THE REDEEMED CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF GOD

CHRIST THE LORD CENTRAL PARISH PROVINCE 20 LEKKI PHASE 1, LAGOS

DATE: Tuesday August 22nd, 2023.

Topic: BROUGHT NEAR BY THE BLOOD OF CHRIST.

Text: - Ephesians 2:13-22

INTRODUCTION

Last week we looked at God's picture of a Natural man and made to understand that a natural man is dead in sins, walks according to the ways of the world and its ruler, wants to gratify the cravings of sinful nature, thoughts and desires, controlled by the spirit of disobedience, he is separated from Christ, excluded from the citizenship of heaven, without God and an enemy of God –Eph. 2: 12.

Because the natural man is doomed to punishment according to Rom 3:23 and Rom. 6:23 but there is a way out because we have a loving God and His provision in John 3:16 -18

We have two wonderful "**BUTs**" in Eph 2:4 – Which tells us of God who is rich in mercy as well as in Eph 2:13—Brought near by the blood of Christ.

What does it mean to be brought near by the blood?

- 1. We have been born again and received eternal life Eph 2:1 and 5; John 3:3,5; John 1:12-13; 1 John 5;11-12, 2 Peter 1:4
- 2. We have been saved by His Grace Eph 2:8-10; it is a gift received by faith alone and we are saved to reach

- out to others and to do good works.
- 3. We are reconciled and now at peace with God—Col. 1:20; Eph 2:14-17. We were enemies and have now been reconciled through the finished work on the cross of Calvary by the shedding of His blood which now breaks down all barriers that existed between ourselves and God.
- 4. We have been raised to sit in heavenly places in Christ Eph 2:6- This is our new position by God's grace. We are now citizens of heaven all because of the blood that brought us near Phil. 3:20
- 5. We have been brought into a new relationship with God and have been made members of the household of God and no more strangers but have access to the Father because of the blood of Jesus—Eph. 2:18-19; 1 Cor. 12:13; 1Cor 3:11
- 6. We have been made fit Dwelling places for God –Eph 2:22. The church of God's holy temple was built by the Holy Spirit and believers are living stones by which the temple will be complete then, will end the day of grace and we shall be raptured into His presence to be forever with the lord 1 Thes. 4:15-17

What does the blood of Christ do when it brings us near?

- i. The blood of Jesus saves and sets free from all sins -Rev. 1:5; 1 Peter1:18-19; Eph 1:7
- ii. The blood of Jesus forgives us of all sins --Heb. 9:22; 27; Matt. 26:28
- iii. The blood of Jesus delivers us and releases us from the great curse—Gal 3:13
- iv. Qualifies us and grants us access to the father; no longer far away- Eph 2:13
- v. The blood of Jesus defends and protects.
- vi. The blood of Jesus purifies -- Lev. 17:11.
- vii. Sanctification is possible only with the blood of Jesus --Heb 13:12; 1John 1;7;
- viii. We are overcomers by the blood of Jesus –Rev. 12:11

- ix. The blood of Jesus justifies us and spares us from God's wrath Rom. 5:9
- x. Gives us life -- Jn 6:53
- xi. Jesus paid our debts with His blood—Heb. 9:28.
- xii. The blood of Jesus grants wholeness
- xiii. The blood of Jesus grants us access to the holy of holiest
 —Heb 10:19
- xiv. The blood of Jesus speaks better than that of Abel that calls for vengeance -- Heb. 12:24

Conclusion--

Mattew 6:33 says, "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things will be added to you" for the blood of Jesus to work for us as we are brought near by the blood then accept him and surrender all to him and all listed and many more that the blood of Jesus does will be our portion. Amen

Prayer

Lord, help me to make full proof of your blood that was shed for me in Jesus name. Amen.