

READERS' QUESTIONS

The Blood of Christ and The Keys to Heaven

Question: If the Christ used the body of Jesus can we say without casuistry that the Blood of Christ cleanseth from all sin? I do not wish to appear to be 'splitting straws,' but I do so want to get at the truth—and it seems to me that although the Lord used the blood of Jesus as a means of entrance to the interior parts of our planet, yet we cannot really say "the blood of Christ."

Answer: Yes, assuredly we can say "the blood of Christ." The ego controls its vehicles through the blood. Christ could not have controlled the body of Jesus but through the blood. He had to manufacture the body fluids and the blood circulating in the physical body of Jesus. There was a time just after the Christ Spirit took control that a great struggle was going on in that body, when the Christ took his newly acquired vehicles away into a lonely place in the wilderness, and there by prayer and fasting obtained complete control of them. To do this, it was necessary for Him to make over entirely the red corpuscles of the blood, since an ego or spirit gains individuality in a vehicle only through blood manufactured by itself.

Other spiritual beings, called *devils* in Chapter 4 of Matthew, came and tested His strength, and when He had completely mastered His newly acquired possessions—the human dense and vital bodies—He returned to the people to begin a life of ministry among those He came to save. He was now able to consciously function through these bodies as is shown by the miracles He performed.

While it became necessary for Moses, Elijah, Buddha and other previous teachers to be born in a physical body again and again, in order to bear the sins of their people, the Christ has only appeared once in a physical body and will not need again to take upon Himself such an instrument. For when the spirit leaves the body in the natural way it takes along certain impurities as it slowly withdraws from the congealing blood. Even in such a pure body as the body of Jesus, there were impurities, and the violent death which caused the blood to run liberated the Ego of Christ from the blood with a quick wrench leaving behind whatever impurity there may have been, so that the Christ emerged from the body of Jesus unsullied and without the tie of destiny usually attendant on life in the dense body....[I]n the case of Christ the violent death was necessary because it enabled the Christ Spirit to withdraw from the body of Jesus without retaining any of the impurities attached to that merely human vehicle.

—*Rosicrucian Philosophy in Questions and Answers*, Volume 1, pages 204-205

Before He could do these things, He must have had complete control of the blood. The blood is the highest vehicle of the vital body, but the vibrations of the Christ Spirit were so high and so rapid that it was difficult to make chemical matter resist their impact. Therefore, we read many times in the Gospels that after He had been among the multitudes and healed the people that "He went away into a mountain alone." This was done to repair and calm the physical body after it had been exposed to the powerful vibrations of the informing Christ. The blood, like all our physical attributes, is built by the food we eat, the air we breathe, and the thoughts we think. As we make new and

finer blood, our former blood is rejected and the more advanced corpuscles destroy the weaker ones, as has been proved by transfusing the blood of lower animals into man, causing hemolysis, a process by which the corpuscles having the lower vibration are killed and ejected from the system. Therefore, it was really “the blood of Christ” that cleansed the sins of the world. The blood of Jesus, pure as it was, could never have accomplished this transmutation. Refer to the Rosicrucian Teaching on this subject in the *Cosmo-Conception*, Chapter 15, “Christ and His Mission,”

also read *Christianity Lecture* No. 15, “The Mystery of Golgotha and the Cleansing Blood.”

THE KEYS OF HEAVEN AND HELL

Question: *Did Christ really give Peter the keys of Heaven and Hell, or what does that passage mean?*

Answer: Undoubtedly Christ gave them to Peter and to others as well, but they were not keys such as we use to unlock doors, yet no man can enter either place unless he has these keys. They are musical keys or incantations such as are used in all occult orders and for all occult purposes. The modern Masons have something similar, for they furnish the lodge differently for each degree. They use different passwords and different grips, so that a Mason, though he may be initiated in some degrees, is as effectually barred from all others as a stranger because he does not have the keys that unlock the doors.

In the occult orders, like the Rosicrucians, the keynote of the incantation intoned at each degree is of a different vibratory measure from the keynote of all the other degrees, and one who has not the key and is unable to attune himself to it is halted, as it were, by an invisible wall of vibration which



Fresco (1481-1483), (Perugino) Pietro Vannucci (1446-1524), Sistine Chapel, Vatican, Rome

The Consignation of the Keys

The pictorial anachronism of locating Biblical scenes in the artist's contemporary milieu was common practice throughout the Renaissance. Here the disciples and others witness a literal bestowal of keys to Peter as heavenly gatekeeper, a gesture easily understood in view of the painter's commission to glorify the walls of the most famous building of the Vatican Palace and subsequent site for the conclaves to elect the Popes, Peter's successors.

surrounds the Temple. In the substance of the lower desire world surrounding the earth, which constitutes Hell, there is a different vibration from that which prevails in the part of our atmosphere which constitutes the upper Desire World and the Region of Concrete Thought. This rate of vibration again differs from the pitch of these states of matter which is inside the earth, in each of the nine subterranean strata. Therefore each of these divisions of the invisible world also require a different keynote, which is gradually taught Initiates as they progress upon the path towards Adeptship. It was the key-note to one or more of these various realms that was given to Peter and others by Christ who was the Initiator in their case.

The same keys are now given to His followers by His successors who initiate worthy ones into the mysteries that they may serve their fellow men better in a larger sphere of endeavor. Thus music has a greater mission than simply to provide enjoyment for us. In fact, the harmony of the spheres is the basis of all evolution. Without that, there could be no progress, and when once our ears have become attuned to that, we have the key to all advancement. □