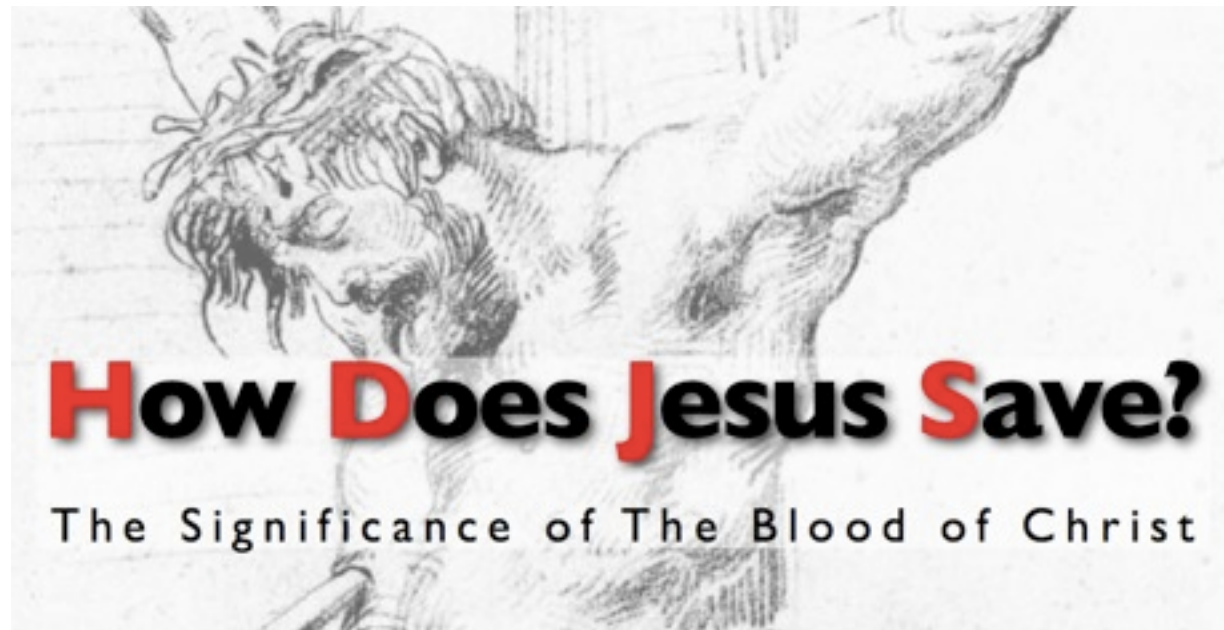


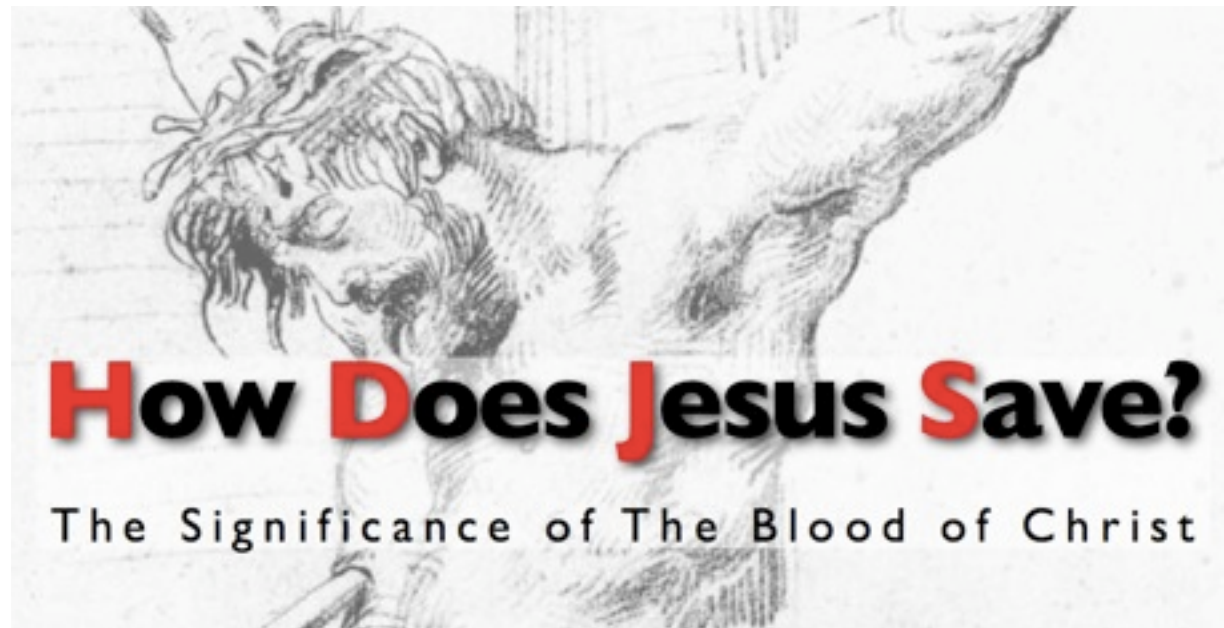
How **D**oes **J**esus **S**ave?

The Significance of The Blood of Christ



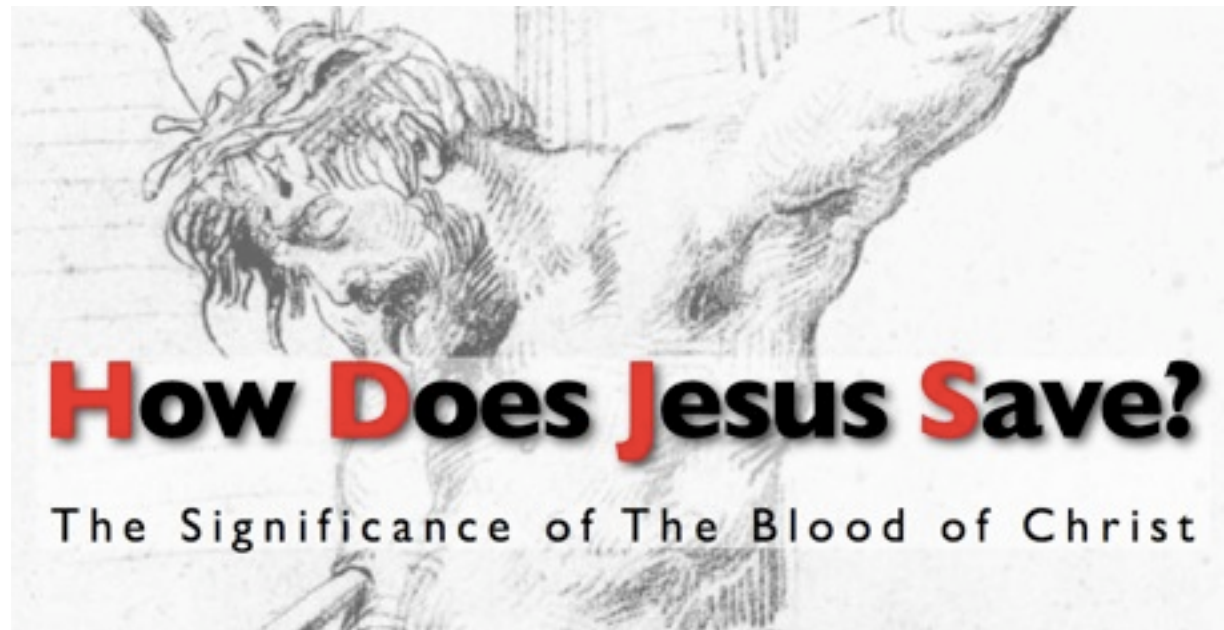
Introduction

- “Jesus Saves” ... true, but how?
- “He will save His people from their sins.” (Mt 1:21)
- Are we saved ...
 - Because of our parents/ancestors?
 - Because of our own goodness?
 - Without knowing God’s word?
 - Without obeying God’s word?
- Where do we go for answers? ... to the Bible.



Outline of Study

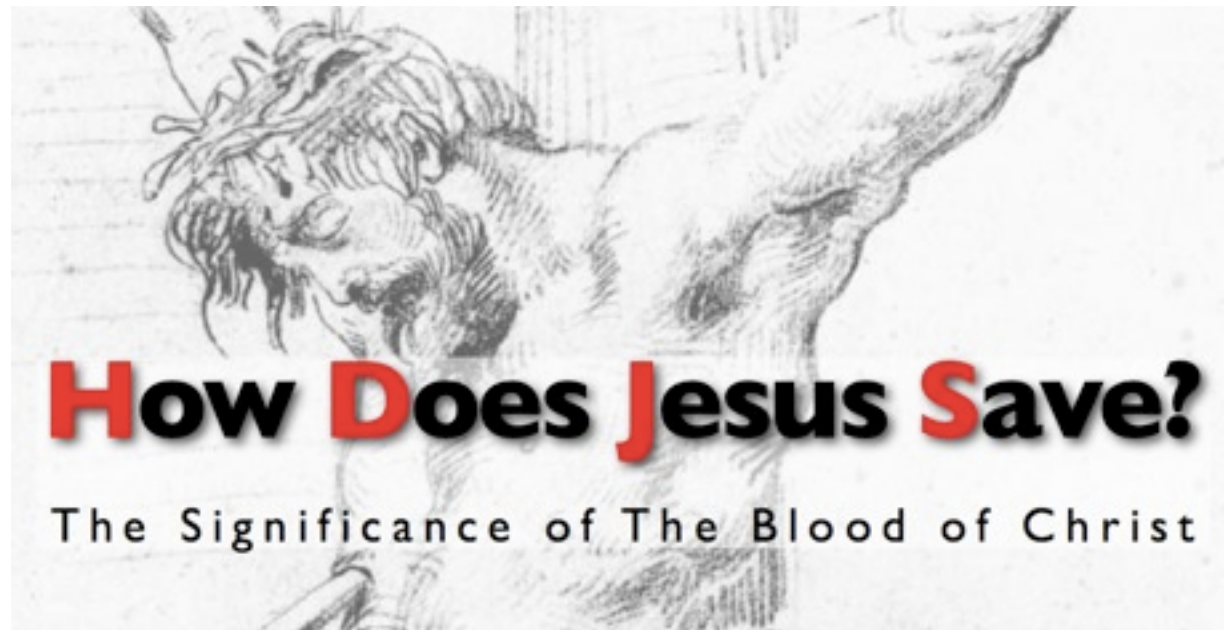
1. Salvation Comes By The Blood of Christ
2. Christ's Blood Is In Christ's Body
3. Salvation Is In Christ's Body
4. The Body of Christ Is The Church of Christ
5. Salvation Is In Christ's Church
6. What Takes Us Into Christ's Church Brings Us To His Blood, Which Saves Us
7. Baptism Takes Us Into The Church, Christ's Body



Salvation Comes By The Blood Of Christ

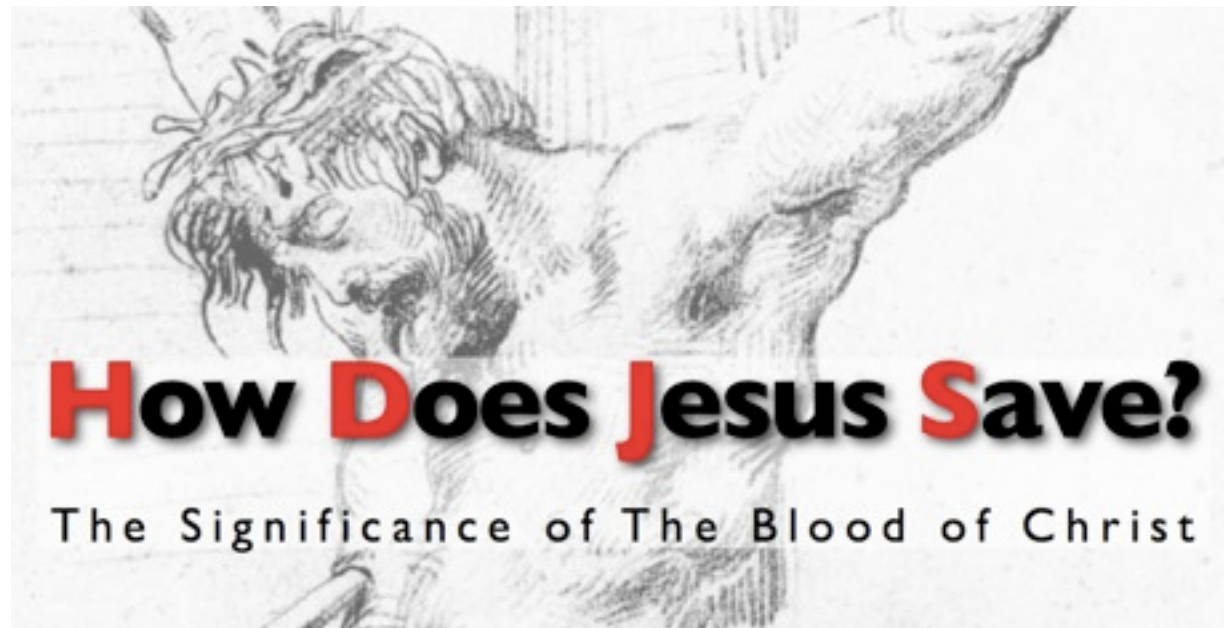
The Bible teaches that, though there are many contributing factors (i.e., faith, grace, hope, obedience, etc.), the specific means by which Jesus saves is his blood.

The importance of salvation by blood is set forth in many passages throughout the Bible. Examine the following principles by looking up the passages mentioned.



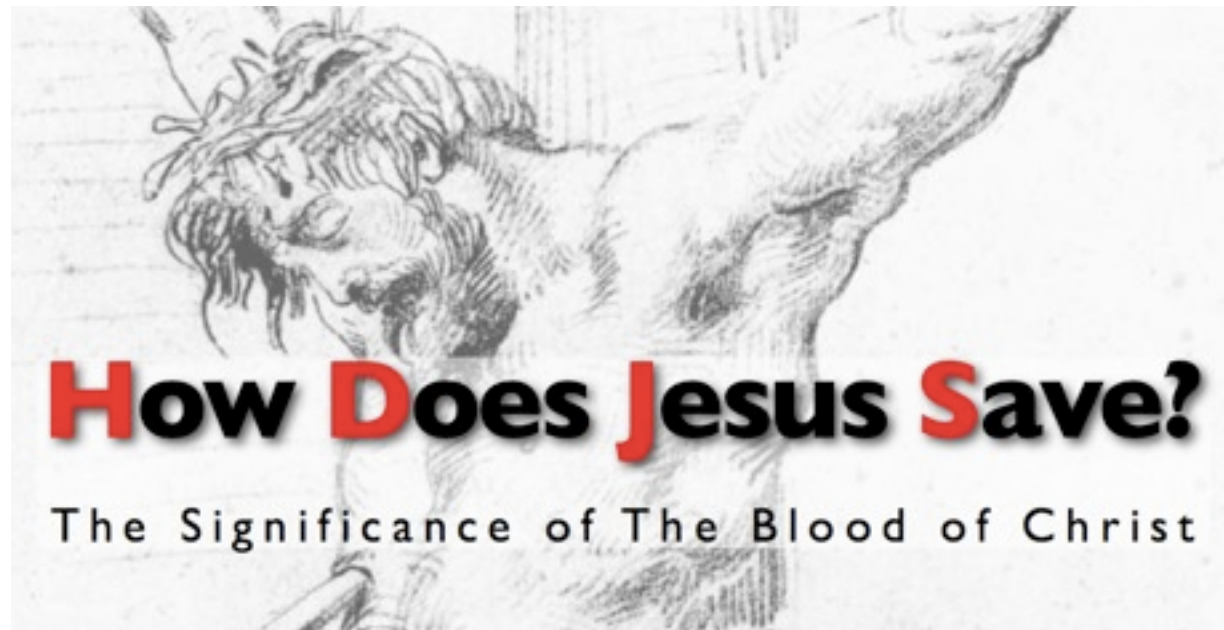
Salvation Comes By The Blood Of Christ

A. Life is in the blood. In the Old Testament we learn that “life” is, in some way, “in” the blood. This is taught in Genesis 9:4; Leviticus 17:11,14 and Deuteronomy 12:23.



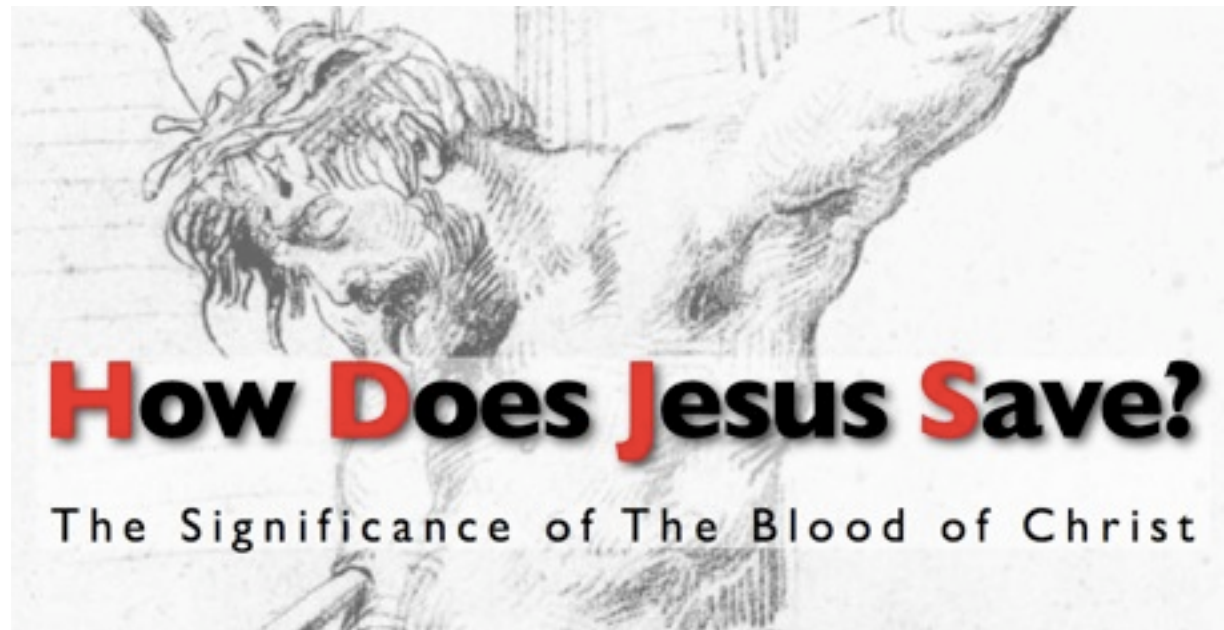
Salvation Comes By The Blood Of Christ

B. Without blood, there is no remission (or forgiveness) of sins. In God's great plan to save man, blood plays a central role. From the first sacrifices in Eden forward, blood was involved in atoning for man's sins. Read Leviticus 17:11 and Hebrews 9:22.



