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The Church of God which He Purchased with His Own Blood.

(Acts 20: 28)

(2019)

Bible House of Grace contains an easy to read New and Old Testament commentary full of spiritual treasures and pearls, complete with an insightful resource guide illuminating God's love and grace.



Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man, as to such I neither claim perfect knowledge or perfect understanding.

The Church of God

Which He Purchased with His Own Blood.

The words, "The church of God, which he purchased with his own blood," have been used to support the theory Jesus is the immortal, invisible, eternal God Almighty, the creator of all the things and the source of all life. Since it seems to imply that it was God who died on the cross of Calvary and purchased the church with His own blood. But is this what Paul had in mind when he wrote this verse or did, he mean something entirely different. Prior to the words, "The church of God, which he obtained with his own blood," Paul told his disciples that he is going to Jerusalem even though imprisonment and afflictions await him and tells them that they will not see him again. He told the disciples that he did not consider his life precious to himself since his only goal was to finish the ministry that he received from the Lord Jesus which was to testify to both the Jews and to Greeks repentance toward God and of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and to proclaim the Gospel of the grace of God (Acts 20:21-27). After telling the disciples these things he then says:

- Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood (Acts 20:28).

Paul then warns them that fierce wolves will come in among them, not sparing the flock and that men will arise from amongst their own selves speaking twisted things to draw disciples after them (Acts 20:29-30).

Throughout the Bible it clearly teaches that it was not the Almighty Supreme Holy God that was going to die on the cross-but His most beloved Son. This truth is clearly prophesied in the Old Testament and openly revealed in the New Testament, so what did Paul have in mind when he said God purchased us with His own blood when the Bible so clearly teaches that it is the blood of Christ the Son of God that redeems, washes and cleanses every repentant sinner of their sin.

Consider the following verses:

- We have been justified by Jesus blood, much more shall we be saved by him (Rom. 5:9).
- The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the blood of Christ? (1 Corinthians 10:16).
- You who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ (Ephes. 2:13).
- How much more will the blood of Christ (than that of bulls and goats), who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God (Heb. 9:14).
- Jesus suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify the people through his own blood (Hebrews 13:12).
- With the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot (1 Peter 1:19).
- The blood of Jesus God's Son cleanses us from all sin (1 John 1:7).
- To Jesus Christ who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood (Rev. 1:5).
- By your (Jesus) blood you ransomed people for God from every nation (Rev. 5:9).

All of these verses (there are many more) shine a brilliant spotlight on the truth that it is Jesus blood that cleanses us and redeems us to God the Father. So how is it possible to harmonize Paul's words, "The church

of God, which he purchased with his own blood?" Especially when the Bible clearly teaches that God is the immortal eternal God. This means God cannot die. If the Almighty God could die, He could never be given the title the eternal God since if he could die, He would be mortal and not immortal. So how is it possible to explain Paul's words, "The church of God, which he obtained with his own blood" so that they harmonize with the entire teaching of the Bible from Genesis to Revelation.

Jesus said:

- God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life (John 3:16).

This means that God the Almighty Father gave His only begotten Son (His own child) to die for the world. Jesus in this sense is God's own blood, it is a term family's use when they say, "Blood is thicker than water," meaning family is more important than an offence, blood symbolizes the family connection. Paul is saying, "God didn't just give any human man for mankind's salvation, but His own blood His very own Son. The following verses show that it was the blood of the Father's Son that was shed for every repentant sinner and for every brother and sister in Christ.

- When Christ appeared as a high priest he entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. For if the sprinkling of defiled persons with the blood of goats and bulls and with the ashes of a heifer sanctifies for the purification of the flesh, how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God (Hebrews 9:11-14).

Paul's words, "The church of God, which he obtained with his own blood" could read, "The church of the immortal, invisible, eternal, God Almighty which He has purchased with his own Son's blood (Acts 20:28). This puts verse twenty-eight in harmony with the entire teaching of the Bible from Genesis to Revelation, especially considering that there is not one prophecies or one Scripture in the entire Bible that teaches that the immortal, invisible, eternal Almighty God would lay His life down to His enemies and die on the Cross-of Calvary, not is their one prophecy or one Scripture that says we are redeemed by the blood of the immortal, invisible, eternal God the Almighty. In contrast to this silence there are a multitude of Scriptures and prophecies from Genesis to Revelation that teach, by shadows, types, prophecy, psalms and Scripture that God's only begotten Son will give his life as the Lamb of God the Father and through faith in his shed blood a repentant sinner is made righteous before God the Almighty.

NOTE: it should always be kept in mind a single word or text should not be allowed to overthrow the context or teaching of every other verse of Scripture and the very clear message of the Bible from Genesis to Revelation.

