sin**" in II Cor. 5:21 and many such verses throughout Romans is rendered a noun: The Critical Lexicon and Concordance to the English and Greek New Testament by Ethelbert W.

Bullinger says, "Sin is not merely, however, the quality of an action, but a principle manifesting itself in the activity of the subject, the 'man of sin,' II Thes. 2:3, the personal embodiment of sin."

Therefore, "Sin" is a person (Satan) expressing himself through our humanity. Then "sins" are the forms of manifestation that Sin takes, somewhat like root and fruit. If a gardener had a weed in his garden, he would not go out daily and cut off the top (sins) of the weed, he would permanently eliminate the weed by cutting it out at the root (Sin). The cross has provided permanent deliverance to the sin problem. John the Baptist declares that Jesus, the lamb of God, takes away the **sin** (not sins) of the world" (John 1:29) and does it by "laying an ax to the **root**" (Matt. 3:10). Now, how did God deliver mankind?

God made the human Jesus **become sin**, (2 Cor. 5:21) because only a **perfect** vessel could contain sin and vicariously die to it for others. It is a very strong thing to say that Jesus became sin, for it means that he took on Satan. The only way for God to deliver mankind was to become what we were and die to it. For we know that in a death the spirit comes out of the body. Likewise, the spirit of Satan came out of the human Jesus who represented all humanity. Jesus' dead body was in the grave without a spirit for three days, signifying that it was completely dead. Then the Holy Spirit of God came into that dead body and raised Him from the dead. And not only Him, for we were raised with Him as well (Romans 8:11).

This truth that Paul writes, as Peter says, "is hard to understand" (II Peter 3:16), so let me reiterate: **Christ died as us**. "He was made sin," expressing as us the sin nature. Therefore, in that death, out of our bodies went the false nature forever (Romans 6:6&10). Then Christ, in that risen body, representing us, raised us up with His own nature of Holiness. **Christ replaced Satan as us!** To put it simply, Jesus was joined to Mr. Sin (Satan in us) in His death, that we might be joined to Mr. Righteousness (Jesus) in His resurrection.

The blood of Christ covers the **product** of sin, which are sins; while the body death replaces the **producer** of sin. Romans 5:10 says that "For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the **death** of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be **saved by his life**." When we were hopeless sinners and enemies to God we were saved by His death. But **now** as helpless saints we shall be saved daily by His resurrected life, in us and as us.

There was a great exchange of spirits! That is why the mystery of the Gospel is "Christ in you" the only hope of glory (Col. 1:27). Now through the cross, we are Christ in our unique human forms.

"Body Death?" I believe the reason that not much has been written is because the meaning of the *bodily death of Christ* is hardly known nor understood by the Christian world.

Consider the communion table for a moment. There is wine representing Christ's blood, and then there is bread representing Christ's body. We are taught truth concerning the blood (wine), but hardly ever do you hear teaching on the body (bread) of Christ.

The importance of the bodily death of Christ is that it delivers us from the nature and power of sin that is, Satan, the one producing sins through us. We were all born with a self-centered satanic nature; Christ's bodily death delivers us from indwelling sin which is Satan. The blood of Christ covers the *product* of sin, which are sins; while the body death replaces the *producer* of sin.

The Bible declares you are "*dead to sin*" (Rom. 6:2). Dead to sin? When and how did we die to sin? First of all, we need to understand what the word "SIN" means from the Bible's perspective. E. W. Bullinger, a Greek scholar and theologian, says that:

"sin is not merely however, the quality of an action, but a principle manifesting itself in the activity of the subject, "The man of sin," (II Thes 2:3) being the personal embodiment of sin."

Sin in Romans 6-8 and II Corinthians 5:21 is rendered a noun and is therefore a person.

Sin is personified in these Romans verses: He is a person who can reign (Romans 5:21); who can master people (Romans 6:14); who can deceive and kill people (Romans 7:11); who can dwell within people and make them do things against their will (Romans 7:17&20). Sin is quite alive (Romans 7:9) and exceedingly active; so it must be Satan, the evil one, dwelling, acting, and working in fallen mankind.