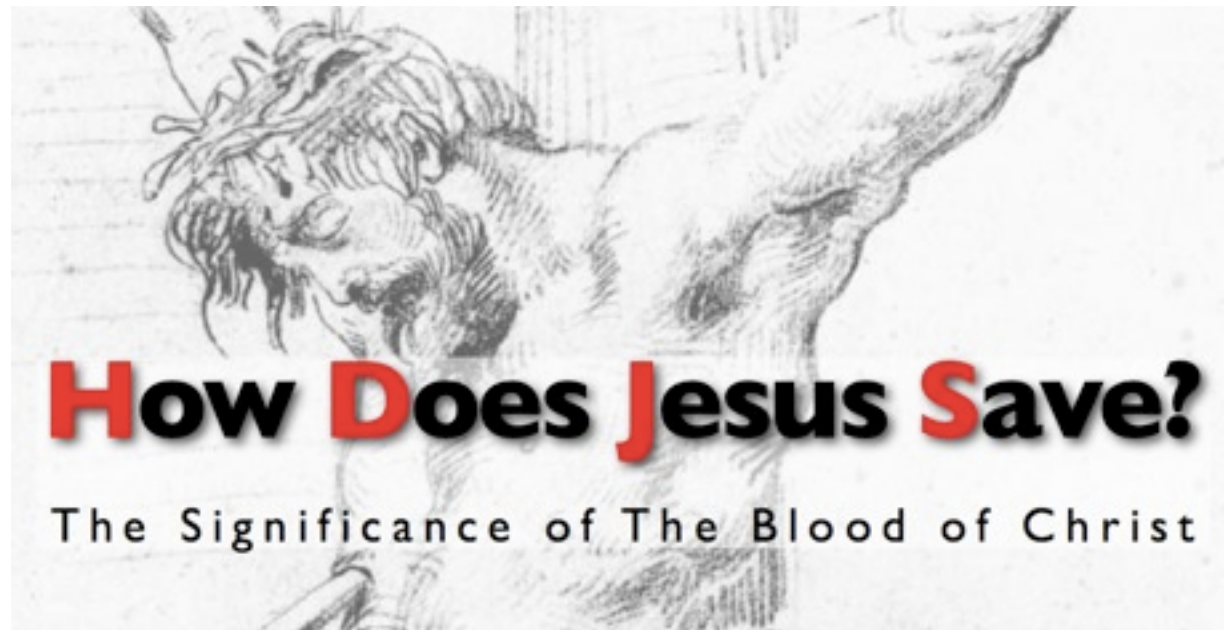
Salvation Comes By The Blood Of Christ

C. Blood was used under the law of Moses for the forgiveness of sins. The Jews, under the Old Testament law of Moses, were forgiven of their sins when the priests used the blood of animal sacrifices in the temple. Look at these verses: Exodus 12:7-23; 24:6-8; 30:10; Leviticus 4:5-6, 17. Blood was used in almost every Old Testament sacrifice [Note: Some “sacrifices,” such as grain offerings, were bloodless.]



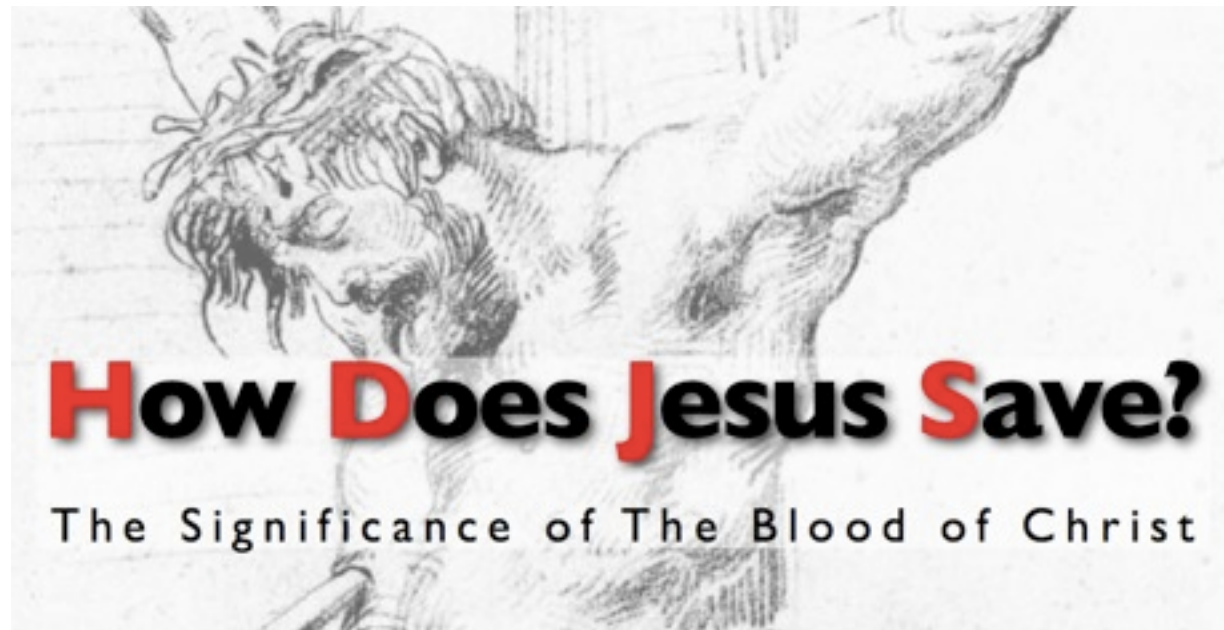
Salvation Comes By The Blood Of Christ

D. Under the New Testament the blood of Christ, not the blood of bulls and goats, brings forgiveness. See Matthew 26:28; Mark 14:24; Luke 22:20; Romans 3:24-25; 5:9; Ephesians 1:7; 2:13; Colossians 1:14; Hebrews 9:12-14; 10:19-29; 12:24; 13:12; 1 Peter 1:2, 18-19; 1 John 1:7; 5:6; Revelation 1:5; 7:14; 12:11. (see also John 6:53ff; 1 Corinthians 10:16)



Christ's *Blood Is In* Christ's *Body*

The blood of Jesus is “*in Christ.*” While Jesus was alive on earth his *physical blood* was in his *physical body*. John 19:34 teaches that blood came out of His body when it was pierced with a spear. Jesus does not live on the earth today, but his blood which was shed at the cross cleanses his “spiritual body,” the church (see point #4 below). Ephesians 2:13-16 teaches that Jews and Gentiles were made one and forgiven of sins by the blood of Christ “in one body.” The saving power of Jesus’ blood, therefore, is in the spiritual body of Christ.

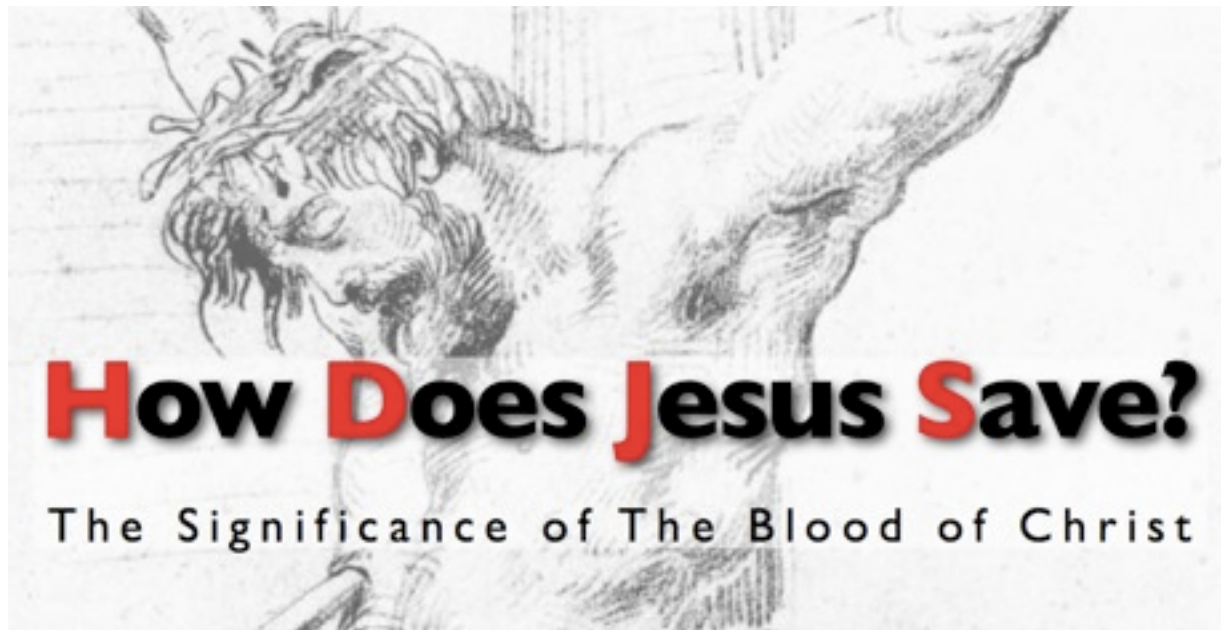


Salvation Is In Christ's Body

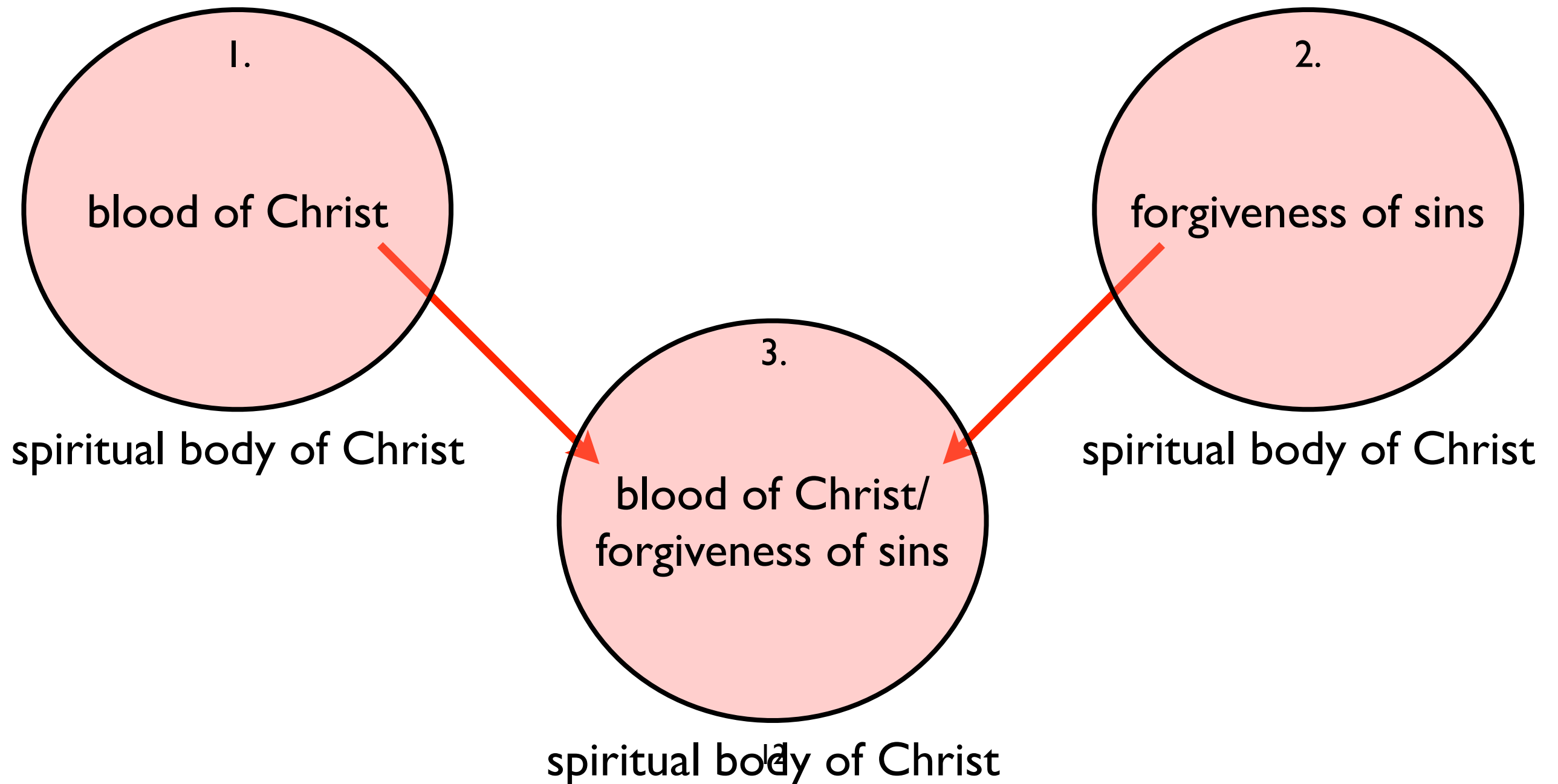
A. If the forgiveness of sins comes by the blood of Christ, and if the blood of Christ is in the spiritual body of Christ, then the forgiveness of sins must be in Christ's spiritual body.

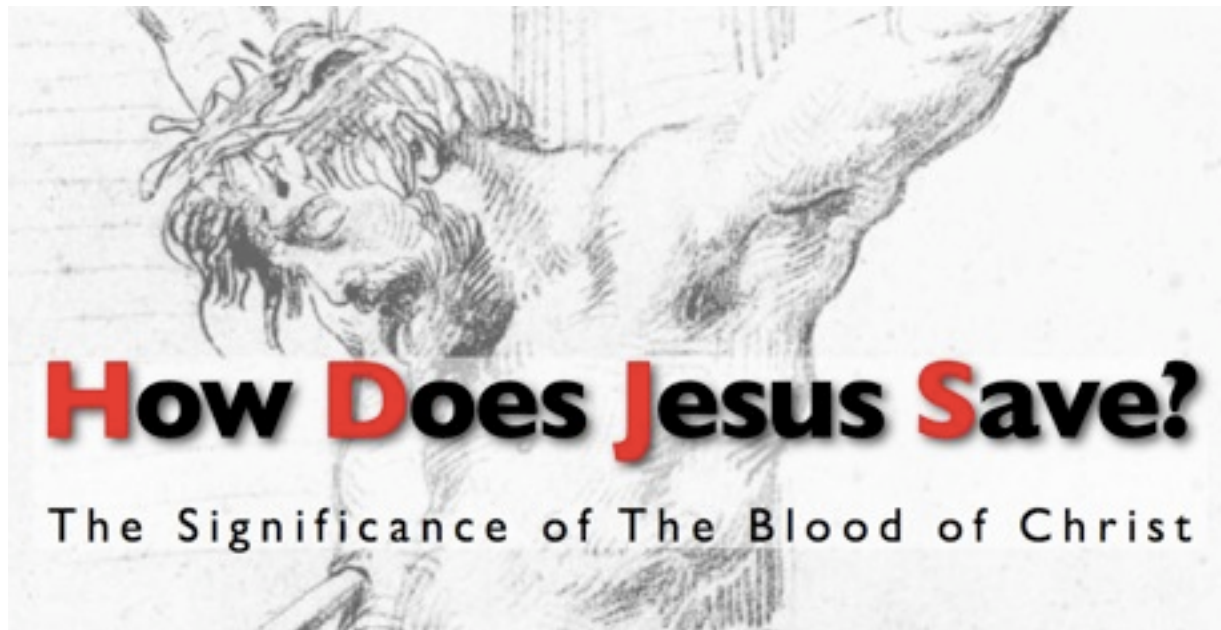
1. Forgiveness of sins $\xrightarrow{\text{by/through/in}}$ blood of Christ

2. blood of Christ $\xrightarrow{\text{in}}$ spiritual body of Christ



Salvation Is In Christ's Body

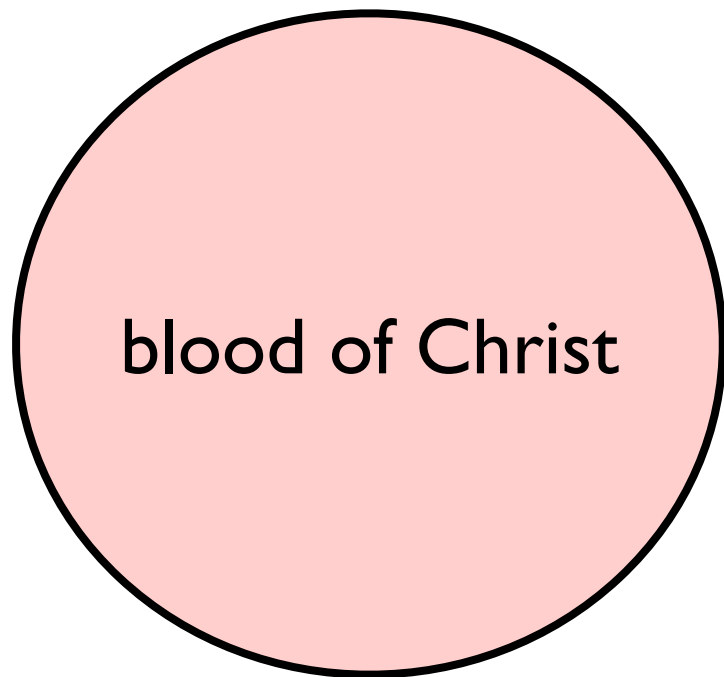




Salvation Is In Christ's Body

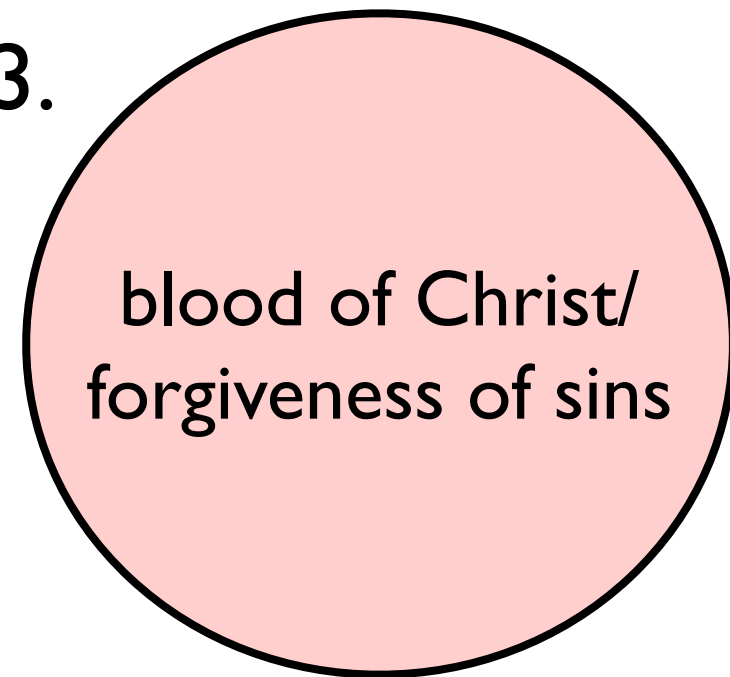
1. Forgiveness of sins $\xrightarrow{\text{by/through/in}}$ blood of Christ

2.

