A Study of the blood

There was a time, not too long back in man’s history, when he thought blood could be dangerous and he performed what was called "blood letting," opening a vein and taking blood out. It was thought that "blood letting" was a method to be used for the relief of physical suffering. Withdrawing blood was supposed to be the means of curing, now, of course, men know that just the opposite is true. Physicians prescribe blood transfusions as a means of introducing new life and combating disease.

God’s Word said 3000 years before man realized it that, "The life of the flesh is in the blood" (Leviticus.17: 11).

I was surprised to learn in my study of the blood that the "barber pole" is a relic of the day when man thought it was advantageous to get rid of blood. And, the candy-striped marker indicated the place where bloodletting was practiced.

There are those within the church world who practice bloodletting. There should be placed in front of every modernistic church a barber pole, signifying that this strange doctrine is being preached. It would serve as a warning to everyone to run from such a place.

You will find the Bible is highlighted with blood from beginning to end. Its blessed pages are stained crimson with its steady flow. To those who say that blood is repulsive, modern medical practice must be exceedingly offensive. We are being called upon to give our blood and doctors are taking it and introducing it into the veins of their patients. In the realm of science, blood is coming into its own worth.

The human body has many different kinds of tissues: muscle, nerve, fat, gland, bone, and connective tissue. All these tissues have on thing in common: they are fixed cells, microscopically small and having a specific and limited function. Unlike these fixed tissues, the blood is fluid and mobile, that is, it is not limited to one part of the body. It is free to move throughout the entire body and touch every other fixed cell, as it supplies it with nourishment and carries off the waste products and the ashes of cell activity, a process that is called "metabolism." The human body has about five quarts of this fluid, and this blood pumped by the heart and circulates through the system about every 23 seconds so that every cell in the body is constantly supplied and cleansed and, at the same time, is in constant communication with every other cell in that body. Blood is the most mysterious of all tissues, composed of scores of elements and compounds, and strange chemical bodies whose function is not yet fully understood, but all of which have to do with "the mystery of life," God said it, "Life is in the blood!"

Once blood fails to reach the cells, and members of the body, they promptly die. No man ever dies until his blood ceases to circulate. "Life is in the blood!"

Man has learned a great deal about blood. The discovery of the microscope and the development of "blood chemistry" and, although much is still a mystery, we have a reasonable, thorough, understanding of it physical structure. The human body has about five quarts of blood, And is wholly dependent upon the circulation of this fluid for its life – "for the life of the flesh is in the blood."
The blood consists of a liquid vehicle called the ‘plasma,’” a colorless liquid in which are floating the various cellular elements and, in which, are found in it’s solution a great many chemical compounds.

The solid part of the blood consists mainly of three kinds of cells:

1. The platelets = thin transparent cells whose function is still obscure.

2. Then there are the “red cells.” There about 5 million per cubic millimeter and they are the cells, which carry the fuel to the tissues, in the form of combined oxygen and which give the blood its red color.

3. There are also the “white cells,” of which there are several kinds. These have to do particularly with the defenses of the body in combating infection.

Other elements provided for the clotting of the blood when an artery or vein is severed, these antigens and antibodies prevent disease.

The “red cells” and the “white cells” are more easily studied and so a great deal is known concerning them. The “red cells” are minute disc-shaped cells containing a mysterious substance called “hemoglobin,” an iron compound that has an affinity for oxygen, the fuel of the body. These “red cells” traveling through the lungs come in contact with the oxygen in the air we breathe and unite loosely with it, to form “oxy-hemoglobin.” In that form they travel to all the cells and discharge their little cargo to the cell, thus, providing it with its vital oxygen for combustion and heat. Then the blood picks up the waste products of the tissues, the carbon dioxide, and the ashes of tissue metabolism, = called “the cell garbage” and discharges this through the kidneys, the skin, the bowels and the lungs and then, refilled with a load of precious oxygen, repeats the entire cycle again, taking about 23 seconds for one trip around. The food is carried to the tissues by the blood and in the same vehicle the “garbage” is carried off, and yet there is never any contamination!

Psalm 139:14 says, “Thank you, God, for making me so complex! It is amazing to think about. Your worckmanship is marvelous.” How perfectly the great Creator made us!

Can you imagine a city fresh produce dealers, delivering our food unpacked in the same truck in which they haul garbage? It would be something in which our health departments certainly would do well to wonder about.

