

LIFESAVING *Blood*



Donated Blood

In terms of saving countless lives, blood transfusion is one of the most important medical achievements. Apparently, some of the earliest transfusions date back to 1667, when doctors Jean-Baptiste Denis and Richard Lower reported successfully transfusing a lamb's blood into humans. (Less than 10 years later, transfusions of animal blood to humans were banned due to adverse reactions.)

Since then, there has been much learning and progress regarding this procedure, and many have benefited from that discovery. However, there are still many others in need of lifesaving blood. According to the American Red Cross¹:

- In the U.S.A., someone needs blood and/or platelets every two seconds.
- A single donor can potentially save up to three lives.

Shed Blood

The Bible also highlights the importance of blood—specifically that of Jesus Christ—which was shed at Calvary. The blood of Jesus Christ is **purifying**

¹ Importance of the Blood Supply <https://www.redcrossblood.org/donate-blood/how-to-donate/how-blood-donations-help/blood-needs-blood-supply.html>

blood. *“The blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin”* (1 John 1.7 NKJV). Only the blood of Christ can cleanse us of our sins.

It is also **redeeming blood.** *“In whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins”* (Colossians 1.14 NKJV). This means that the blood of Christ is the price paid to redeem us from the slavery of sin. Likewise, it provides us with the forgiveness of sins, for the Bible teaches that without shed blood there is no forgiveness of sins (Hebrews 9.22).

Also, the blood of Jesus Christ is **justifying blood.** That is to say, His blood justifies the sinner. *“Having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him”* (Romans 5.9 NKJV). Finally, the Scriptures indicate that the blood of Christ is **peace-making blood.** *“Having made peace through the blood of His cross”* (Colossians 1.20 NKJV). His blood—His death—made peace between God and the sinner. What precious blood! (1 Peter 1.19)

Despised blood

It is surprising that there are people who reject transfusions because they believe the Bible forbids them, even though the Word of God never implies

such a thing. Sadly, there have been cases of people who have died because of such a refusal. Even more astonishing is that there are people who reject the blood of Jesus Christ as the remedy for their sins and die without having those sins forgiven. They are people who rely on their religion, their works, their merits, their perseverance, and many other things, and thus reject the saving blood of Jesus Christ.

Available Blood

One of the problems with blood transfusions is the shortage of donors— and, consequently, of blood. This is not the case with the blood of Jesus Christ. His blood has already been shed and is available to everyone who believes in Him. *“God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of his blood—to be received by faith”* (Romans 3.25 NIV).

Dear reader, there is a remedy for your sin. Today you can trust in Jesus Christ, and His blood will cleanse you of all your sins, and you will be saved for all eternity.

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