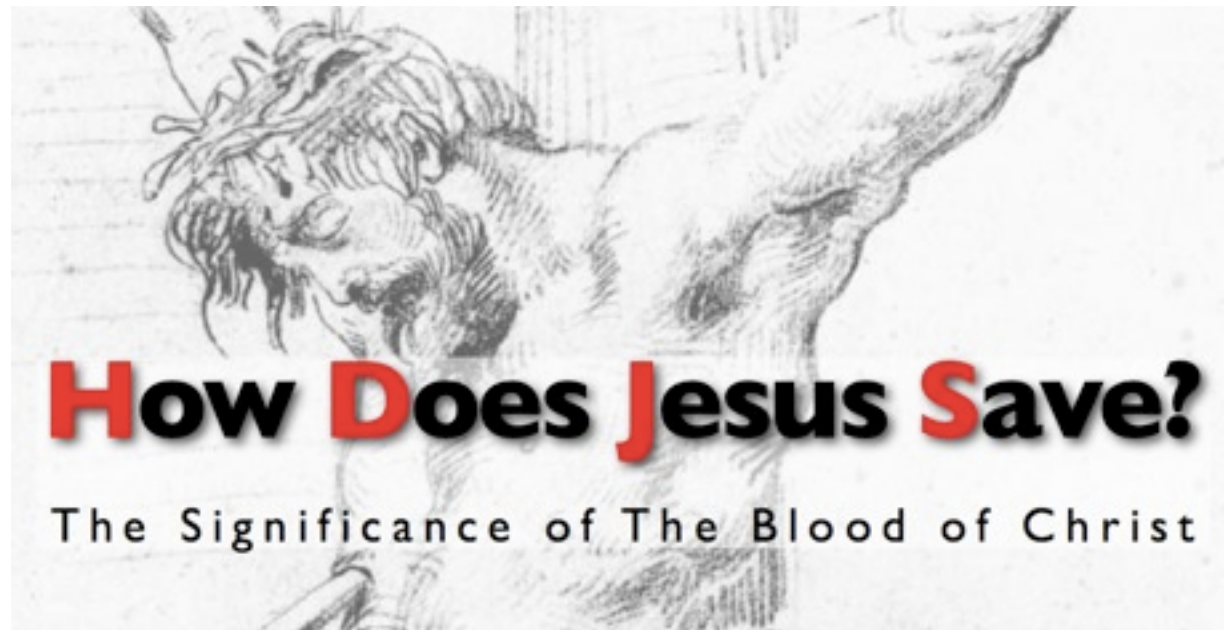


spiritual body of Christ

3.

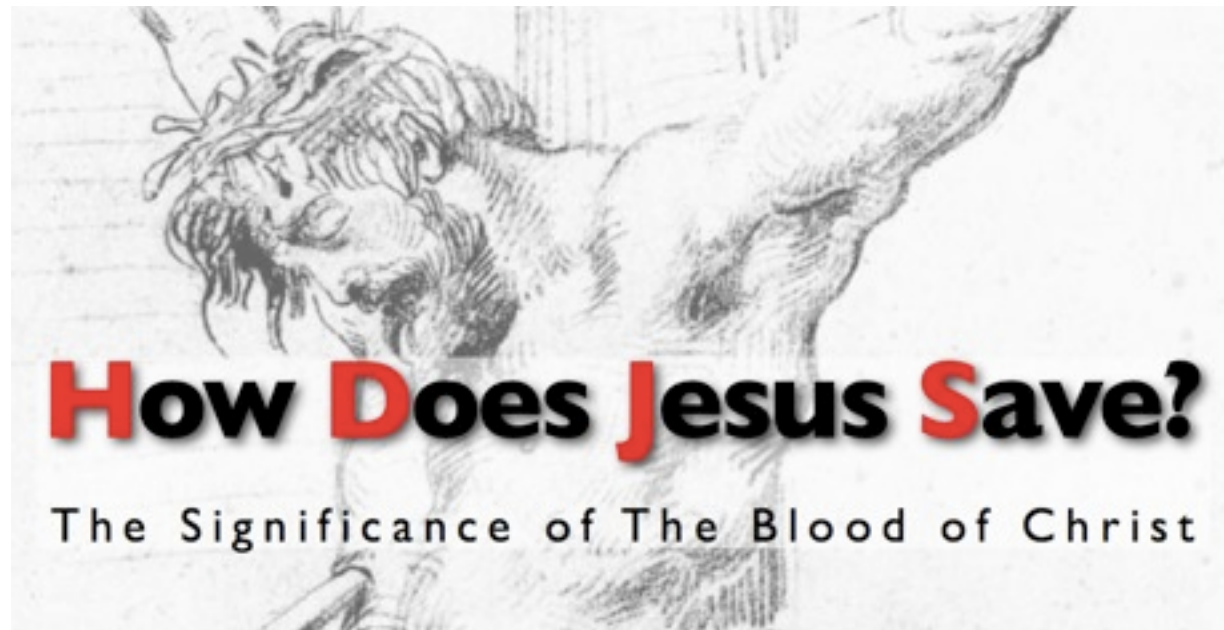


spiritual body of Christ



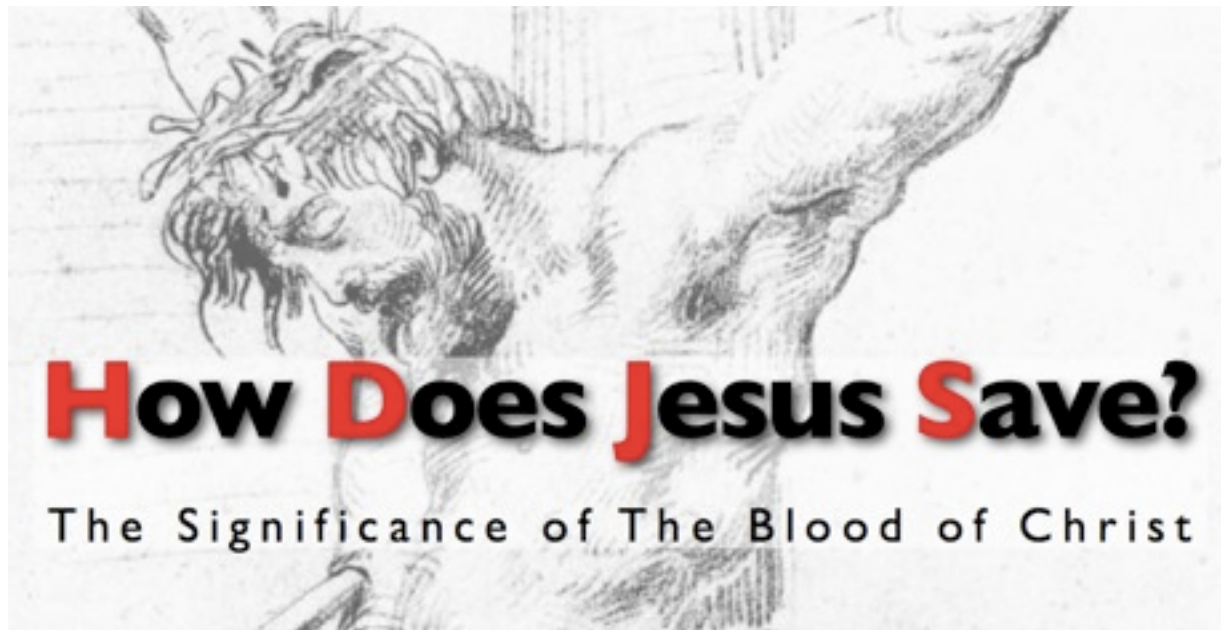
Salvation Is In Christ's Body

B. We have already noted that forgiveness of sins comes by Jesus' blood (#1). And, we have seen that the blood of Jesus is in His spiritual body (#2). We can only conclude, then, that in some way the forgiveness of sins is *in* Christ's spiritual body. When we examine the Bible we see that this is exactly what the scriptures teach.

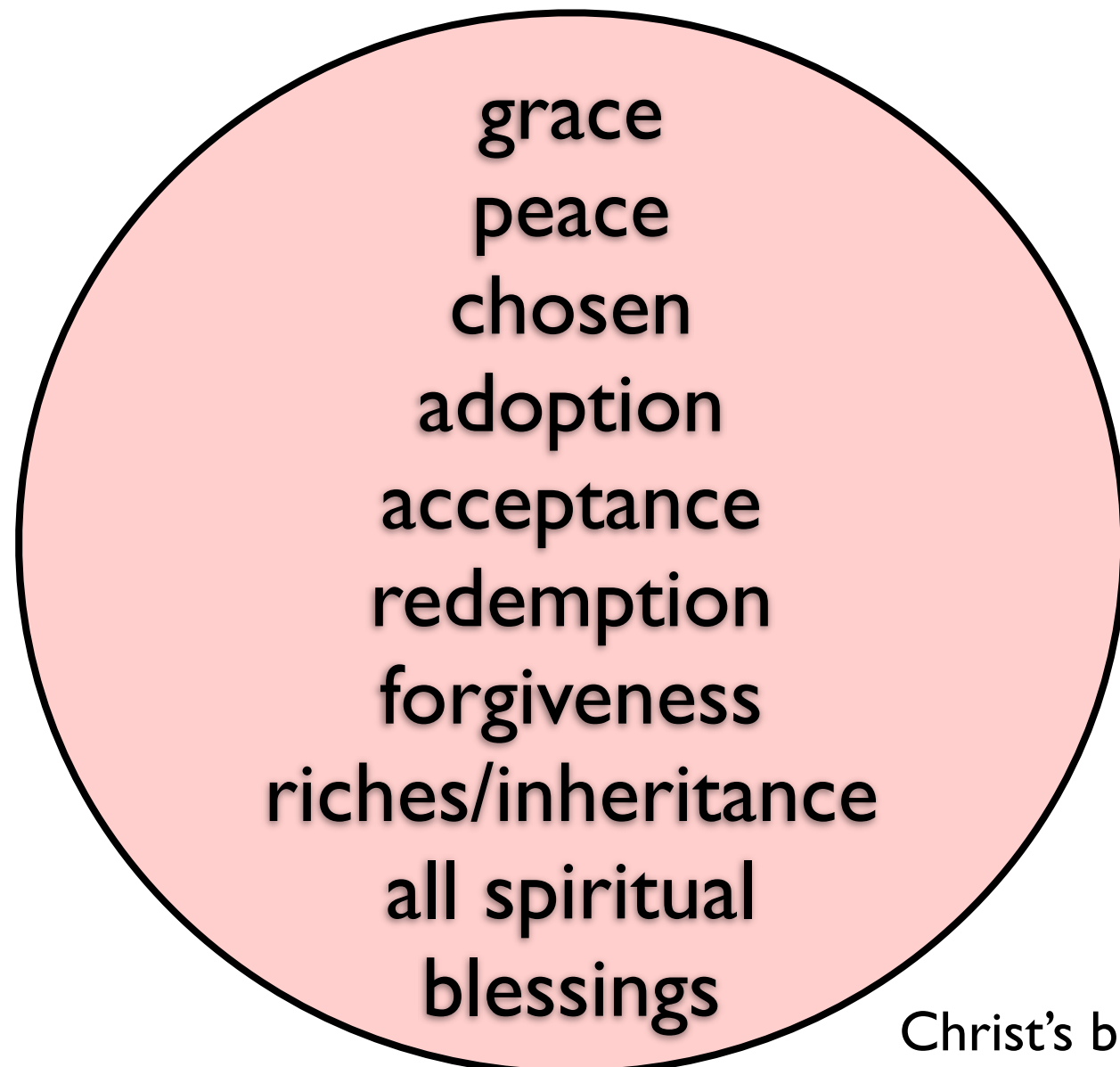


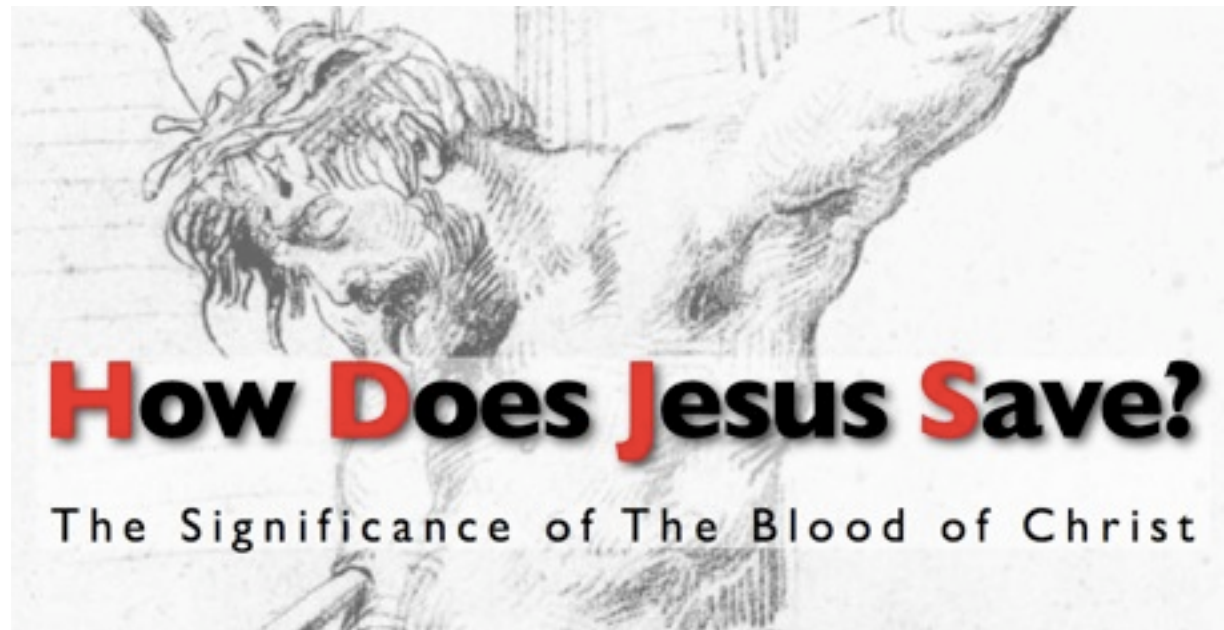
Salvation Is In Christ's Body

Ephesians 1:3 says that all spiritual blessings are “in Christ,” that is in Christ’s body. In the following verses we see a list of blessings that are in Christ: being chosen (vs.4), God’s grace and acceptance (vs.6), redemption and forgiveness of sins (vs. 7), spiritual unity (vs.10), an inheritance (vs.1 1), praise and trust (vs.12), and the Spirit of God (vs.13). Note that all of these blessings, including the forgiveness of sins, are “in Christ.” [Read all of Ephesians chapter one for more examples.]



