



## **A Spiritual Encouragement Message November 17, 2020**

### **His Blood is Sufficient**

**by Oscar Velazquez**

In the law given to the Israelites by Moses, God assigned and demanded His people to offer a continuous holocaust to Him, morning and evening, a daily sacrifice system, Numbers 28:1-4. Plus the weekly sacrifices, Num. 28:9-10. Also, the monthly sacrifices, Num.28:11,15. And the yearly feasts' sacrifices, Num.28:16,23,26-27,31 and all the other feasts' sacrifices in chapter 29.

God wanted His people continually before Him in communion and thankfully serving Him. But due to their wickedness and trespasses they were dead in their sins and only the life in the blood could make that continual communion possible for them. "For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it for you on the altar to make atonement for your souls, for it is the blood that makes atonement by the life" (Leviticus 17:11 ESV). To mention an example, I will remind you of the time when Moses left them only for forty days so he could go get the ten commandments written on stones by God Himself. In only forty days, His people betrayed Him making and worshiping an idol and so breaking the first two of the ten commitments and leaving their fidelity to God. Of course, God gave them a lesson by making Moses grind the idol putting the grind gold in the water so they could drink it and later see their shiny idol when they went to empty their bowels. Just imagine how they would behave when Moses would die. My respects to Joshua when I read Judges. God in His mercy wanted them continuously before Him to keep them from falling, so they needed blood everyday, morning and evening. In Deuteronomy 28 and 29, I counted 1,122 bulls, rams, lambs and goats sacrificed continually within a year period, during almost 1,500 years. That was not even counting all the sacrifices done for the sins committed by every individual during their lifetime. It was an unmeasured amount of blood during the Old Covenant (Not the Old Testament, Moses did not give his life to make it possible).

Jesus during His ministry cleansed the temple on two occasions, the first one recorded in John 2:13-22, when He referred to the temple as "my Father's house." The second time Jesus cleansed the temple is recorded by Matthew, Mark and Luke. Matthew wrote. "And Jesus entered the temple and drove out all who sold and bought in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money-changers and

the seats of those who sold pigeons. He said to them, "It is written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer,' but you make it a den of robbers." And the blind and the lame came to him in the temple, and he healed them. But when the chief priests and the scribes saw the wonderful things that he did, and the children crying out in the temple, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" they were indignant, and they said to him, "Do you hear what these are saying?" And Jesus said to them, "Yes; have you never read, "'Out of the mouth of infants and nursing babies you have prepared praise'?" And leaving them, he went out of the city to Bethany and lodged there" (Matthew 21:12-17 ESV). Jesus referred to the temple as His house this time, because He already cleansed it and He also took inside the blind and the lame and healed them. These people traditionally were not allowed inside the temple 2 Samuel 5:7-8, Acts 3:2.

Mark recorded. "And they came to Jerusalem. And he entered the temple and began to drive out those who sold and those who bought in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money-changers and the seats of those who sold pigeons. And he would not allow anyone to carry anything through the temple. And he was teaching them and saying to them, "Is it not written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer for all the nations'? But you have made it a den of robbers." And the chief priests and the scribes heard it and were seeking a way to destroy him, for they feared him, because all the crowd was astonished at his teaching. And when evening came they went out of the city"

(Mark 11:15-19 ESV) Mark wrote that Jesus stopped all the traffic outside the temple and all the animal sales. With 35 acres full of His disciples and followers even the scribes and the priests were afraid. That was the daily route to walk across Jerusalem in His time. Jesus probably stopped the daily sacrifice of the evening to show the Jewish Nation that their sacrifices were obsolete, and the temple was obsolete with Him present. The Greek Orthodox church in Jerusalem and all the East declared and still remembers as a sad day, the day that the last continuous sacrifice was offered in the temple on August 9, year 70 when the Roman troops destroyed the temple and took the holy city.

Now Jesus is the propitiation and atoning sacrifice for our sins 1 John 2:2. "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" (Hebrews 9:12 ESV).

His precious blood is more than sufficient.