

Welcome to HOPIC

We are excited to finally be back in the NEWLY RENOVATED KEY MIDDLE SCHOOL, at 6402 Franconia Road, Springfield, Va. Pastor Harlan & Doris Stilwell, Sr., want to invite you and your family to come and join us as we exalt and worship God in His Holy Presence.

Our Vision

Our Goal and desire is the same as that of our Lord Jesus Christ, to fulfill God's end-time calling to enlarge the Kingdom of God, by reaching the multitudes with the gospel of Christ for all levels of our society. We are bringing glory and honor to the Father of our Lord Jesus by teaching and preparing God's people for works of service through the Word and Anointed Worship, through the manifested presence and revelation power of the Holy Spirit.



House of Praise International Church
Where Christ Jesus is still Lord

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Ministering the truth of God's Word in the power of the Holy Spirit!
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House of Praise International Church

The **Blood** Covenant Teaching Series



²⁸For this is My blood of the new covenant, which ratifies the agreement and is being poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.
-Matthew 26:28 (Amplified)

Understanding **Blood** Covenant

Pastor Harlan Stilwell

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Pastor Harlan & Doris Stilwell Snr.



Understanding **Blood** Covenant

Heb 8:6 "But now he (Jesus) has obtained a more excellent ministry..."

Jesus Christ, is the mediator of a better covenant which was established on better promises.

Heb 8:7 "if the first covenant had been faultless, then no place would have been sought for a second."

The Bible contains two covenants (testaments), Old and New. The word testament and covenant are identical in meaning. As mediator of the new covenant, Jesus is the link that links God the father and mankind in this covenant.

A covenant is defined as an agreement or contract between two people, two groups of people, or two parties. The blood covenant is not limited to just the subject being discussed, but it is a contract in which ALL debts, liabilities, assets (possessions) are mutually shared between the two parties. God entered a covenant relationship like this with mankind. All that God owes and all that God owns is ours and all that we owe and all that we own is God's. Our very being is God's and God's being is ours. God owes nothing and we own nothing yet He loved us enough to enter into this type of covenant with us. He has shared all that He owns with us and shared in all that we OWED. That is why Jesus Christ had to pay the price for our sin. He went to Calvary immediately to pay OUR debt after entering into covenant with mankind.

The Hebrew word for covenant, "Berith", translated into English literally means "to cut where (until) blood flows". The blood covenant originated in the Garden of Eden, when God slew an animal and took its skin to cover Adam and Eve's nakedness, after they sinned.

When Jesus cried out on the cross "It is finished", it did not mean that His redemptive work as OUR SUBSTITUTE was finished, as most of us think. So "what did it mean" you may ask?

It meant that He had fulfilled the Abrahamic Covenant of which He was a part. Remember, that as a child He was circumcised and became a part of the Abrahamic covenant.

As you are aware, the Bible consists of two major covenants, the old covenant and the new covenant, the Abrahamic covenant and the new covenant in Christ.

His work as our substitute was just beginning and it was not finished until His blood was accepted in the Holy of Holies and He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high.

God had cut that first covenant with Abraham. Why use the word "cut"? The Hebrew word "cut" means "to cut a covenant". Nearly all covenants made between men as recorded in the Bible as well as those observed among primitive people, were solemnized by bloodletting.



Charles Stanley, gives us graphic pictures of covenants which he cut with chieftans in "The Heart of Africa". When preliminaries were finished, Stanley's companion offered his wrist unto the priest, who made an incision.

The son of the Chief, who was to be his representative, offered his wrist and blood was let. Then the wrists were rubbed together and each one tasted the blood of the other. Now these two had become blood brothers. Stanley and that Chieftain had become blood brothers **BY SUBSTITUTION**.

In Africa, both Stanley and Livingston both declared that they had never known of a covenant of this type to be broken. For if a man were to break it, he was sealing his own death warrant for the tribe would not allow him to live and bring a curse upon them.

So the *Abrahamic Covenant* was the most sacred covenant known to primitive people. Circumcision is what permitted them to come into the covenant. When a child was circumcised, the priest, who was the mediator between *God* and man, would touch that blood to his tongue and that child became a child of the *Abrahamic Covenant*.

After *God* had given Israel the covenant, He gave the *Law of the Covenant*, the *Ten Commandments*. After He gave the Law, then

God gave the priesthood because the law was broken and it meant death to them.

So with the priesthood came the *Atonement*, which means "to cover."

It meant "a covering for that broken law and nothing more." They needed the covering for they had broken the *Law* and it meant death to them IF NOT covered.

So the first thing *Jesus* did when *He* came was to fulfill the *Abrahamic Covenant* and set it aside, along with the priesthood, sacrifices and the Law. The book of *Hebrews* covers this quite clearly.

The books of *Romans* and *Galatians* also prove beyond a shadow of a doubt that *Jesus* fulfilled the *Abrahamic* covenant, the *Law*, and the *Priesthood* and the sacrifices so that when *He* hung on the cross *He* could say "It is finished."

The work which was not finished, until *He* sat down at the right hand of the *Father*, was *His* work as our *Substitute*. He had to die for sins under the first covenant and He had to die for our sins as well. So *His* substitution points both ways, back to the *Abrahamic* covenant and forward to the *Great White Throne* judgment.

WE ARE IDENTIFIED WITH CHRIST AS OUR SUBSTITUTE. HE WAS OUR substitute.

He suffered for us and our iniquities and diseases were laid upon Him. He was made sin with our sin. (*1 Cor. 15:3*)

"Him who knew no sin He made to be sin that we might become the righteousness of God in Him."
II Cor. 5:21

Romans 3:21-26 reveals this very clearly.

"But now apart from the Law a righteousness of God hath been manifested being witnessed by the law and the prophets; even the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ unto all them that believe; for there is no distinction; for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; being justified freely by His Grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: whom God sent forth to be a propitiation, through faith, in His blood, to show His righteousness at this present season: that He might Himself be just and the justifier of Him that hath faith in Jesus."

Here we see clearly that *Christ* was actually **OUR SUBSTITUTE**, took our place, paid the penalty of the sins under the first covenant and met the demands of justice for us, so that the new man in *Christ* could become a reality.

He not only provided our *Redemption* and our *Righteousness*, but in so doing, established a method for bringing us into His family, making us sons and daughters of *God*.

We can now see clearly that when *Jesus* said "it is finished" on the cross it did not refer to the sin problem or the redemption or destruction of the enemy, but to the fulfillment of the *Abrahamic* covenant.

So you see, *Christ* had to do three things to complete our redemption:

1. *His* work done in *His* earth walk, dealing with the 1st covenant and everything that pertained to it.
2. His **SUBSTITUTIONARY WORK** which began when He was made sin on the cross and was consummated when *He* carried His blood into the *Heavenly Holy of Holies* and was accepted there.
3. His present ministry for us today, at the right hand of the *Father* on high, dealing with the preservation and care of the church as our *High Priest*, the *Surety* of our covenant, *Savior*, *Mediator*, *Advocate* and our *Lord*.

Hallelujah!