

For the life of the body is in its blood. I have given you the blood on the altar to purify you, making you right with the LORD...

Leviticus 17:11 (New Living Translation)

Thought for today...

On the surface, everything appeared to be fine. A sip of anything cold or hot immediately confirmed that all was not as it seemed, and that it was time for me to pay a visit to my dentist. Having experienced such treatment before, I was not at all thrilled to hear the words "you need root canal treatment." Cue dramatic theme music...

My dentist informed me that my tooth was dying as blood was no longer flowing to it, resulting in the pain and sensitivity I was experiencing from extreme temperatures. At this stage of the process, it is not uncommon for the pain to cease, thus lulling sufferers into a false sense of hope that the problem has gone away, when the reality is that the infection



has begun to spread through the root canal system. The dentist advised that the solution to my problem was to clean out the root canal - free it from infection - then fill and seal it.

Blood. Leviticus 17:11 tells us that life is in the blood, and Hebrews 9:22 highlights the power of Jesus's blood, which He shed on Calvary for our sins: 'Indeed, under the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.' (English Standard Version).

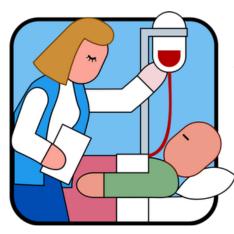
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Our smiles may mask the pain that we are feeling deep within. On the surface, everything about us may appear to others to be fine, but only we - and God our creator - will know whether Christ's life giving blood has ceased to flow to, or through particular areas of our lives. Jesus knows, and wants to get to the root of the problem that is causing us pain. His blood is able to flow to every inward canal, and to purify the infected areas that cause us to think, speak and act contrary to His Word.

In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace. Ephesians 1:7 (New King James Version).

Although there may be signs of decay and a loss of blood to areas in our lives, Jesus says: "... "I am the one who raises the dead to life! Everyone who has faith in Me will live, even if they die." John 11:25 (Contemporary English Version).

Just as the root canal must be cleared of infection, filled and sealed, so too must we. 'And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.' Acts 13:52 (New International Version).



2 Corinthians 1:22 tells us that God has 'set His seal of ownership on us, and put His Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.' (New International Version).

Jesus; in His blood there is life. Let it flow...