The Blood and The Cross - No indication of if or when shared with SCF* Undated. Setting the Scene

1 Samuel 16 verse 6-7 and 12

When they entered, he looked at Eliab and thought, "Surely the LORD'S anointed is before Him." 7 But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look at his appearance or at the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for God sees not as man sees, for man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart." 12 So he sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, with beautiful eyes and a handsome appearance. And the Lord said, "Arise, anoint him; for this is he."

This is the contrast between the natural and the spiritual.

1. The distinction of sin and sins

Sins - the product of the nature = blood

Sin - I appreciate forgiveness = deliverance

2. The blood - deals with what we have done.

The cross - deals with what we are.

3. The resurrection of Jesus.

Romans 4 verse 25

He who was delivered over because of our transgressions, and was raised because of our justification.

He was raised for our vindication.

Romans 6 verse 4

Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

So that we can have a completely new life.

- a) Our standing before God.
- b) The matter of our behaviour.

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4. Peace with God - vindication by faith in His blood.

a) Romans 5 verse 1-2

Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, 2 through whom also we have obtained our introduction by faith into this grace in which we stand; and we exult in hope of the glory of God.

There is peace with God, but there is still unrest within me (quoted from Watchman Nee - The Normal Christian Life). Even though there may be civil war in my own heart.

b) Romans 7 verse 14-25

For we know that the Law is spiritual, but I am of flesh, sold into bondage to sin. 15 For what I am doing, I do not understand; for I am not practicing what I would like to do, but I am doing the very thing I hate. 16 But if I do the very thing I do not want to do, I agree with the Law, confessing that the Law is good. 17 So now, no longer am I the one doing it, but sin which dwells in me. 18 For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh; for the willing is present in me, but the doing of the good is not. 19 For the good that I want, I do not do, but I practice the very evil that I do not want. 20 But if I am doing the very thing I do not want, I am no longer the one doing it, but sin which dwells in me. 21 I find then the principle that evil is present in me, the one who wants to do good. 22 For I joyfully concur with the law of God in the inner man, 23 But I see a different law in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin which is in my members. 24 Wretched man that I am! Who will set me free from the body of this death? 25 Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, on the one hand I myself with my mind am serving the law of God, but on the other, with my flesh the law of sin.

The flesh and the spirit are at conflict.

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c) Romans 8 verse 6-8

For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace, 7 because the mind set on the flesh is hostile toward God; for it does not subject itself to the law of God, for it is not even able to do so, 8 and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

The mind of the flesh is death and at enmity with God, the mind of the spirit is is life and peace through Jesus.

5. We sin, because we were born so, it is what we are. We are not sinners because we sin, we were born sinners. We need a change of parentage. The trouble is our heredity, God is saying we are fundamentally wrong which only death can resolve. In Adam we received all that is of Adam. In Christ we receive all that is of Christ. Justification is half the story. Sanctification is solving the problem of our conduct. We must move on from the forgiveness of sin.

6. Romans 12 verse 1

And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

In the old they were **dead** sacrifices. In the new they are **living** sacrifices. There is no difference in the totality of the sacrifices. Complete, unreserved surrender. The surrender makes your body holy.

Matthew 23 verse 19

You blind men, which is more important, the offering, or the altar that sanctifies the offering?

The altar sanctifies, or makes holy the sacrifice placed on it. By the act of surrender we are sanctified, made holy, set apart for God.

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7. Romans 12 verse 2

And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

Surrender means death to self - the cross. Changing the way you think, your goals, your values, attitudes and priorities. The carnal mind is at enmity with God - not subject to the law of God. You can't patch up the old, only new birth in Jesus will do it. Attitudes have to change first, the actions will follow. The challenge is to surrender, the alternative is a frustrated life.

8. Hebrews 10 verse 4-16

For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins. 5 Therefore, when He comes into the world, He says, "SACRIFICE AND OFFERING YOU HAVE NOT DESIRED, BUT A BODY YOU HAVE PREPARED FOR ME; 6 IN WHOLE BURNT OFFERINGS AND SACRIFICES FOR SIN YOU HAVE TAKEN NO PLEASURE. 7 "THEN I SAID, 'BEHOLD, I HAVE COME (IN THE SCROLL OF THE BOOK IT IS WRITTEN OF ME) To do Your will, O God." 8 After saying above, "Sacrifices and offerings AND WHOLE BURNT OFFERINGS AND sacrifices FOR SIN YOU HAVE NOT DESIRED. NOR HAVE YOU TAKEN PLEASURE in them" (which are offered according to the Law), 9 then He said, "BEHOLD, I HAVE COME TO DO YOUR WILL." He takes away the first in order to establish the second. 10 By this will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. 11 Every priest stands daily ministering and offering time after time the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins; 12 but He, having offered one sacrifice for sins for all time, SAT DOWN AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD, 13 waiting from that time onward UNTIL HIS ENEMIES BE MADE A FOOTSTOOL FOR HIS FEET. 14 For by one offering He has perfected for all time those who are sanctified.

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15 And the Holy Spirit also testifies to us; for after saying, 16 "THIS IS THE COVENANT THAT I WILL MAKE WITH THEM AFTER THOSE DAYS, SAYS THE LORD: I WILL PUT MY LAWS UPON THEIR HEART, AND ON THEIR MIND I WILL WRITE THEM,"

The full story - verse 16 I will put my laws in their heart and I will write them on their minds.

Conclusion

Hebrews 10 verse 19-22

Therefore, brethren, since we have confidence to enter the holy place by the blood of Jesus, 20 by a new and living way which He inaugurated for us through the veil, that is, His flesh, 21 and since we have a great priest over the house of God, 22 let us draw near with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

By a new and living way.