In Genesis 4:6-7, the Lord addresses Cain, "*Why are you angry? Why is your face downcast? If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at the door; it desires to have you, but you must master it.*" Here again sin is personified. The NIV study Bible says: "*The Hebrew word for crouching is the same as an ancient Babylonian word referring to an evil demon crouching at the door of a building to threaten the people inside. Sin may thus be pictured here as just such a demon, waiting to pounce on Cain—it desires to have him.*" The Genesis 4:7 use of the word "*Sin crouching at the door,*" is therefore synonymous with the word "*sin*" in Romans 6-8—it is a personification and different from the word "sins" which is the very action of the person.

Let us address the question, what and how did we die to sin? We must first understand what it means to be "in Christ." Who is "in Christ?" Every born again Christian is officially in union with Christ and He in union with us (John 14:20).

The Bible says that all born again people were in union with Christ when God the Father reconciled the world unto himself (II Corinthians 5:19). All born-again believers were "in Christ" at His crucifixion (Romans 6:3); we were "in Christ" when He was buried (Colossians 2:12); we were "in Christ"

when He came out of the grave (Eph. 2:5); and we are "in Christ" as He was enthroned Lord of Heaven (I Cor. 2:8 & Eph. 1:20-21); Lord of earth (Isa. 66:1); Lord of the Cross; Lord of the grave; Lord of Hell (Acts 2:31); Lord of resurrection, and Lord over His ascended position far above all principalities and powers (Eph. 1:21 & 2:5-6); and finally we are "in Christ" as He is crowned Lord of all (Gal. 4:1b & Revelation 17:14).

Do we really get it? How can we grasp such a high and lofty and awesome inheritance? Just receive it as a little child, and don't try to understand it. Spirit understanding gradually comes after our obedience of faith, but never before faith. Simply receive it, and it is yours.

Since we were in Christ at His crucifixion, then what happened at the Cross? II Corinthians 5:21 says, *"For He hath made Him to be sin for us, who knew no sin, that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him."* God the Father made Christ Jesus sin, in our stead, in order that we might be made the righteousness of God. Christ did the work of the Cross in history, in order that we might simply receive and appropriate the benefits of that finished work, and by the miracle of the Holy Spirit, know that we know, that Christ is our righteousness.

How could the Son of God be made sin, and why? And what does it mean, *"He was made sin?"* The sacrificial Lamb of God was made sin, which was the sum total of what we humans BECAME through Adam's Fall. We, through the fall, are all sin-soaked, satanic-indwelt humanity (Eph. 2:2-3). Jesus was made Satan-indwelt humanity at the Cross, in order that we might be made Christ-indwelt humanity. It was an exchange of natures.

Think about this: Why the body of Christ? A body is a vessel, or the dwelling place for a spirit, and a medium by which the spirit manifests itself. Through the Fall, all of mankind became saturated with Satan's spirit. God poured Satan's spirit into Jesus' body, for He was made sin's root, which is the satanic nature as well as its fruit which are sins deadly consequences.

Is this offensive to you? We don't like to think of Jesus like that. But love deems it necessary, because a deliverer has to be like the ones he is to deliver. Animal sacrifices couldn't take away sin, nor deliver the person in bondage. It took a sinless human to deliver the human race, and only the perfect man, Jesus, the Son of God, who is God Himself, could be the one.

We need to understand what death means from the biblical standpoint. Death does not mean annihilation, it means separation. When your spirit separates from your body, you are dead. Your spirit goes one place and your body another. When Jesus died, his Spirit/soul went to Hades while his body was still in the tomb. The day Jesus died all of humanity was separated from its hellish bondages as well as sin's deadly consequences (Rom. 6:2). The satanic spirit left Jesus' body and He died. Jesus had beforehand prophesied in John 12:31, *"Now is the judgment of this world, now shall the prince of this world be cast out."* Cast out of what, or whom? When the sin soaked spirit of Satan departed from Jesus, sin and

death were defeated and Satan's reign and dominion in mankind was conquered. Yet, Christ's death was not enough to completely restore us as "*New Creatures*." There had to be more.

Why am I using the word "*Hades*" instead of Hell? Bible students know well that Hades is the Old Testament's place of waiting for both the righteous as well as the unrighteous. According to the parable of the rich man and Lazarus (Luke 16:19-31), Hades, being the same word as the Hebrew word "Sheol," is the place provided for the dead before Christ's resurrection and ascension. According to the parable there was "*a great gulf fixed*" dividing the abode of the saved and the lost. One side is where the believers rested in peace and found comfort in Abraham's bosom, while on the other side, the unsaved live in the hellish torment.