Salvation Is In Christ's Body

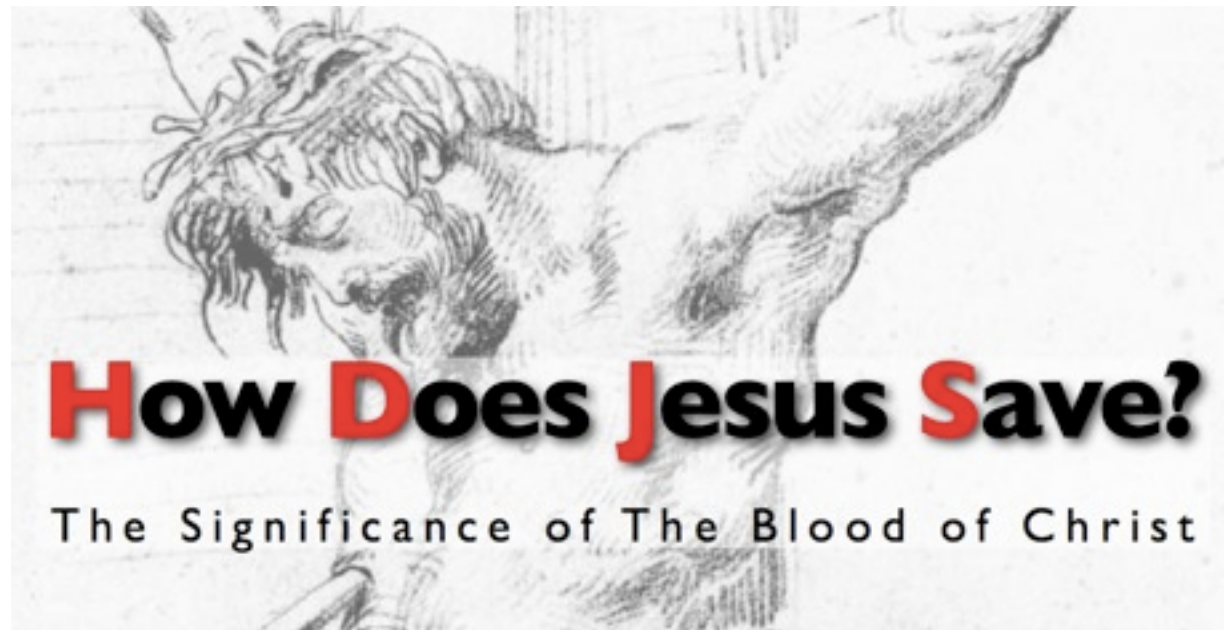




*The **B**ody **O**f **C**hrist **I**s **T**he **C**hurch **O**f **C**hrist*

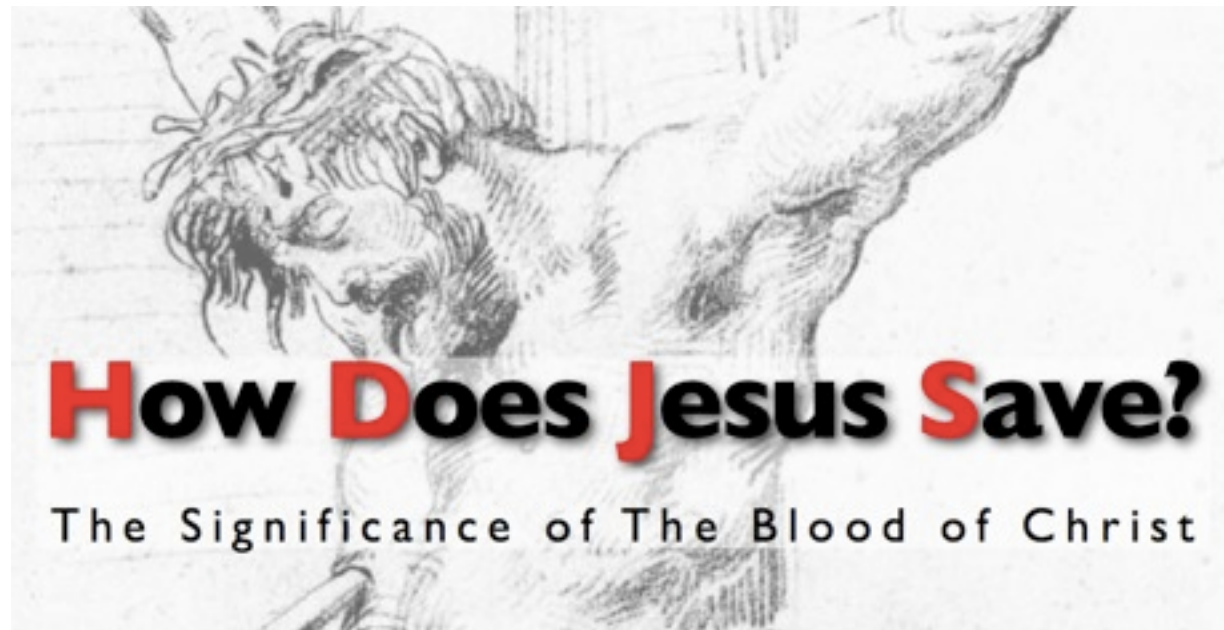
A. The one spiritual body Paul spoke of in Ephesians is *the church*, the body of Christ. (Ephesians 1:22- 23)

B. The Bible plainly teaches that Christ is the head of this church. Read Ephesians 1:22-23; 4:15; 5:22-23; Colossians 1:18; 2:10, 19; and Hebrews 3:3-6 (where the church is called a “house”) to learn this.



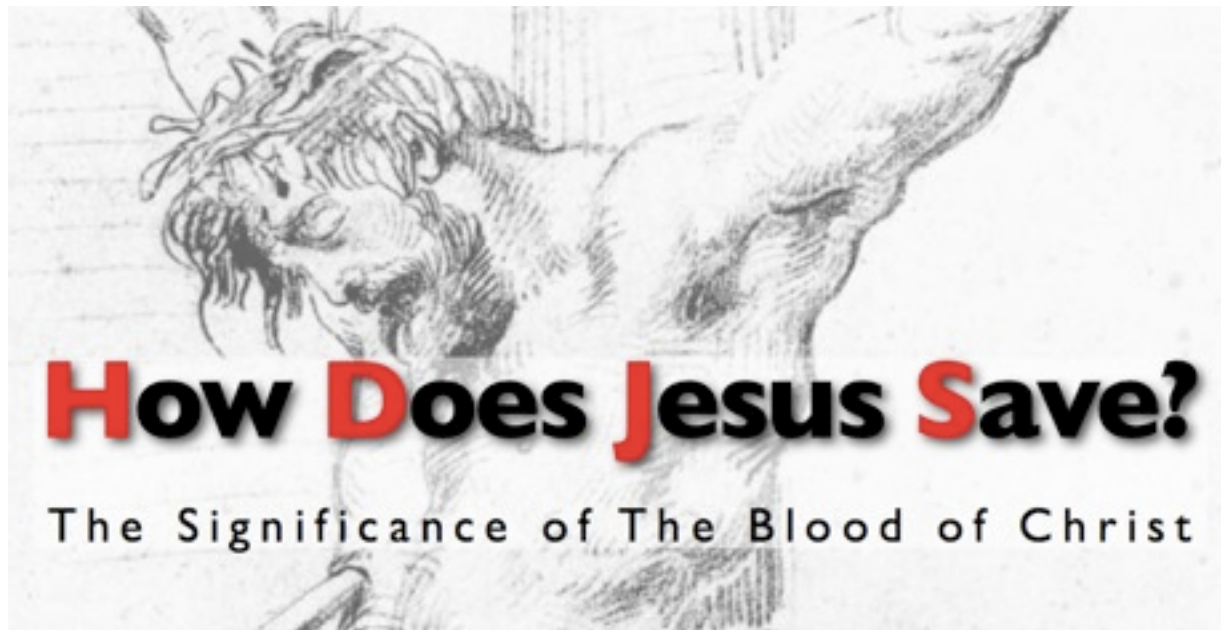
*The **B**ody **O**f **C**hrist **I**s **T**he **C**hurch **O**f **C**hrist*

C. But the Bible also teaches that Christ, who is the head of the church, is also the head of the body. Why? Because the body of Christ and the church of Christ are the same thing. Study again Ephesians 1:22-23; 4:4; 5:22-23; and Colossians 1:18-24 to see the connection between the body of Christ and the church of Christ. These passages teach that they are the same spiritual institution.

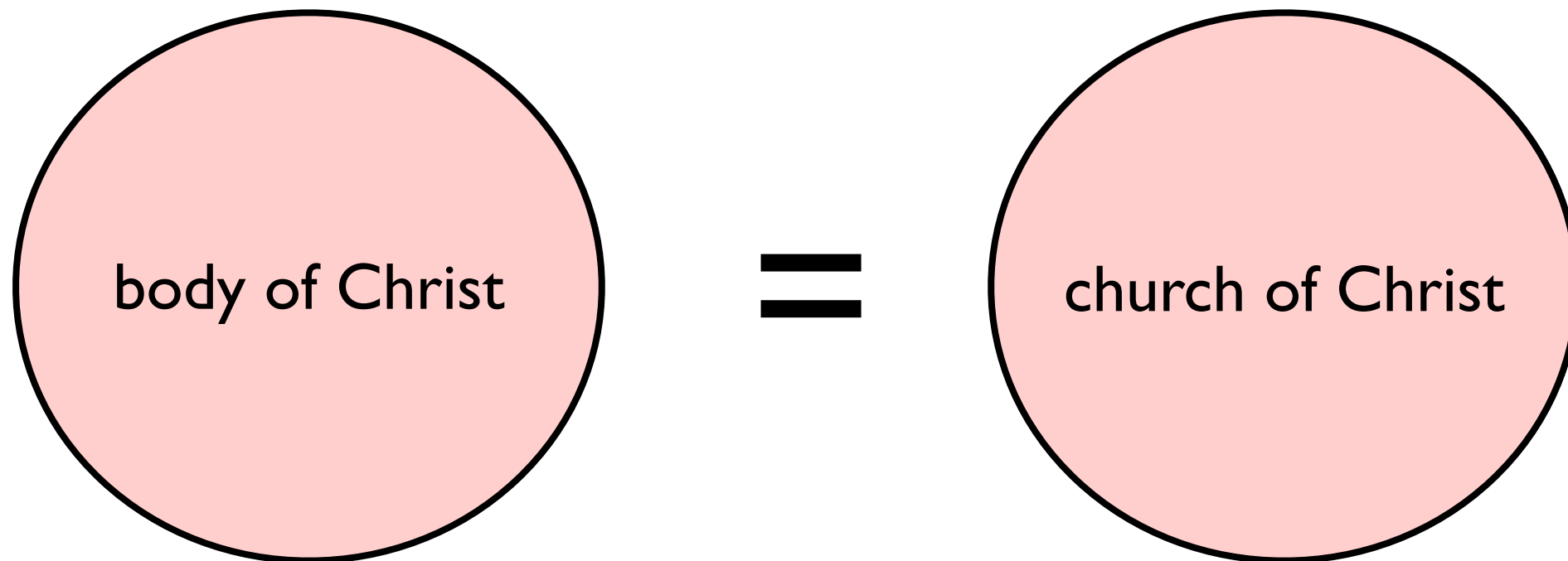


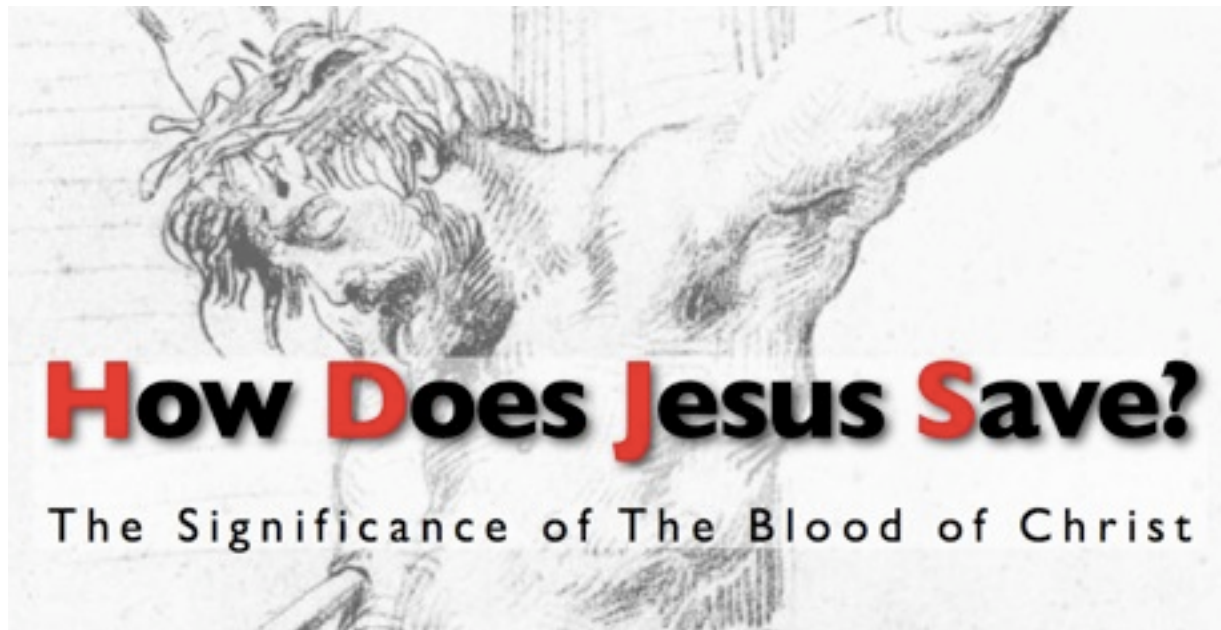
*The **B**ody **O**f **C**hrist **I**s **T**he
Church **O**f **C**hrist*

body = church

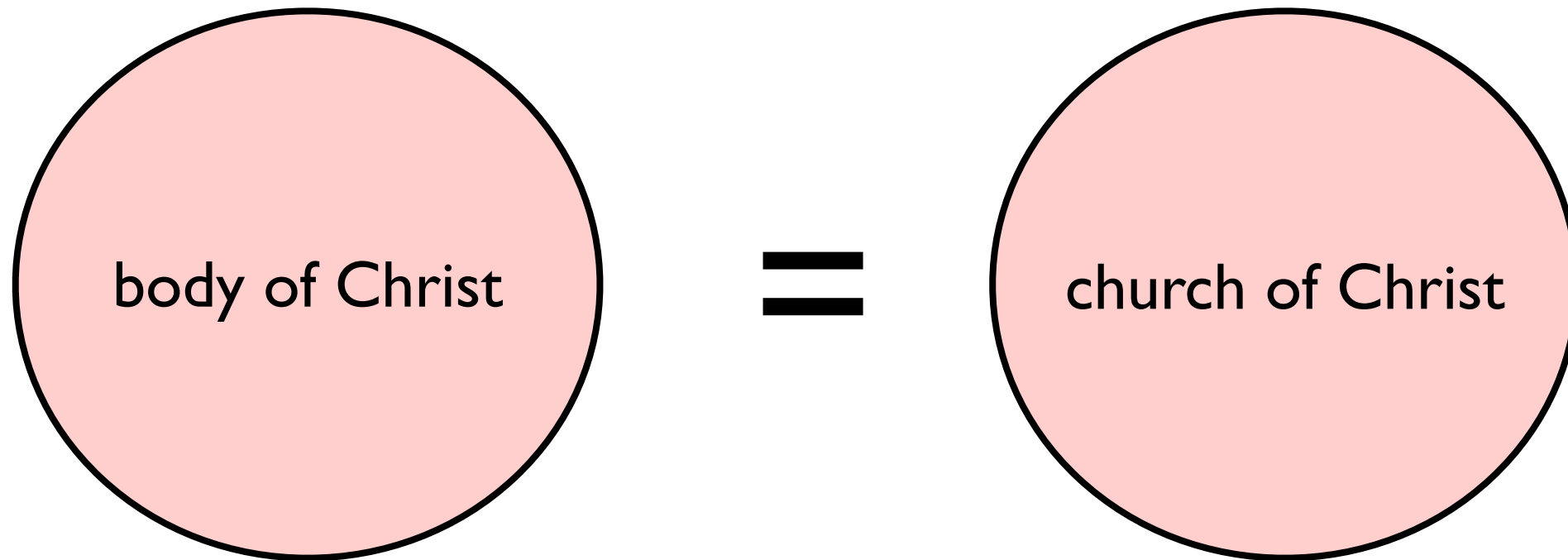


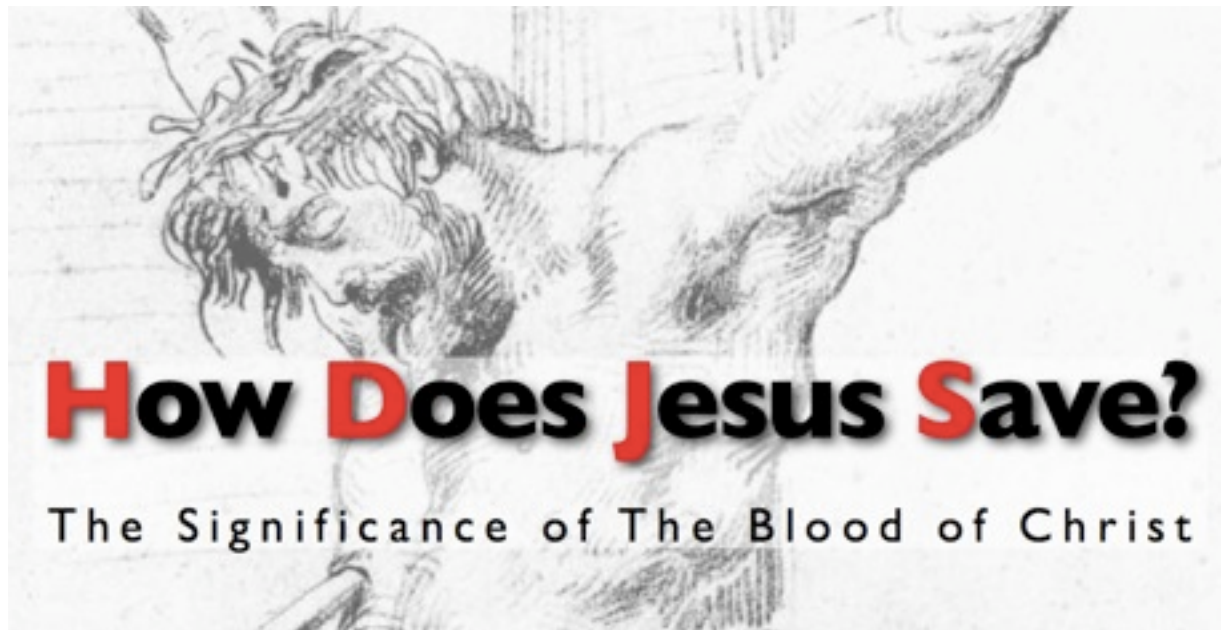
*The **B**ody **O**f **C**hrist **I**s **T**he
Church **O**f **C**hrist*