Many who use the words, "The church of God, which he purchased with his own blood" to support the theory Jesus is God reason that God Himself died on the cross to show how much he loved us, but consider this, I am a human father, if I (and I expect all fathers who love their sons) were standing before a murderous group of prideful religious hypocrites and they said one of you has to be nailed to the cross, as much as I would fear it, there would be no hesitation to offer myself. I am sure every father would find it far easier to die themselves than it would be to watch their very own loved son die.

It is very common to hear parents whose children have died before them say, "I wished it had been me and not them," no matter how much suffering their child may have suffered before their life was taken their parents always wish it was them who had suffered and not their children. It is almost certain if God the Father of Jesus (His most beloved Son) was able He would have died in Christ's place, but God is immortal and eternal

He cannot die. To reason that God had to die Himself to show how much He loved us is human reasoning and speculation and certainly not a true statement, since even a human father would gladly give up his life for his very own son. There is no greater pain to the heart than to watch one's own children suffer, and there is not greater glory to a parent when a child is willingly suffering for the parent.

PERFECT LOVE

Some in the Christian faith determine whether God loves them by their good or bad circumstances, i.e., if life is calm and running smoothly God loves them, but if it suddenly takes a turn for the worse and trouble comes they feel God has withdrawn his love, but this is superstition and judging God according to this world. The following is the most perfect example of love and the most splendid and humbling of all Scriptures since it clearly shows how much Christ loves us, the apostle Paul wrote the following to the brothers and sisters at Rome:

- While we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly” (Rom 5:6).

Meaning though we were full of sinful dysfunctions and aberrations dwelling within our bodies (i.e., self, ego, pride, greed and lustful thoughts etc.,) Christ died for us, he laid down his life that we could be made righteous by 'Faith' apart from the law, self-effort and works. In spite of our corrupted fallen nature God counts our 'Faith' in Christ as our righteousness it is imputed to us as a pure and free gift. Though some of us might die for a friend or loved one, Christ died for us while we were ungodly, meaning indifferent to God and His ways and in many cases blasphemers, consider; if God didn't hesitate to put everything on the line for us, embracing our condition and exposing Himself to the worst by sending his Son is there anything else he wouldn't gladly do to save us now we love His Son. (Romans 5:10-11). When anyone who believes in Christ doubts God's love all we have to do is look back to the cross and see what it cost the Father to save us and how much his Son suffered so that we could have put upon us a royal crown and majestic robe of righteousness apart from the law and works and not only be justified but granted eternal life in everlasting glory.

- God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5:8).

This is the glorious and true message of the Bible from Genesis to Revelation and on through to all eternity:

- God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life (John 3:16).

The words, “The eternal Spirit” in the following verse:

- How much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God (Hebrews 9:14).

Has given rise to a great variety of interpretation. The following are some of the most common ideas that Bible teachers have considered the words eternal spirit may refer to:

- The Holy Spirit or the divine nature of Christ.
- Immortal life or endless in contrast to the Jewish sacrifices which were of a perishable nature and needed to be repeated.
- Christ's glorified and exalted state in heaven.
- The eternal and divine influence that Christ was filled with when he offered up himself as a sacrifice.

- The Holy Spirit of God since Christ's miraculous conception was by the Holy Spirit, and he performed all his miracles by the Spirit of God, so his death or final offering was made through or by the eternal Spirit; and by that same Spirit he was raised from the dead (1 Peter 3:18).

Though all of these certainly have much truth in them I would suggest the, eternal spirit also refers to the eternal logos of God referring to God's eternal plan, purposes and promises. Before the foundation of the world were set in place God planned like a master architect and purposed in His eternal mind that His Son the Lord Jesus Christ would be the center of mankind's salvation for all ages and all eternity. Christ did not offer himself up from his own will (meaning his own plan), but by obedience to the will of his heavenly Father (meaning according to Gods eternal plan) (i.e., according to God's eternal Spirit). This idea is support by Jesus prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane where, while extremely sorrowful and troubled he fell on his face and prayed:

- Abba, Father, all things are possible for you. Remove this cup from me (Mark 14:36).

Here Jesus, fully aware of the brutal, bloody and cruel death he is about to face is praying to God, "If there is any other way to save mankind please remove this cup of suffering from me." Clearly there was no other way that God could save you or me from our sin. Jesus though hoping there might be a loophole in God's eternal plan that would allow him to escape the horror of what he was about to face no-doubt knew that his prayer could not be answered as he wished, and therefore from love for his Heavenly Father and love for you and me ended his prayer under extreme agony with the words:

- Yet not what I will, but what you will (Mark 14:36).