The day Christ died, His Spirit man went to this place called "Hades" to do two things: First to show all principalities and powers that His death had triumphed and spoiled their claim on mankind (Col. 2:15), and to openly mock Satan for his attempt to destroy the Son of God, demonstrating that the very attempt was Christ's trump card to destroy Satan's power of death over mankind (Col. 2:15 & Heb. 2:14). Second, Jesus went to "Hades" to raise Abraham with all his believing "*seed*" to heaven prepared for them. Ephesians 4:8-10 says, "*When He ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men. Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth? He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that He might fill all things.*" Our Champion and King, Christ Jesus Himself, opened the Heavenly Gates ushering the Old Testament believers into the very presence of God.

But wait a minute, how can He raise fallen mankind out of Hades and into the heavenly presence of God. Aren't we justified by His resurrection (Romans 4:25)? Let us go back to the tomb before the resurrection: according to the scriptures, our humanity as well as all redeemed man, both past, present, and future are still in Jesus' body in the tomb—we were dead, and buried. Through Jesus' death we are now released from Satan's "*spirit of error*," but unless Jesus is raised from the dead, we will remain dead with Him in the tomb (I Cor. 15:17). The glory of our Salvation is in the strength of Christ's resurrection. By the power of God's (Shekinah) Glory, the Spirit released Jesus from Hades (Acts 2:26-27), and the Holy Spirit raised His dead body from the tomb, and we with Him (Eph. 2:6). Jesus couldn't get Himself out of hell, but praise the Lord, "*Christ was raised up from the dead by the Glory of the Father*" (Romans 6:4) and all the "world" with him (II Corinthians 5:19).

This one divine sacrifice has birthed a new species of human beings into existence. These "*New Creatures*" are justified, sanctified, glorified (Rom. 8:30) and therefore perfected forever (Heb. 10:14) by this one act of sacrifice which was followed by the Father's faithfulness when He raised Him from the dead. Glory to God.

The unabridged book, Destined for the Throne, by Paul Billheimer Is the clearest presentation I know on this subject:

“As sons of God, begotten by Him, incorporating into their fundamental being and nature the very “genes” of God, they rank above all other created beings and are elevated to the most sublime height possible short of becoming members of the Trinity itself. Although, Christ is the unique and only begotten Eternal Son, yet He does not retain His glory for Himself alone for He has declared, “The glory which thou gavest me, I have given them” (John 17:22). Therefore, the redeemed will share His glory, His rulership, and His dominion as truly responsible princes of the Realm.”²

Let me clear up any misunderstanding here. The whole human race has the possibility of becoming Sons of God, by virtue of the provision provided. But only those who *“receive Him to them gave he power to become the Son of God, even to them that believe on His name”* (John 1:12). I am saying this lest any would think that I am advocating, “Ultimate and Universal Reconciliation.” No, I am not. The only ones that truly are reconciled are those who have *“received Him.”* They alone are the sons of God. Whoever does not receive Him refuses the provision provided and suffers the damning consequences.

Let me sum up this chapter by quoting something by Martin Luther that profoundly states:

“The incomparable benefit of faith is that it unites the soul with Christ as a bride is united with her bridegroom. By this mystery, as the Apostle teaches, Christ and the soul become one flesh. And if they are one flesh and there is between them a true marriage--indeed the most perfect of all marriages, since human marriages are but poor examples of this one true marriage--it follows that everything they have they hold in common, the good as well as the evil. Accordingly, the believing soul can boast and glory in whatever Christ has as though it were its own, and whatever the soul has Christ claims as his own. Let us compare these and we shall see inestimable benefits. Christ is full of grace, life, and salvation. The soul is full of sins, death, and damnation. Now let faith come between them and sins, death, and damnation will be Christ’s, while grace, life, and salvation will be the soul’s; for if Christ is a bridegroom, he must take upon himself the things which are his bride’s and bestow upon her the things that are his. If he gives her his body

² Destined for the Throne; by Paul Billheimer

and very self, how shall he not give her all that he is? And if he takes the body of the bride, how shall he take all that is hers?³"

Miss Bertha, from Cowpens, SC couldn't love the Chinese to whom she was called by the Lord to minister. She cried out to the Lord to send her someone who could tell her truth. The Lord did, and Miss Bertha did business with God. This is what she said: *"The Lord knows, I know, and the devil knows that I've swapped lives with Jesus Christ."*

³ from "Christian Liberty" by Martin Luther