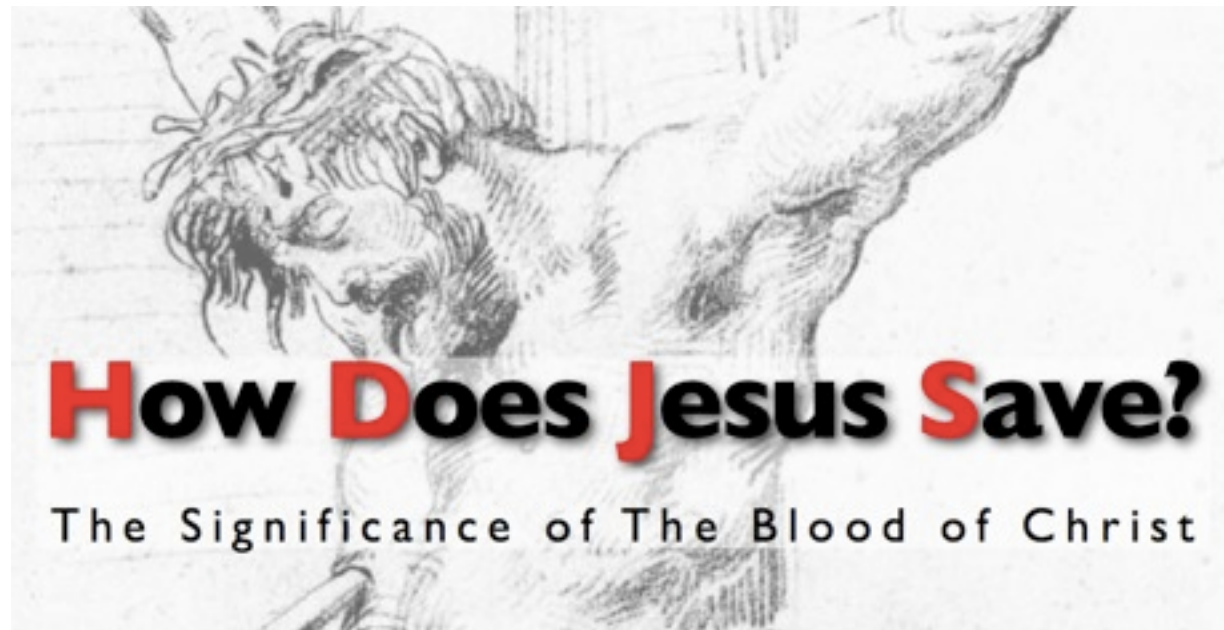
*The **B**ody **O**f **C**hrist **I**s **T**he
Church **O**f **C**hrist*





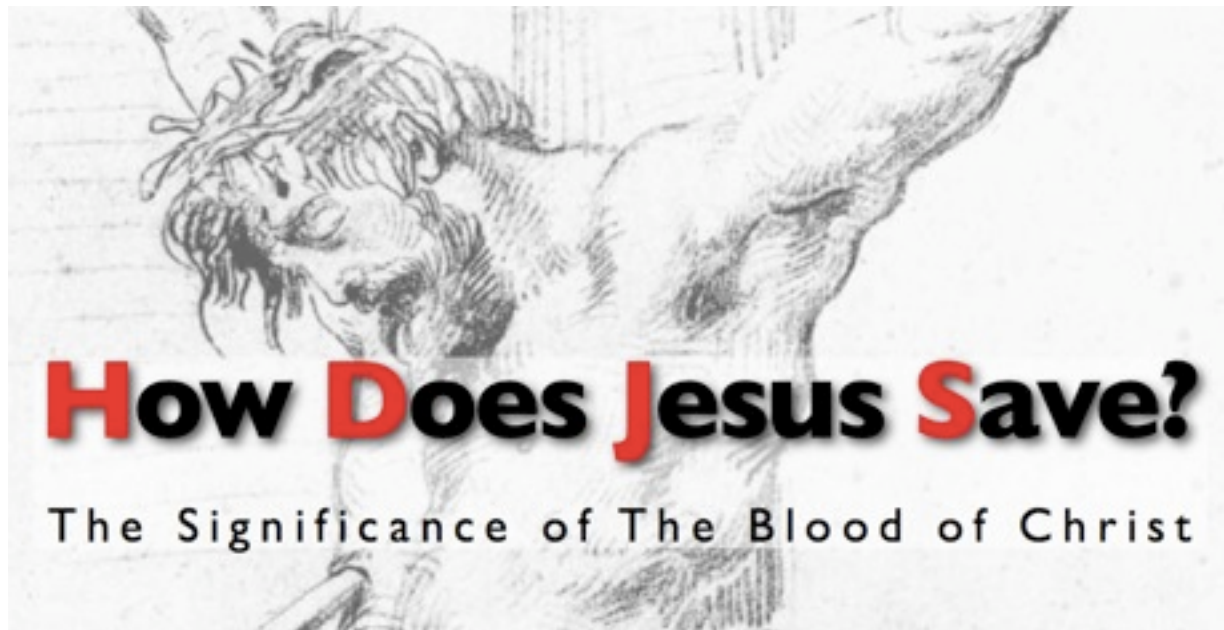
*The **B**ody **O**f **C**hrist **I**s **T**he
Church **O**f **C**hrist*

body of Christ/
church of Christ



Salvation Is In Christ's Church

A. If forgiveness of sins is by Christ's blood (point #1), and if the blood of Christ is in Christ's spiritual body (point #2), and if forgiveness of sins is in the spiritual body of Christ (point #3), and if the spiritual body of Christ is the church of Christ (point #4), then the forgiveness of sins (salvation) is in Christ's church.



Salvation Is In Christ's Church

1.

forgiveness of sins

blood

3.

forgiveness of sins

body

5.

forgiveness of sins

church

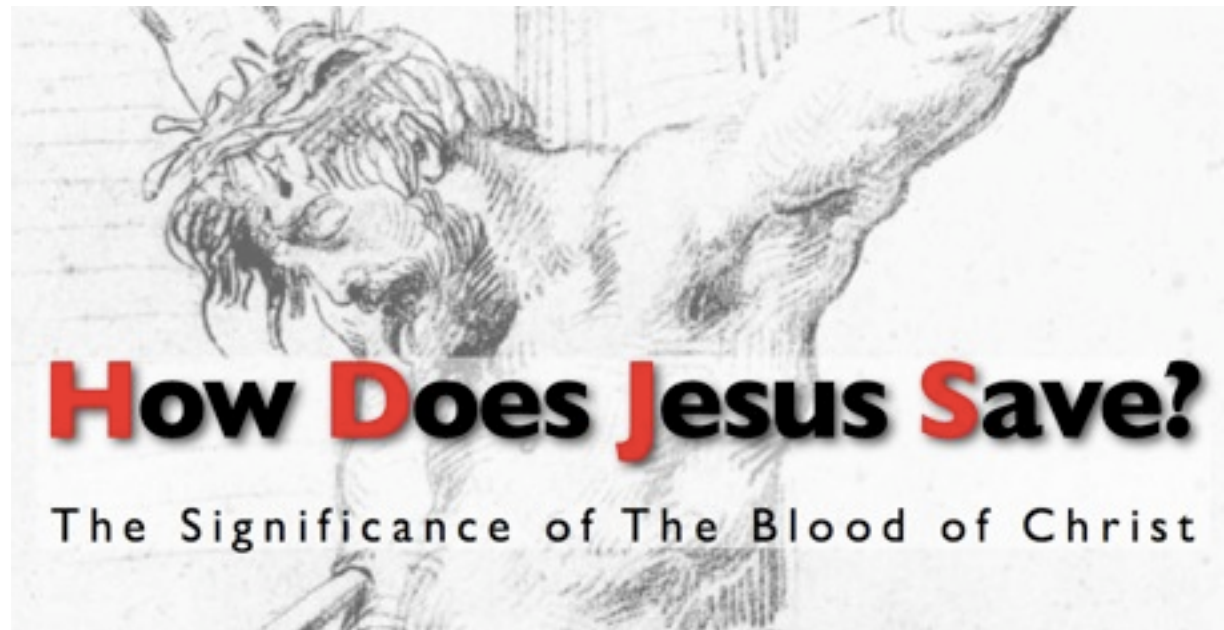
2.

blood

body

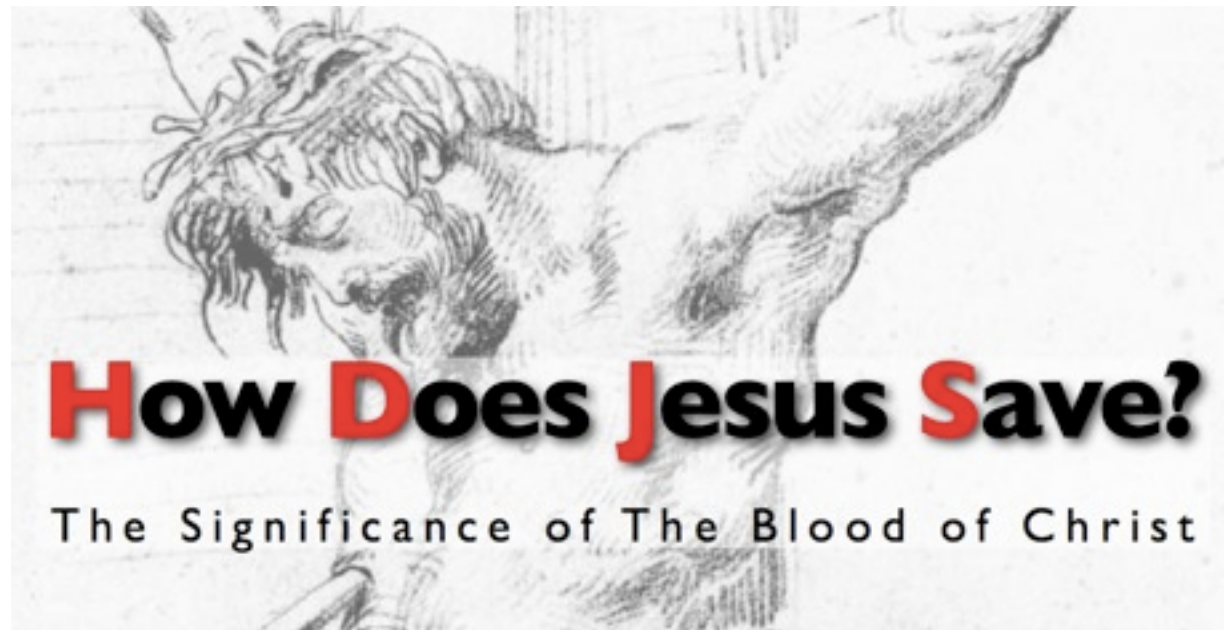
4.

body = church



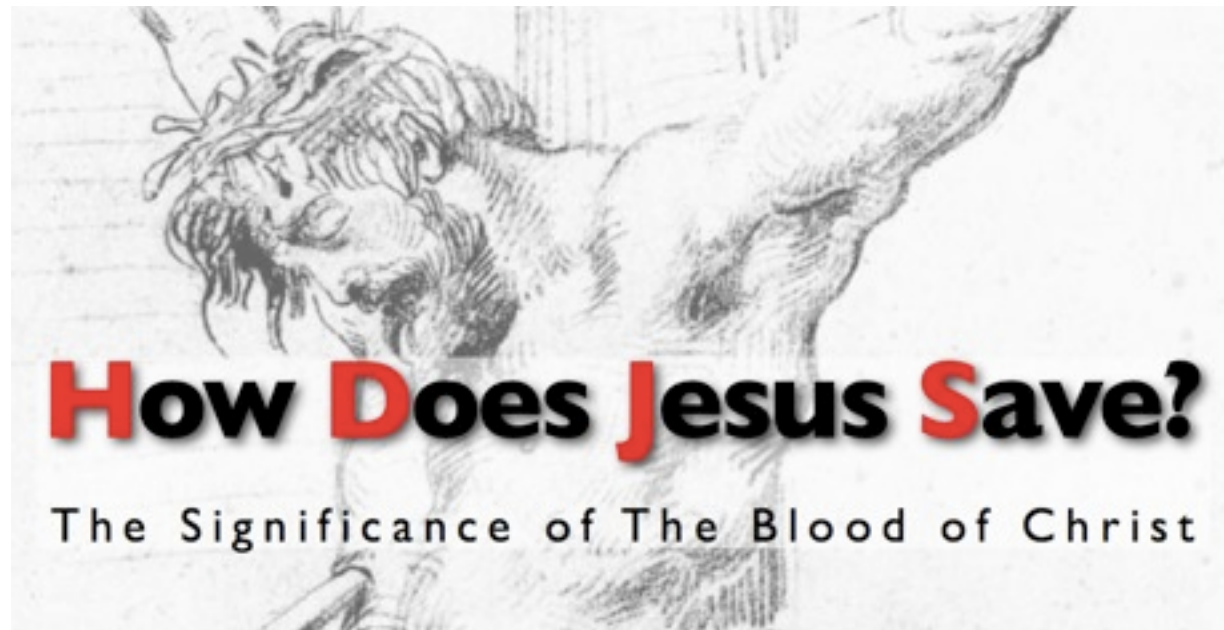
Salvation Is In Christ's Church

B. This is not to say that the church saves ... it does not! Christ's blood is where the actual power of salvation lies, but Christ, through his blood, only saves those who are in His church, His body (See Acts 2:47). Thus, Christ's church is the body of saved people.



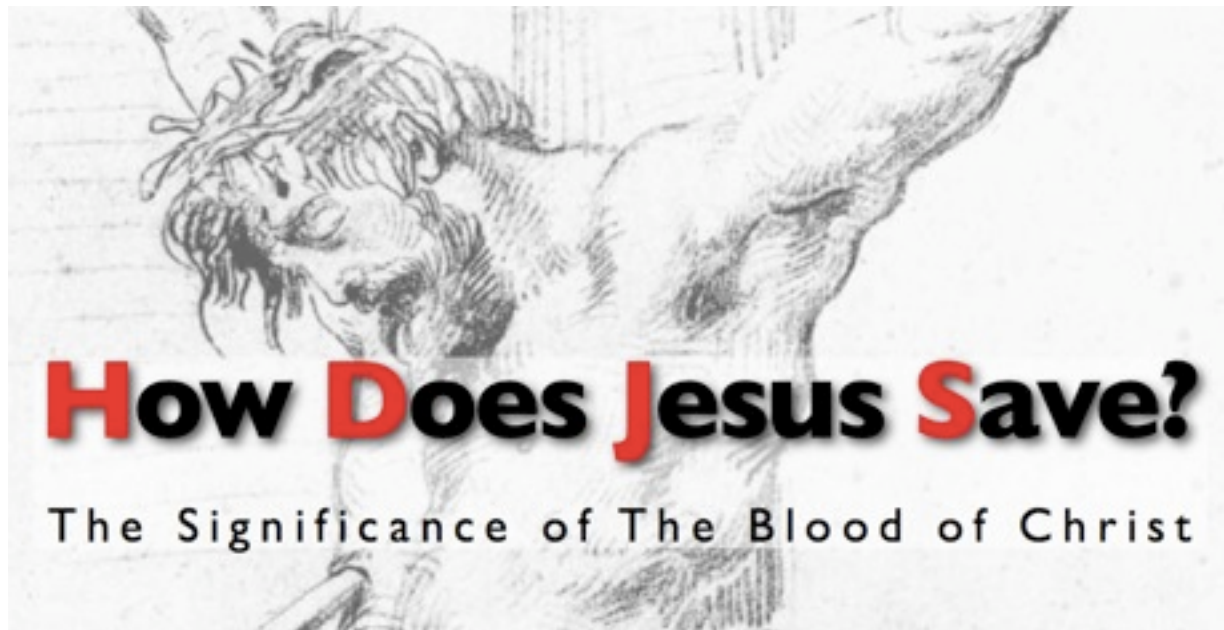
Salvation Is In Christ's Church

C. Christians, those people saved by the blood of Christ, are members of Christ's church, which is His body. They are: (1) justified (1 Corinthians 1:2; 6:11; Acts 13:39); (2) redeemed (Galatians 3:13; 4:5; 1 Peter 1:18; Titus 2:14); (3) sanctified (1 Corinthians 1:2; 6:11; Romans 15:16); and (4) new creatures (2 Corinthians 5:17; Colossians 3:1ff). All of these terms indicate that Christians are forgiven of their sins. They are saved.

