

## Elder Ronnie Loudermilk



1 Peter 2:24, “Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.”

A few weeks ago, while talking with a person about the Primitive Baptist Church, I was asked, “What is the difference?” To be honest dear reader, this is a question that I am asked on a regular basis here in North East Georgia. What is the difference in a Primitive Baptist and the other Baptists? Even though there are many more differences today than what existed in years past, I try to keep my answers short. After a moment of meditation, I told the person that one difference is the belief that Primitive Baptists have concerning the Finished Work of Calvary. The Primitive Baptists teach that what Christ did on the Cross is sufficient to save all His children from their sins (Matt 1:21). I then asked the person to consider the following:

(1) What the Bible teaches concerning Christ taking our place by giving His life in our room and stead (substitutionary death)! The Bible does not teach that Christ merely died to give an opportunity for salvation, but teaches that the Lord died for someone. The verse previously cited reads that He “bare our sins”. Romans 5:8, “Christ died FOR us”; 2 Corinthians 5:21, “For he hath made him to be sin FOR us”; Hebrews 9:12, “having obtained eternal redemption For us”; 1 Peter 3:18’ “the just FOR the unjust”; and 1 John 4:10, “Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation FOR our sins.” (emphasis mine). When we consider the work of Christ on the Cross, the Bible teaches that He did this for some in particular, not just to give an opportunity to all. If Christ did this FOR someone, is there a reason for them to not be in heaven? Jesus died FOR all of our sins; He took our place, suffering what we deserved because of our own sins.

(2) The satisfaction of the Father in Christ's death! When the Lord Jesus Christ gave His life on the Cross of Calvary, His offering was not to the devil, the world, or even to us. According to Hebrews 9:14, Christ offered Himself "without spot to God,..." Since the offended party was God (Romans 5:18), Christ offered Himself to satisfy the offended party for us. We had nothing to offer God (Isa 64:6), but Christ, the eternal Son of God manifested in perfect humanity, did have something to offer - His perfect life. In Isaiah 53:11 we read about the reciprocal satisfaction of the Godhead concerning Christ's perfect work of Atonement. In Hebrews 10:12 we read that Christ "sat down" (completed work) on "the right hand of God" (satisfactory work) when He ascended back to heaven.

(3) The cleansing of the sinner by the shed blood of Christ! Revelation 1:5 teaches us that he "loved us and washed us from our sins in his own blood,..." Brothers and sisters, if there is one sin left behind after we have been washed by His blood, His blood was not sufficient. But the bible declares His blood to be sufficient to wash away every sin. I love the hymn Nothing But the Blood of Jesus, which reads:

What can wash away my sin?  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus;  
What can make me whole again?  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

o *Refrain:*  
Oh! precious is the flow  
That makes me white as snow;  
No other fount I know,  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

For my pardon, this I see,  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus;  
For my cleansing this my plea,  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Nothing can for sin atone,  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus;  
Naught of good that I have done,  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

This is all my hope and peace,  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus;  
This is all my righteousness,  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Now, if Jesus has washed us from our sins by His precious blood, “Who shall lay anything to the charge of God’s elect?” (Romans 8:33). Amen!