While all of this is true of our physical body, it all points to a greater, deeper spiritual truth. The Church of Jesus Christ is called “His body.” In this body, Jesus Christ is the Head, and all believers are the members of that body, related by the blood of Jesus Christ. The life of each member dependent solely for life, nourishment, cleansing and growth upon the blood of Jesus Christ. “The life is in the blood!”

As essential as the blood is to our bodies, so essential is Christ’s blood to His body, the Church. Jesus’ blood is also fluid, as it can reach every single member of Christ’s body no matter how far those members may be removed one from another.

Just as the blood supplies the food elements for nourishment and life, and then carries off the waste products and poisons due to cell metabolism, so too, the Lord Jesus Christ is to every
believer the only Source of life, the only support and sustenance of life, but also the One who keeps cleansing us day by day, “For the blood of Jesus Christ God’s Son cleanses us from all sin” 1 John 1:9

“Have you been to Jesus for the cleansing power?
Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb?
Are your garments spotless? Are they white as snow?
Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb?”

In addition to the red cells in the blood plasma, as I mentioned before, there are the white cells. They are called “white cells” because they are pale or white in appearance. These white cells are somewhat larger than the red cells but fewer in number. They normally occur in the concentration of about 4,000 to 7,000 per cubic millimeter, whereas the red cells have had a count of from four to five million. However, the number of white cells can be very, very rapidly increased in cases of emergency. The normal count can be thought of as the “standing army” of the blood stream. When an infection occurs anywhere in the body and the body is attacked by an enemy “army” of germs, the news is flashed back to the “camp” (where the white cells are manufactured) and immediately the organ turns out a greatly increased number of these white cells and rushes them to the point of infection.

You could call this “compulsory enlistment (draft) of the white cell army,” in time of emergency. The number of white cells is doubled and then trebled. These white cells are the “soldiers” of the body because they have the strange power to kill germs, and engulf them. Let’s say, for instance, that you prick your finger, and infection starts. You soon notice a swelling around the wound. This is caused by blood being rushed to the area carrying these little “soldiers,” white cells. These white cells surround the point of infection completely and lay siege to the bacteria causing the trouble. Millions of “soldiers” are killed and are gathered in one place, where they form what is commonly known as “pus.”

So, now the battle is turning, and the wound, which at first was red, angry and swollen, now comes to what is called, “a head.” It has been successfully surrounded and finally the pimple bursts, and the pus is expelled. The pus consists of serum and dead “soldiers,” millions of the white cells which gave their lives in the battle for the body, together with countless numbers of germs partly digested by the white cells.

The battle is over!

Now, the blood and other white cells come in, clean up the “battlefield,” and build new tissues, until all is healed and nothing but a scar remains. The number of white cell “soldiers” during all this time had been greatly increased, however, now, that the battle is over, they return to their normal peacetime number (around 7000).

Hebrews 2:14 tells us that we are partakers of “flesh and blood,” meaning that every one of us share in Adam’s flesh and blood. When this verse says, “Jesus took part of the same,” the Greek word used for “part” means “to take part, but not all.”

We all share in Adam’s flesh and blood, however, Christ took only “part,” that is, Jesus took upon Himself the “flesh” of the human race, but the blood flowing through His veins was the result of supernatural, divine, conception.
Jesus was a man “of flesh” – a perfect human being, but, nonetheless, of flesh. But, His blood was of divine conception by the Holy Spirit and was the only way the virgin birth could be accomplished. Mary contributed the body of Jesus and His became “the seed of David, according to the flesh” The Holy Spirit contributed the blood of Jesus. It is sinless blood! It is divine blood! It is precious blood! There has never been any other like it! Jesus became like unto us in all things, with one exception, instead of being conceived by a human father, the Divine Father conceived him. As a result, biologically, He had a human body, but Divine blood!

The blood, which flows in an unborn babe’s arteries and veins, is not derived from the mother, but is produced within the body of the fetus itself only after the introduction of the male sperm. “An unfertilized ovum can never develop blood since the female egg does not by itself contain the elements essential for the production of this blood. It is only after the male element has entered the ovum that blood can develop.”

Jesus was the divine, eternal, sinless Son of God. God cannot die; therefore, He must take human flesh so that He might die. Not only was His body “of flesh” broken for mankind, but He shed His divine blood for mankind as well.

*Jesus came to die for man’s sin!*