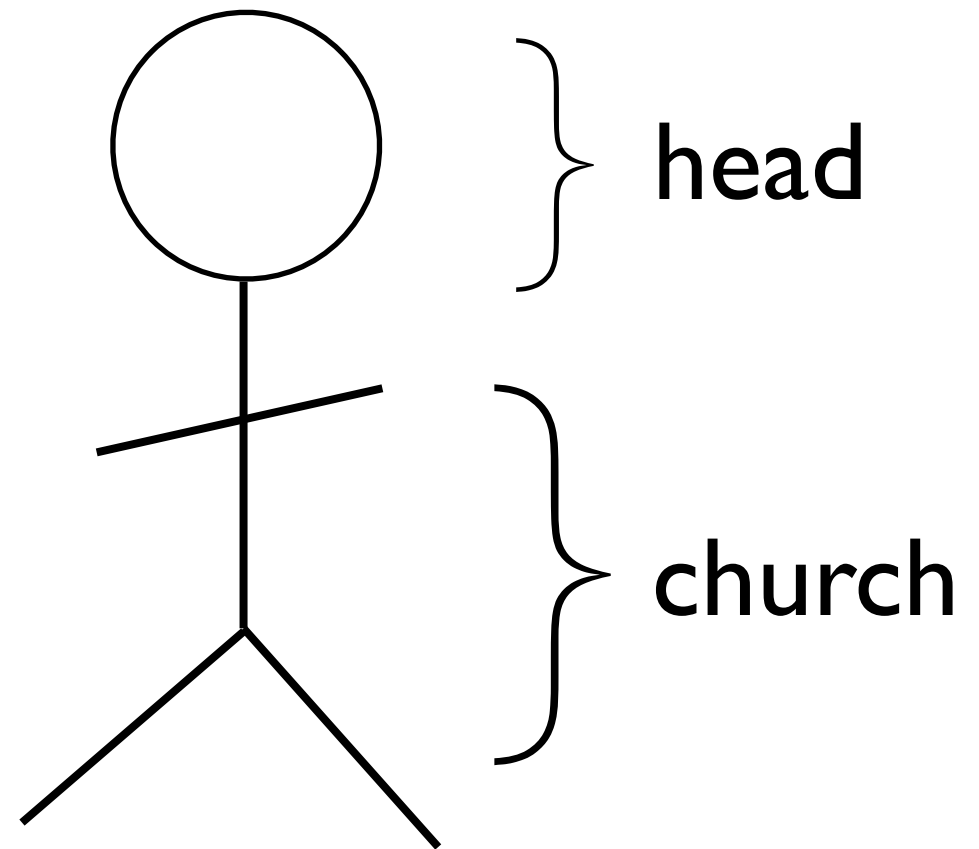
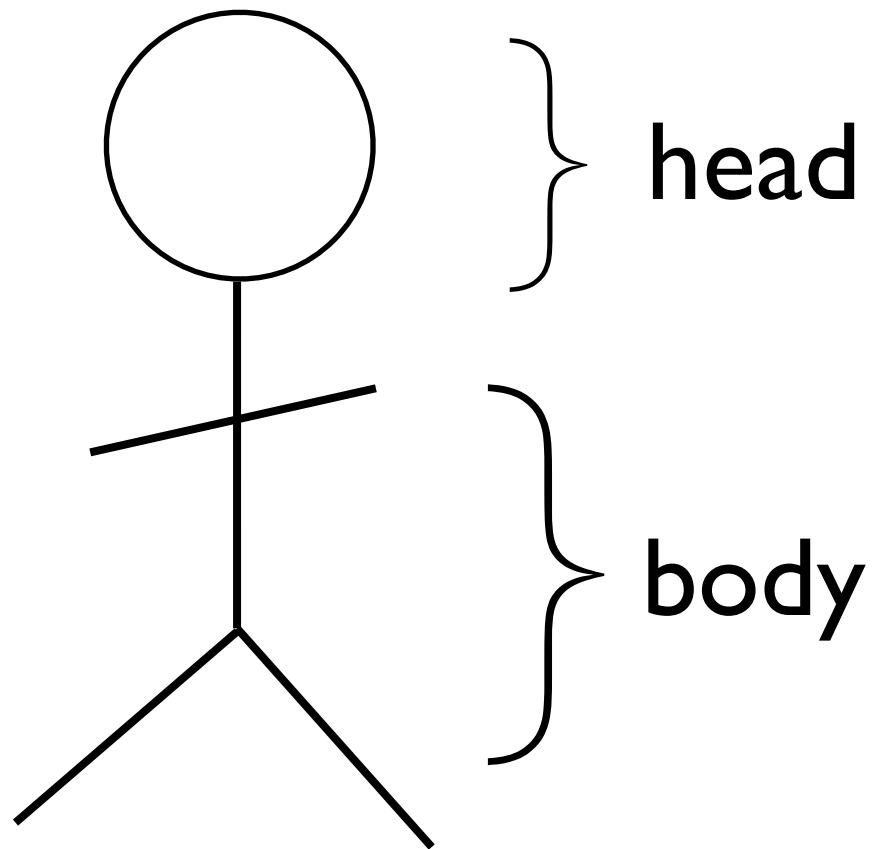


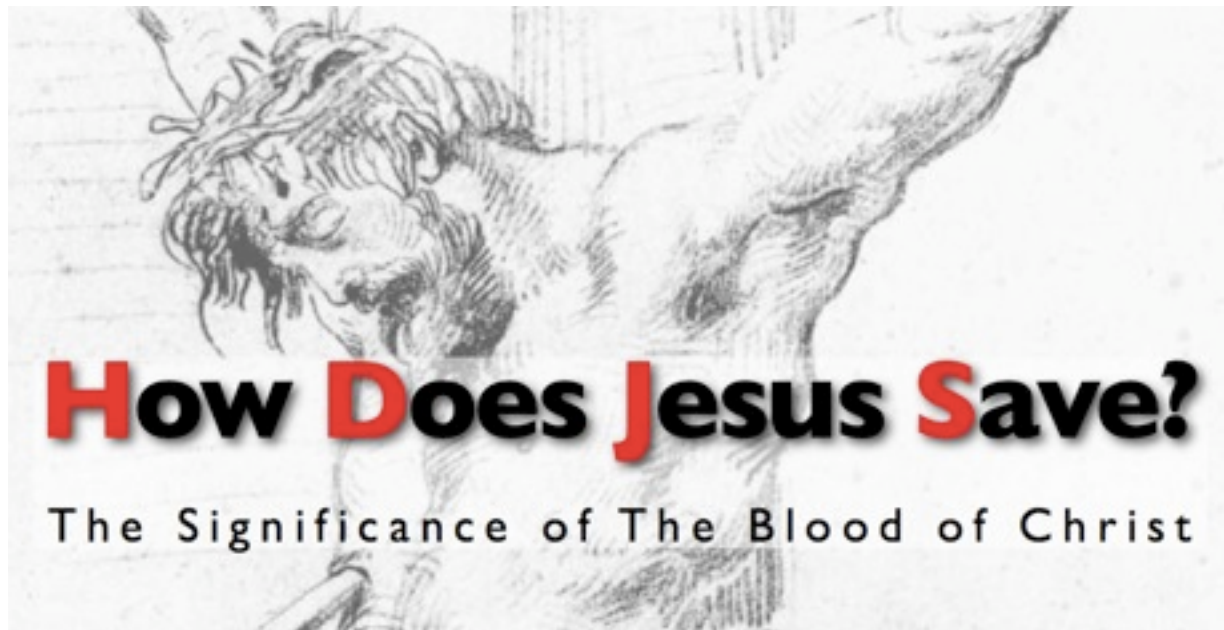
Salvation Is In Christ's Church

D. Ephesians 5:23 says: “...*Christ is the head of the church; and He is the savior of the body.*” Because the body and the church are two different terms for the same institution, this verse could just as well say “Christ is the head of the body/church; and he is the savior of the body/church.” Read again Ephesians 1:22-23 and Colossians 1:18, 24 cited above.

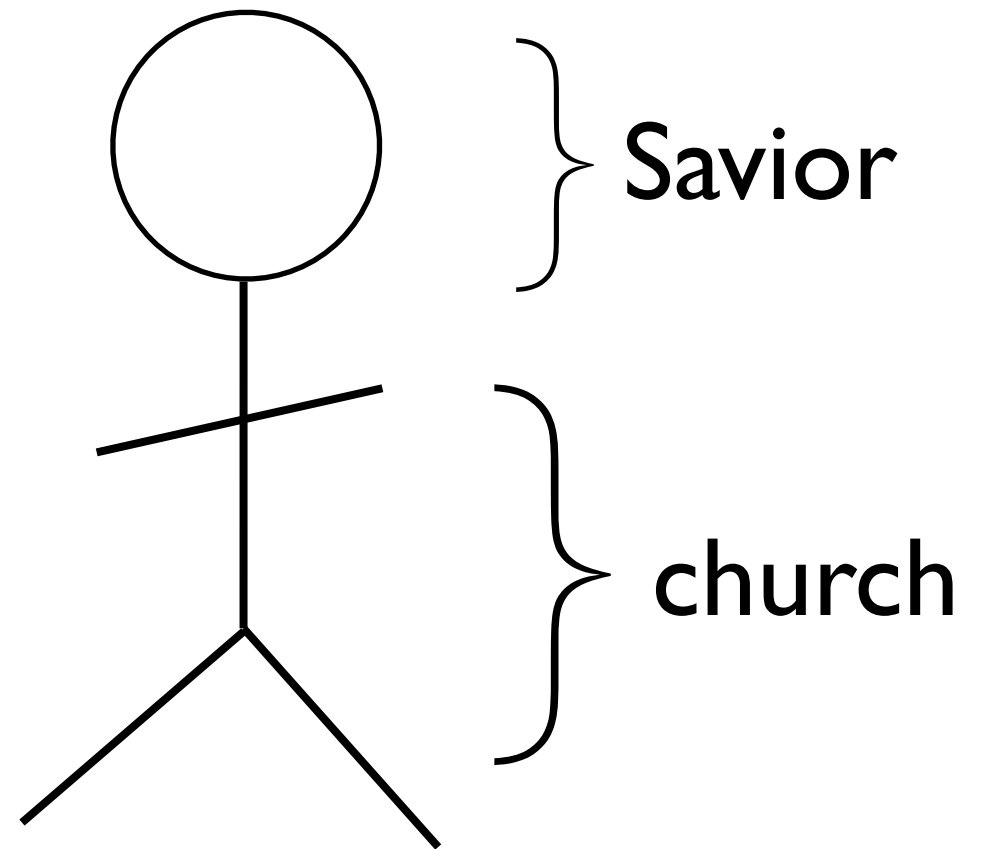
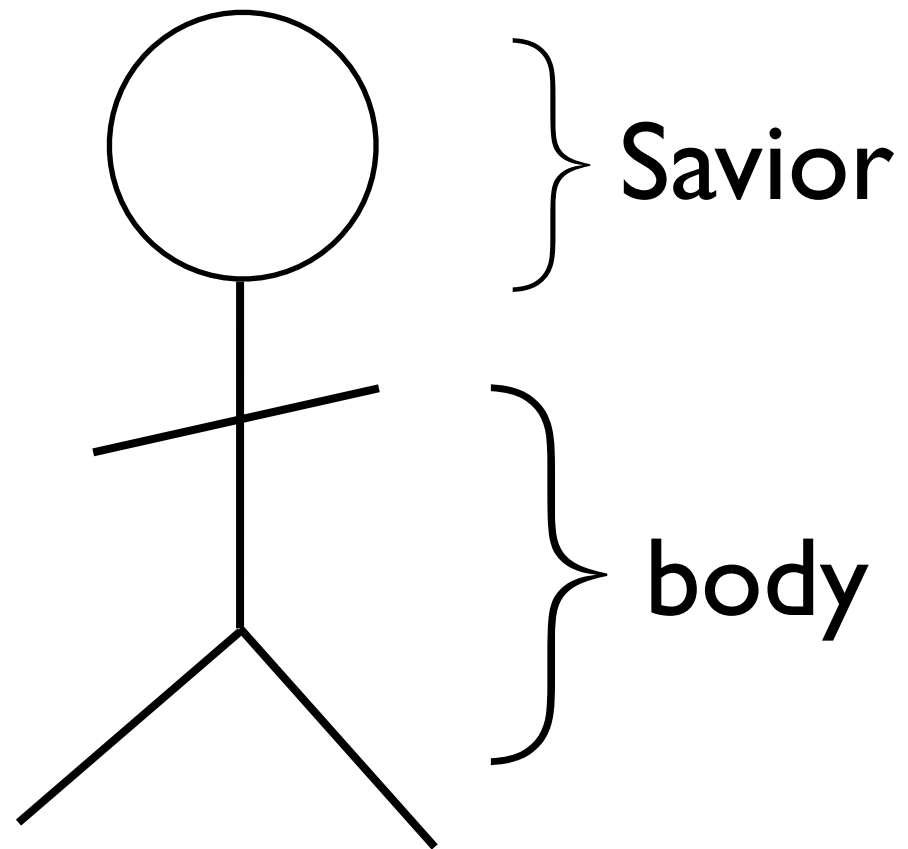


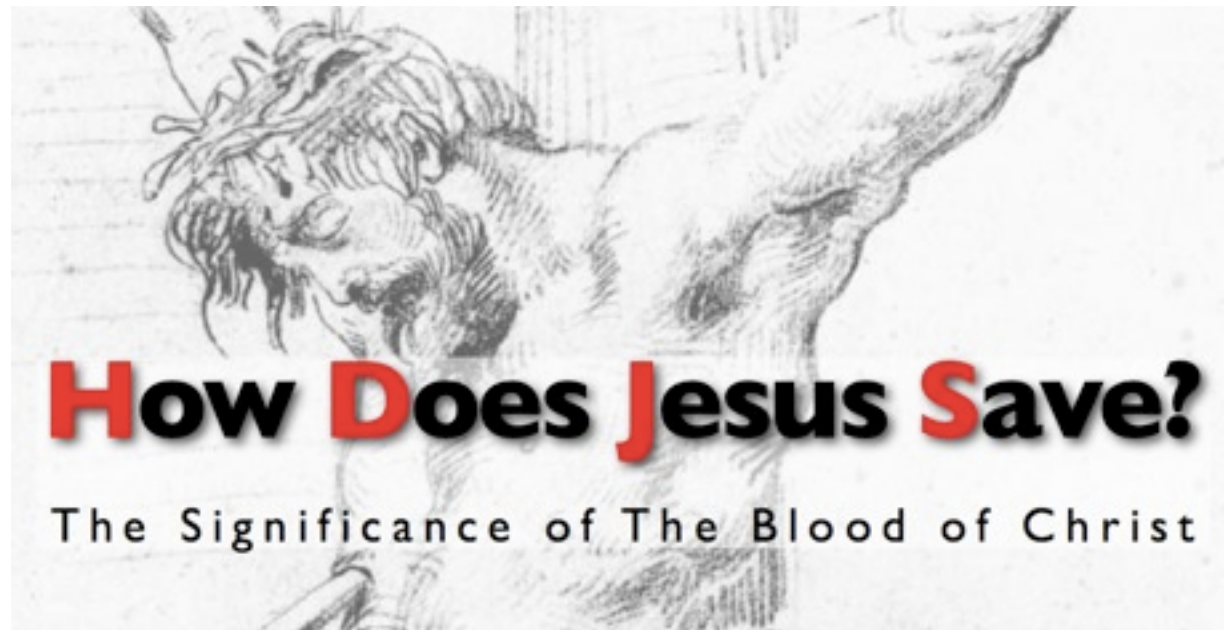
Salvation Is In Christ's Church





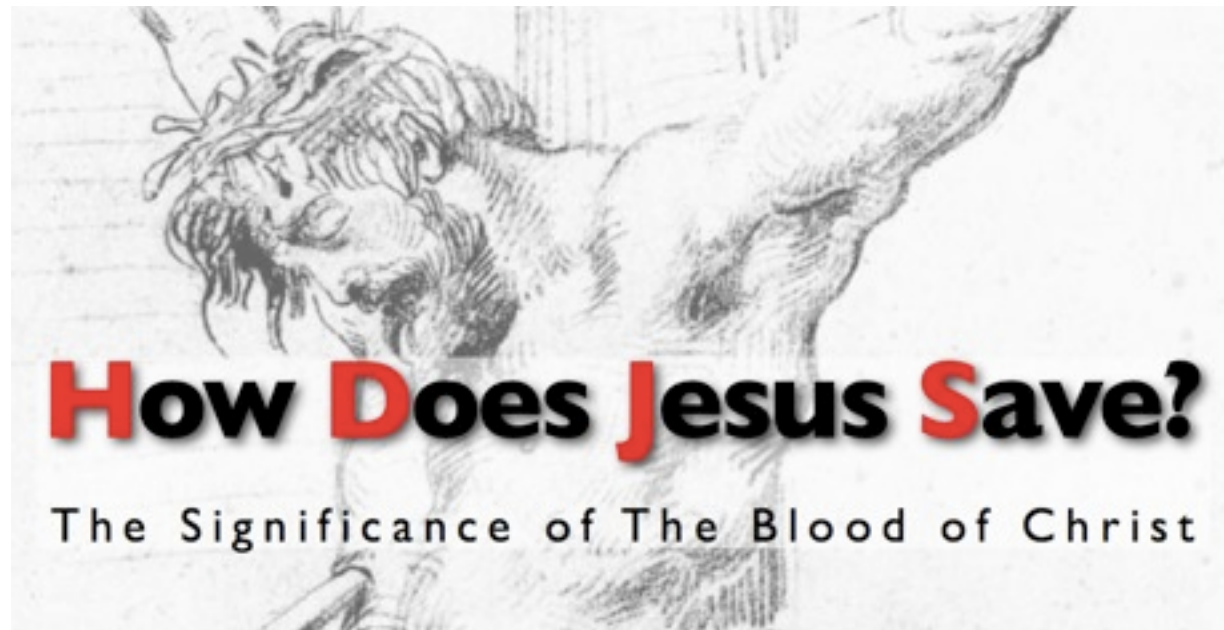
Salvation Is In Christ's Church





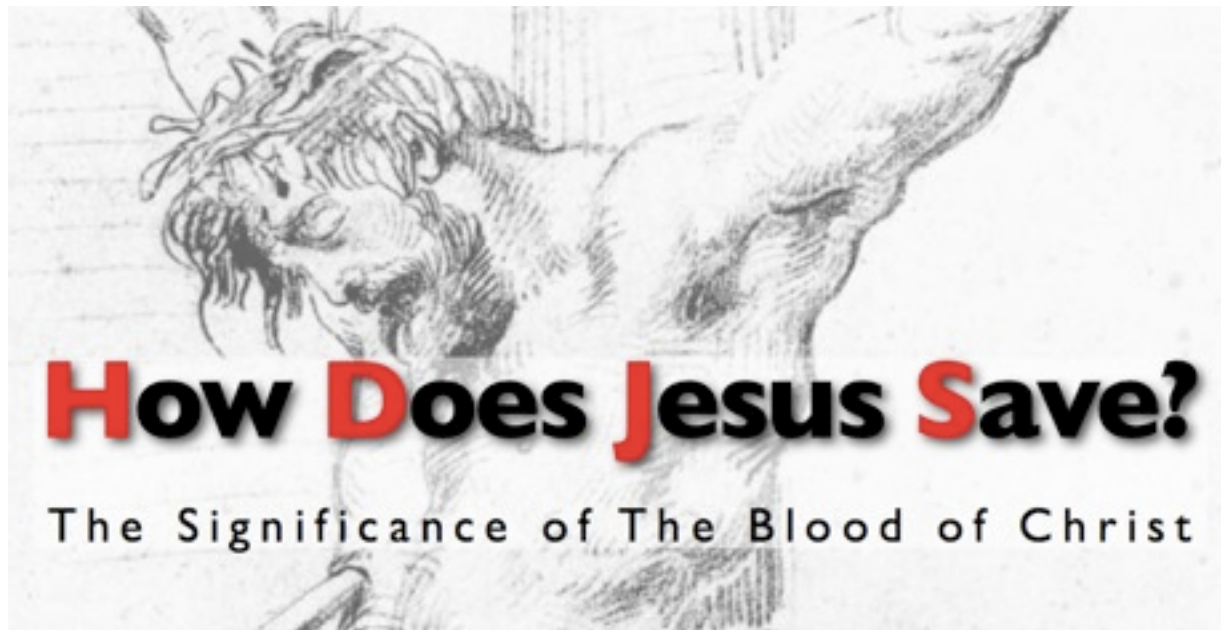
*What Takes Us Into
Christ's Church Brings
Us To His Blood ...*

If the forgiveness of sins is by Christ's blood (point #1), and if Christ's blood is in his body (point #2), then salvation is in Christ's body (point #3); and if his spiritual body is the church (point #4), then salvation (the forgiveness of sins) must be in his church (point #5), then whatever takes us into Christ's body (His church)...

