

The value of a Soul #9

The Blood of Christ— the Price for the Soul

When I went to New Zealand in 1966, there was a huge slaughterhouse located just outside the city of Wellington. Great herds of cattle and flocks of sheep were processed daily for the export market. You could see these animals waiting quietly but nervously for their turn on the killing chain.

As the animals were slaughtered, their blood was hosed down channels that carried it out to a stream which flowed by the meat-works and on into the sea. It was a river of blood, and there was a spreading crimson stain at the place where the river met the ocean.

In the Old Testament, God required that animals be sacrificed as offerings for sin. Even though countless cattle, sheep, and goats must have been slaughtered throughout that period, the Bible teaches that no actual sin was forgiven (Heb. 10:4). The effect of this sacrifice was to render a provisional forgiveness until the real price was paid by Jesus on the cross (Rom. 3:25; Heb. 9:15; 10:3).

Since it is “. . . impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.” (Heb 10:4), if every clean animal that has ever existed on the face of the earth were sacrificed, the price would still not be enough to purchase the salvation of even one soul (Heb. 9:11-14).

The Bible says that Jesus is the one who “. . . loves us, and released us from our sins by His blood. . .” (Rev. 1:5).

God cares for the souls of men. He was willing to pay the ultimate price to redeem them. Do we care enough to do what we can to minister that salvation to the lost souls of our community?