

Hebrews 9:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.

Analysis

'Almost all things are by the law purged with blood' establishes the principle: 'without shedding of blood is no remission.' The Greek 'aphesis' (remission) means release, forgiveness, cancellation of debt. Blood represents life given in death (Leviticus 17:11). God's justice requires payment for sin—either the sinner's death or a substitute's. Christ's blood fully satisfies divine justice.

Historical Context

The Levitical system thoroughly established the blood principle through countless sacrifices. These pointed forward to Christ, 'the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world' (John 1:29).

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. How does understanding that blood must be shed for forgiveness deepen your appreciation for Christ's sacrifice?
2. What would be your condition if Christ had not shed His blood for you?

Interlinear Text

καὶ	σχεδὸν	ἐν	αἵματι	πάντα	καθαρίζεται	κατὰ	τὸν
And	almost	with	blood	all things	are	by	G3588
G2532	G4975	G1722	G129	G3956	G2511	G2596	
νόμον	καὶ	χωρὶς	αἱματεκχυσίας	οὐ	γίνεται	ἄφεσις	
the law	And	without	shedding of blood	no	is	remission	
G3551	G2532	G5565	G130	G3756	G1096	G859	

Additional Cross-References

Leviticus 17:11 (Blood): For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul.

Leviticus 6:7 (Parallel theme): And the priest shall make an atonement for him before the LORD: and it shall be forgiven him for any thing of all that he hath done in trespassing therein.

Leviticus 4:35 (Parallel theme): And he shall take away all the fat thereof, as the fat of the lamb is taken away from the sacrifice of the peace offerings; and the priest shall burn them upon the altar, according to the offerings made by fire unto the LORD: and the priest shall make an atonement for his sin that he hath committed, and it shall be forgiven him.

Leviticus 5:18 (Parallel theme): And he shall bring a ram without blemish out of the flock, with thy estimation, for a trespass offering, unto the priest: and the priest shall make an atonement for him concerning his ignorance wherein he erred and wist it not, and it shall be forgiven him.

Leviticus 14:14 (Blood): And the priest shall take some of the blood of the trespass offering, and the priest shall put it upon the tip of the right ear of him that is to be cleansed, and upon the thumb of his right hand, and upon the great toe of his right foot:

Leviticus 14:6 (Blood): As for the living bird, he shall take it, and the cedar wood, and the scarlet, and the hyssop, and shall dip them and the living bird in the blood of the bird that was killed over the running water:

Leviticus 5:10 (Parallel theme): And he shall offer the second for a burnt offering, according to the manner: and the priest shall make an atonement for him for his sin which he hath sinned, and it shall be forgiven him.

Leviticus 4:20 (Parallel theme): And he shall do with the bullock as he did with the bullock for a sin offering, so shall he do with this: and the priest shall make an atonement for them, and it shall be forgiven them.

Leviticus 4:26 (Parallel theme): And he shall burn all his fat upon the altar, as the fat of the sacrifice of peace offerings: and the priest shall make an atonement for him as concerning his sin, and it shall be forgiven him.

Leviticus 5:12 (Parallel theme): Then shall he bring it to the priest, and the priest shall take his handful of it, even a memorial thereof, and burn it on the altar, according to the offerings made by fire unto the LORD: it is a sin offering.