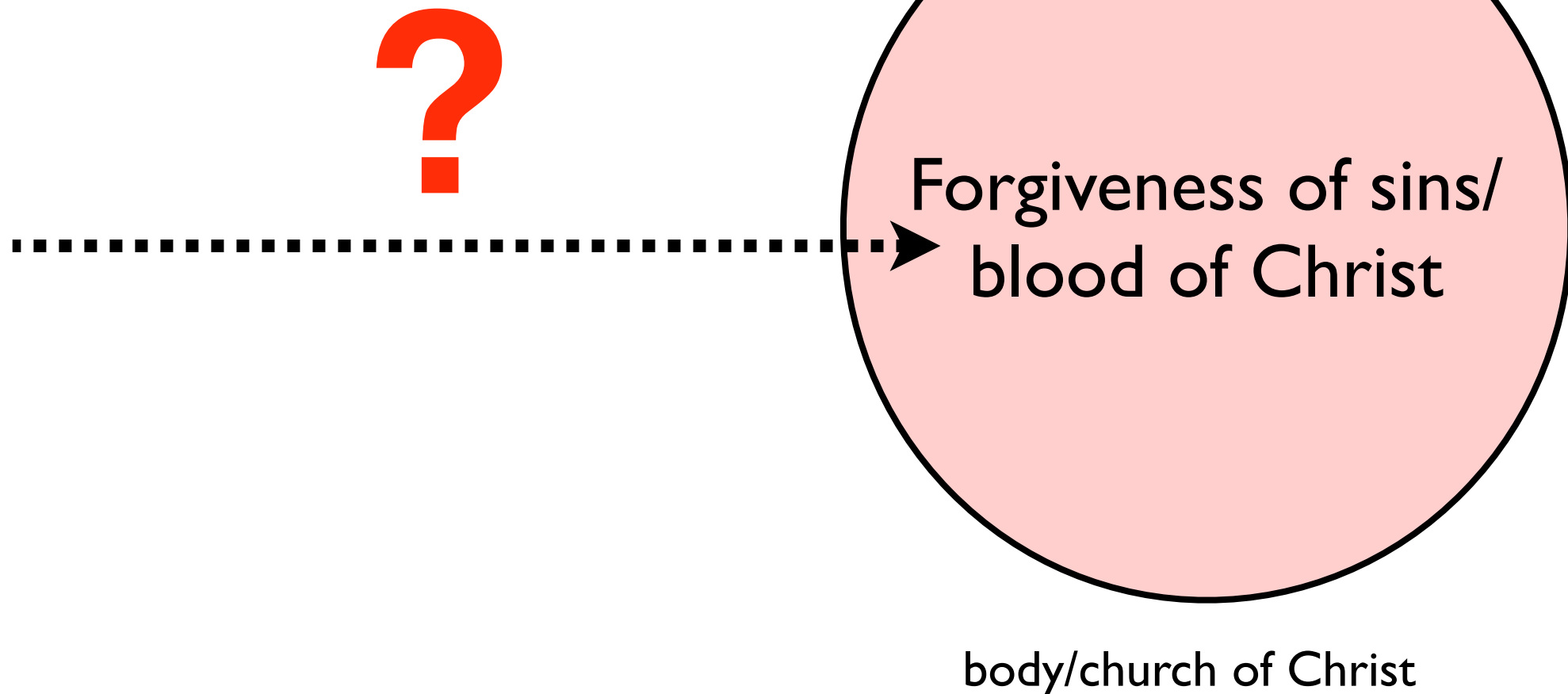


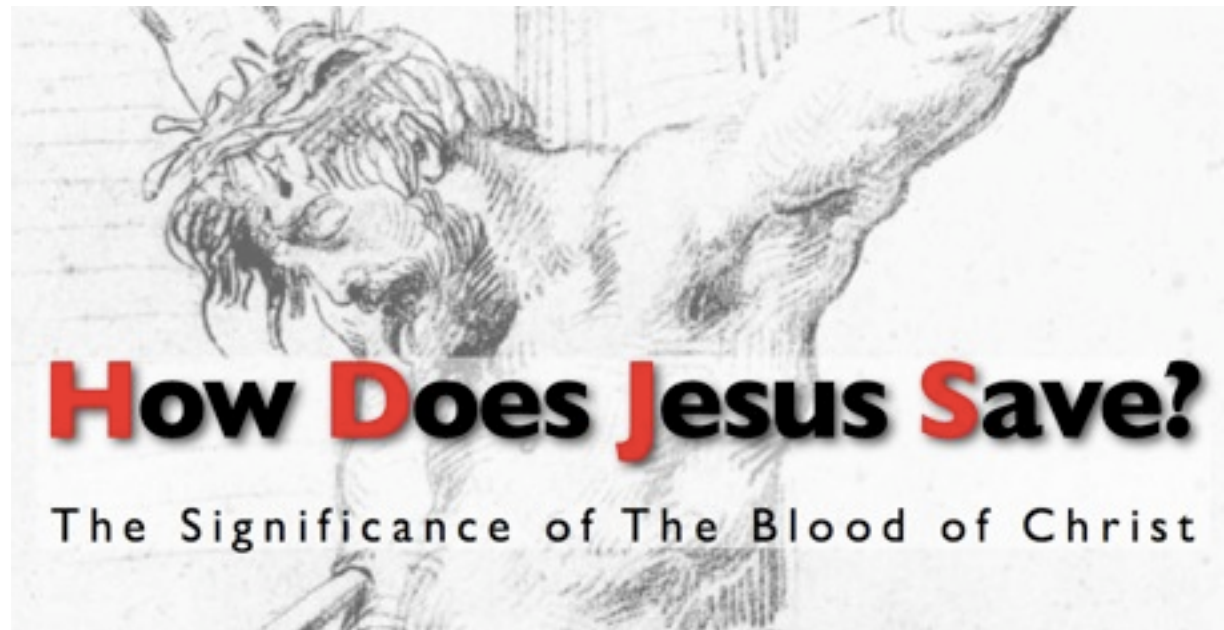
*What Takes Us Into
Christ's Church Brings
Us To His Blood ...*

... also brings us to the blood of Christ, the exact means by which we are forgiven of our sins. It is absolutely imperative that we learn exactly what it is that accomplishes this process. *The circle represents Christ's church, which is Christ's spiritual body. Christ's blood, which saves, is in that body.*



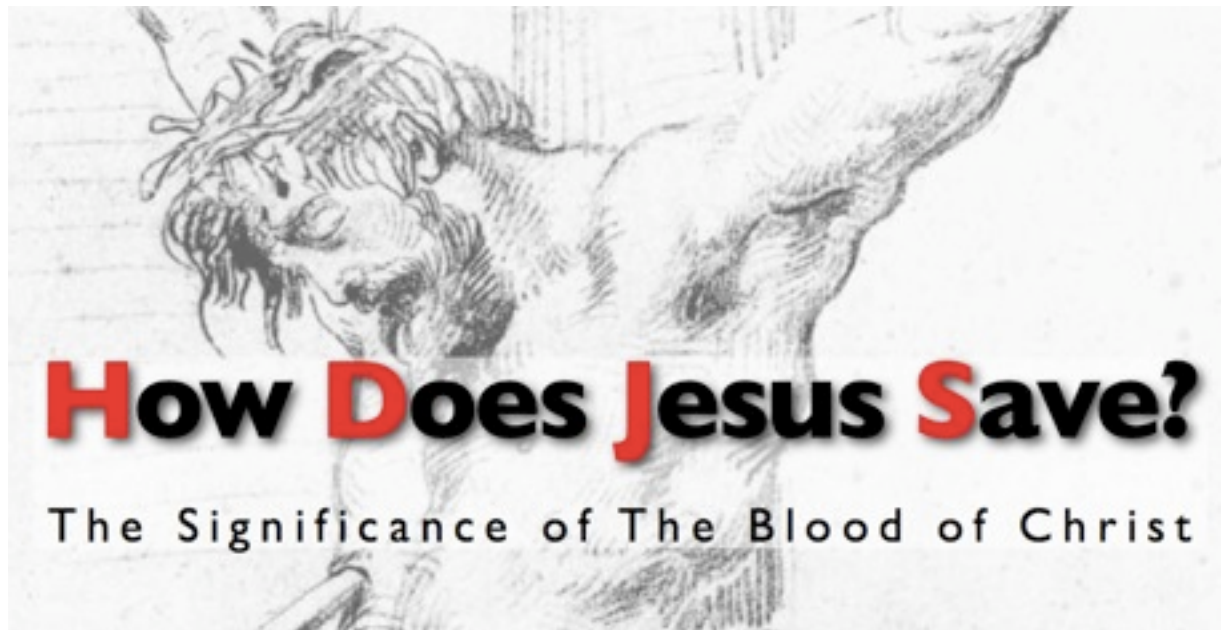
*What Takes Us Into
Christ's Church Brings
Us To His Blood ...*





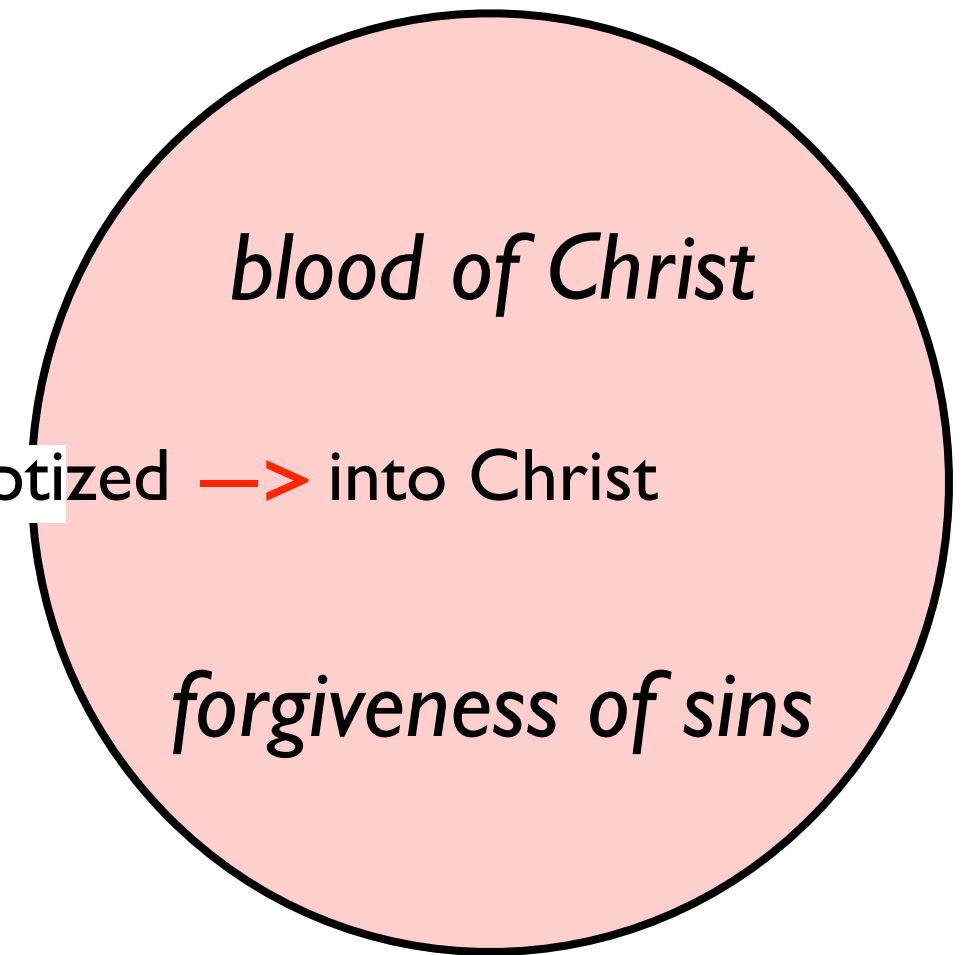
Baptism Takes Us Into The Church, Christ's Body

Baptism puts us into a state of salvation, because salvation (the forgiveness of sins) is in Christ's body, the church, where the cleansing blood of Christ is. Note the following chart, and the explanation which follows.

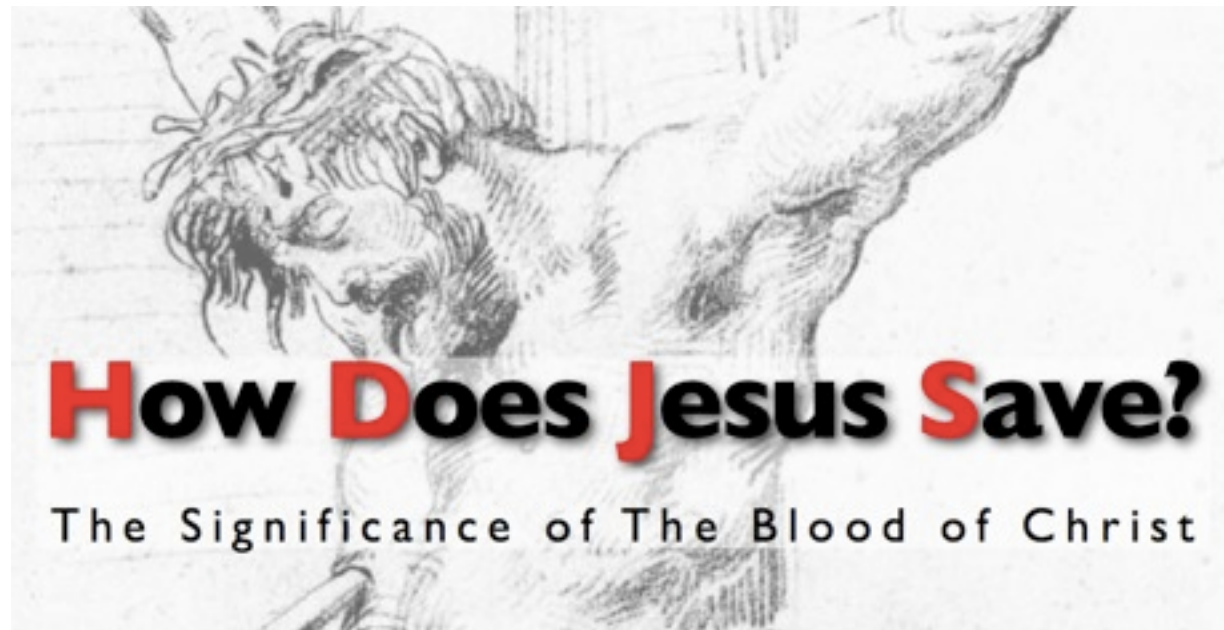


Baptism Takes Us Into The Church, Christ's Body

hear → believe → repent → confess → be baptized → into Christ

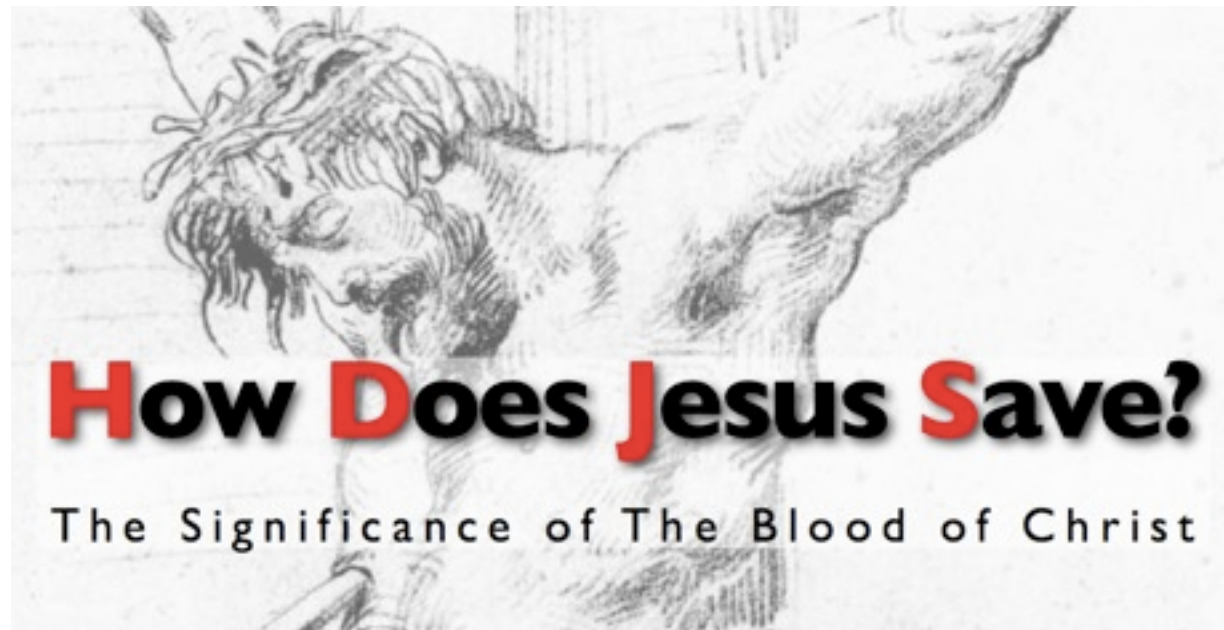


body/church of Christ



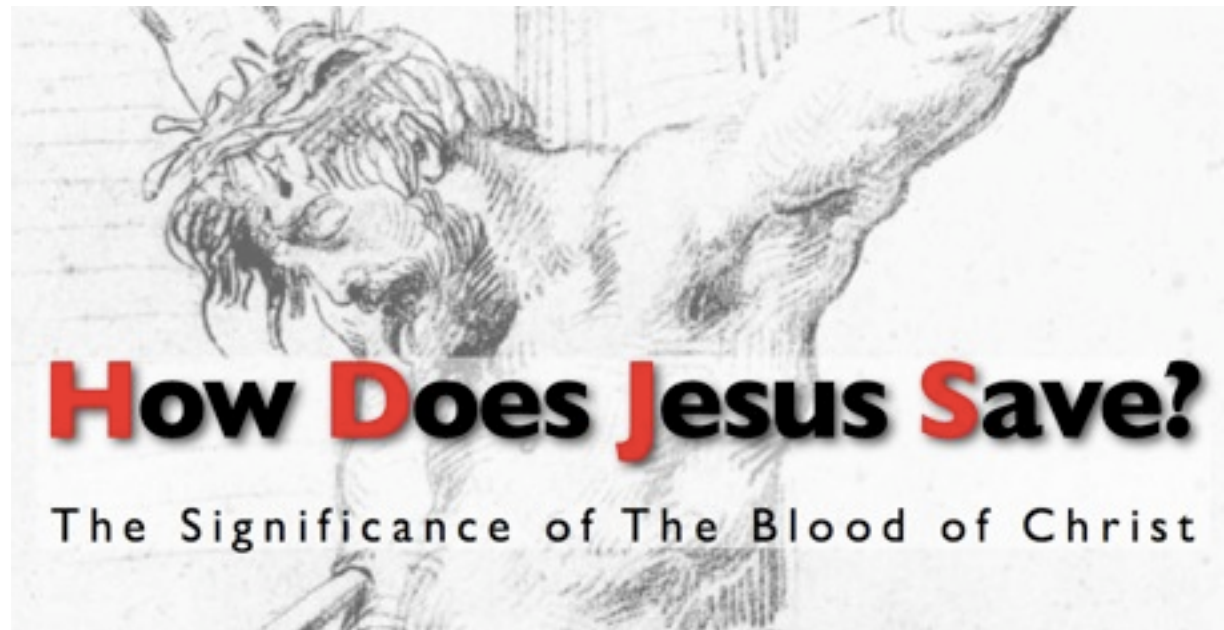
Baptism Takes Us Into The Church, Christ's Body

Does this mean that water saves us, that water brings forgiveness? No, the Bible does not teach that. But saying that baptism adds us to the body of Christ is not a claim to salvation by water. What is baptism then?



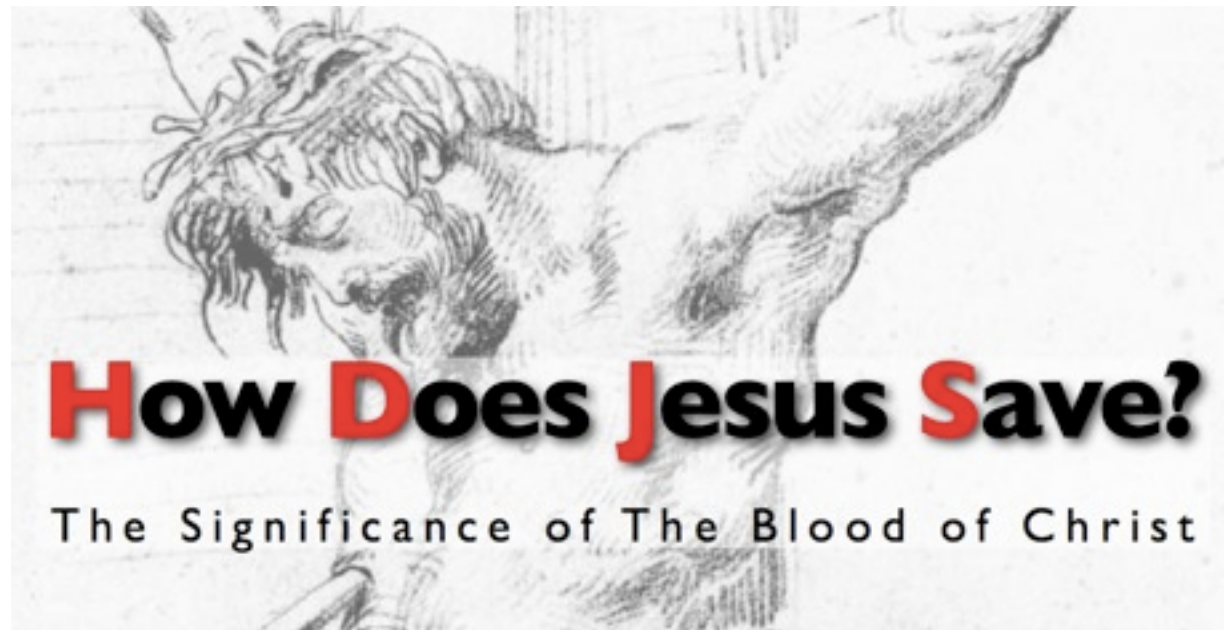
Baptism Takes Us Into The Church, Christ's Body

Like repentance and confession, baptism is an act of faithful obedience to Jesus the Christ. Christ commanded both faith and repentance. But Jesus also commanded baptism (see John 8:24; Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15-16; Luke 24:44ff). Jesus instructed that *faith, repentance and baptism* be preached by the apostles. When you read the book of Acts you will see that the message of faith, repentance *and* baptism was preached.



Baptism Takes Us Into The Church, Christ's Body

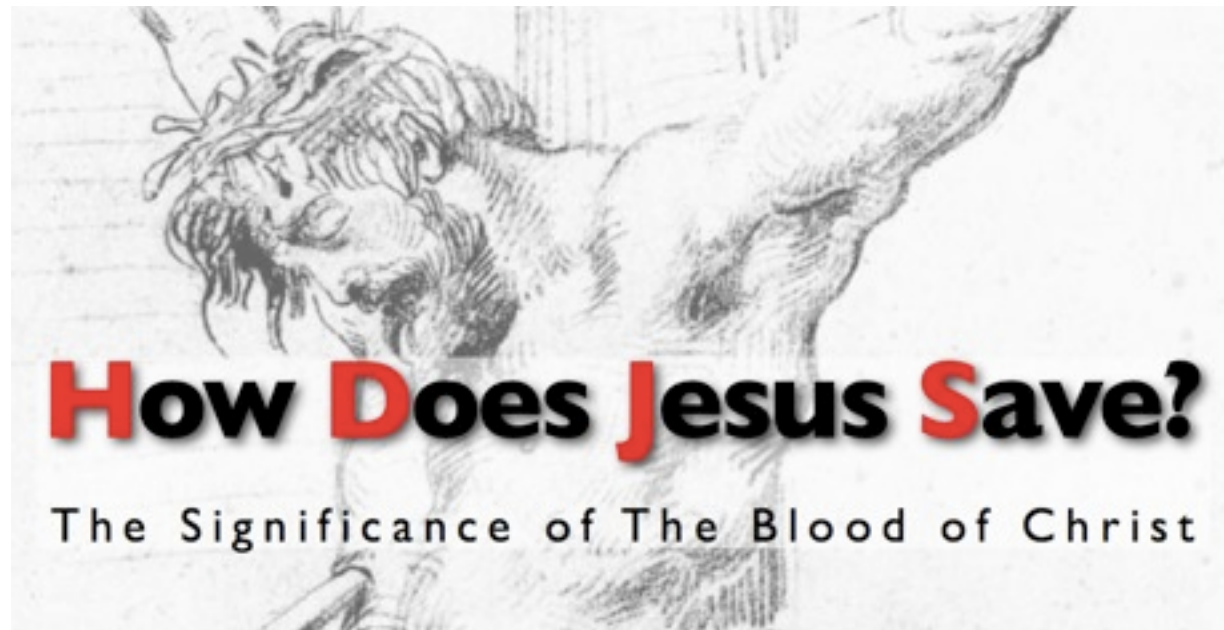
Faith is, of course, necessary, but *by itself it does not save* (John 1:12; 8:31, 44; 12:42; James 2:19). Faith is a step in the process of salvation. It is a step in the direction of salvation, but it does not take us “into” a state of salvation (Romans 10:10).



Baptism Takes Us Into The Church, Christ's Body

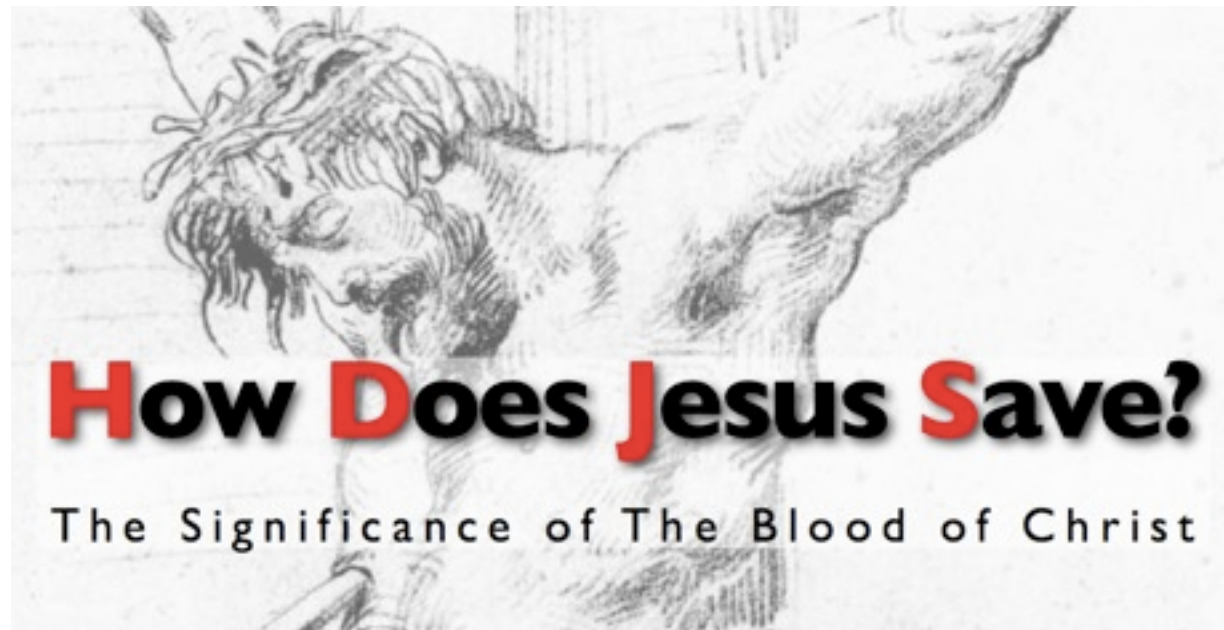
Repentance is also necessary, but it can not save alone. It is a step in the direction of salvation, but it does not actually take us “into” a state of salvation (Acts 11:18).

Confession, too, is needed, but by itself it does not save. It is another step in the direction of salvation, but it does not take us into a state of salvation (Romans 10:10).



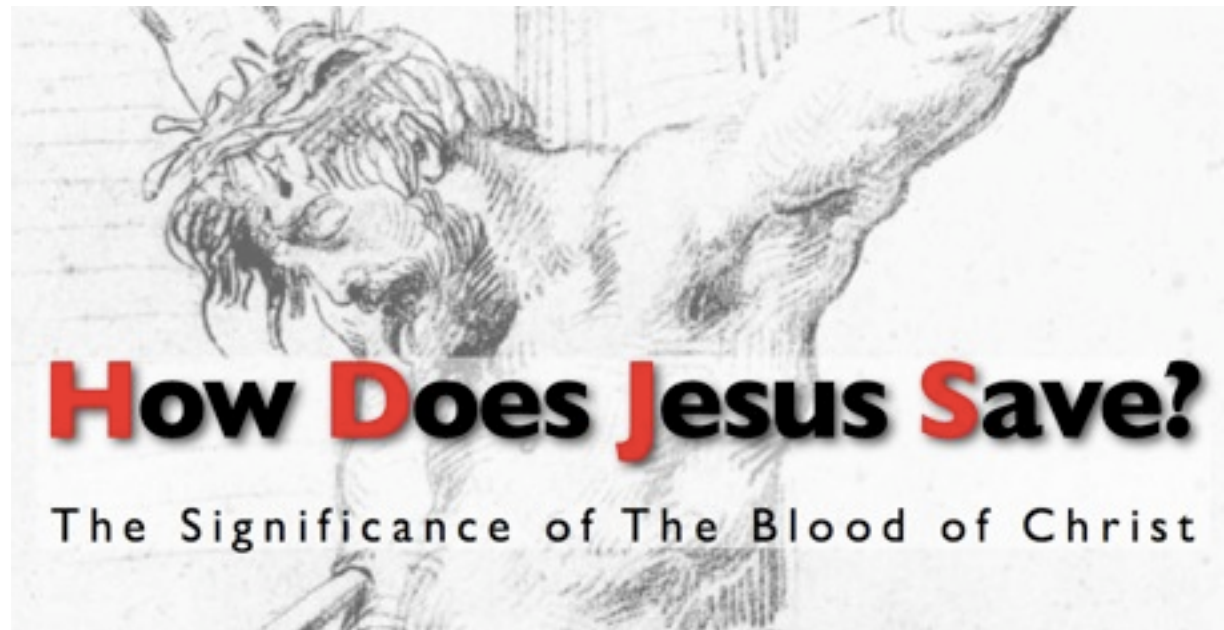
Baptism Takes Us Into The Church, Christ's Body

Baptism, however, though it does not save without the proper conditions of faith, repentance and confession before it, is the *final step of faith* that takes us “into Christ” and His church. Read carefully Romans 6:1-4 and Galatians 3:24-29 and you will see that these passages teach us that baptism is “into Christ Jesus,” “into His death,” and “into Christ.” Galatians 3 also tells us that through baptism we “put on Christ.”



Baptism Takes Us Into The Church, Christ's Body

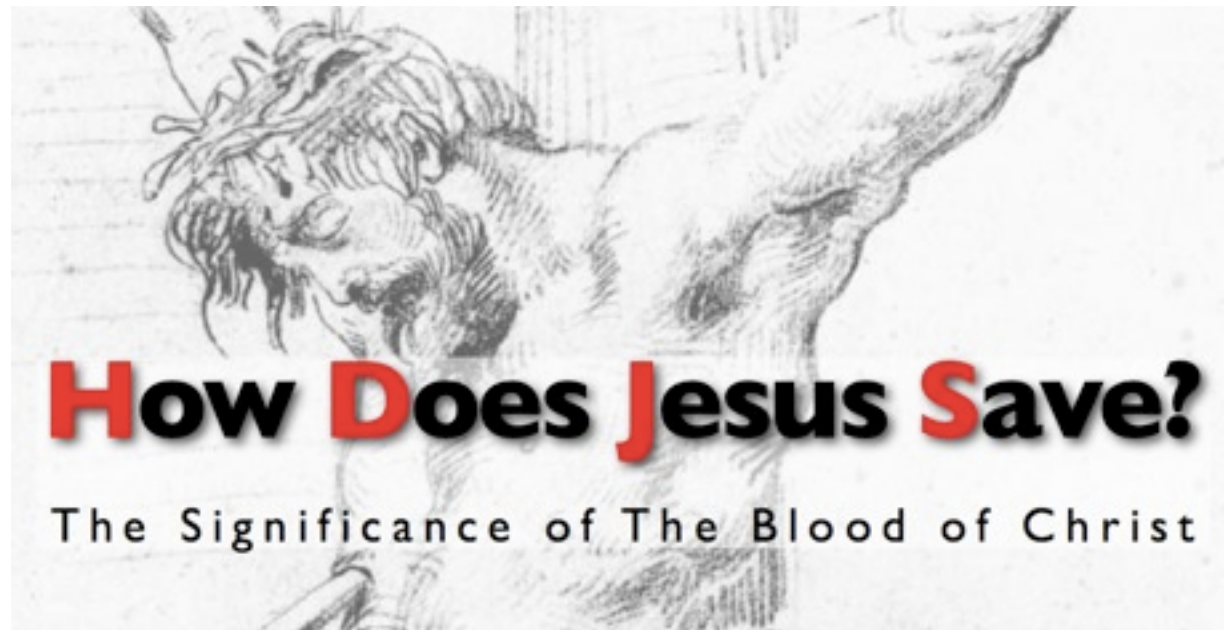
1 Corinthians 12:13 informs us that the Holy Spirit, by means of baptism, puts us into the body (the church) of Christ. Colossians 2:11ff affirms that it is by means of baptism that we put off the sins of the flesh, are buried with Christ and, in the process, raised with him through faith, specifically a faith in the “operation of God.” In this regard it is similar to Romans 6:1-4.



Baptism Takes Us Into The Church, Christ's Body

Nothing else in the Bible is described as doing this ... only baptism. Only through the faith demonstrated in the act of baptism are we added to Christ's body, wherein is Christ's blood which saves us from our sins.

Baptism is the culminating act of faith that adds us to, and takes us into, the body of Christ. Prior to baptism a soul is *outside* the of body Christ. Subsequent to baptism a soul *is in the body of Christ*.



Summary

1. Salvation Comes By The Blood of Christ
2. Christ's Blood Is In Christ's Body
3. Salvation Is In Christ's Body
4. The Body of Christ Is The Church of Christ
5. Salvation Is In Christ's Church
6. What Takes Us Into Christ's Church Brings Us To His Blood, Which Saves Us
7. Baptism Takes Us Into The Church, Christ's Body

