

Sunday, June 5, 2016

A Loss in Memory The Blood of the True Lamb

**“All the hosts and choirs, heavenly and earthly,
Angels and people together, sing joyfully,
Because our Lord Jesus Christ, the true lamb
Rose from the dead.”**

On the Resurrection feast, the Church prays this beautiful hymn called in Coptic “**Kata Ni-khoros**”. She keeps chanting it daily until the Feast of the Ascension, for we joyfully sing for the love of our King, the true Lamb, who carried our sins in His Body, offering Himself as a sacrifice on the Cross for the salvation of our human kind. Then, He broke through death and trampled over it through the power of His Divinity, defeating it on our behalf. His Resurrection was the sign of His victory over death and our dangerous enemy that swallowed within him thousands of people every day. Thus, his sting was broken and his authority was abolished!

The Book of Revelation reveals to us the joy of the Heavenly Hosts and their praise for the True Lamb, our Lord Jesus Christ,

“And they sang a new song, saying: You are worthy to take the scroll, And to open its seals; For You were slain, And have redeemed us to God by Your blood Out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation,” (Rev. 5:9).

Here, taking the scroll and opening its seals refer to the history of humanity that changed through incarnation and redemption. Jesus Christ, the True Lamb, through His redemption, has opened for us new horizons for living a holy life for the Glory of God who redeemed us by His Blood.

The same passage also tells us about the rejoicing of countless numbers of the Heavenly Hosts, **“saying with a loud voice: “Worthy is the Lamb who was slain To receive power and riches and wisdom, And strength and honor and glory and blessing!”**” (Rev. 5:12).

The Book of Revelation also has asserted that the multitudes of the redeemed who arrived safely to the heavenly glories before the presence of God, washed their robes and whitened them in the blood of the Lamb (Rev.: 7:9-17). Therefore, they always enjoy the white robes in the joyful atmosphere of praise that never ceases under the shadow of God’s warm love, **“for the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them and lead them to living fountains of waters. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”** (Rev.: 7:17).

In this way, it is evident for us that the Blood of the True Lamb, Our Lord Jesus, is the secret behind the joy and salvation of mankind because. in fact, it is a living Blood that gives life to anyone who believes in Him and has Him in Communion, since it has the power of resurrection that cannot be overcome by death.

- + This is the Blood that was shed for our sake on the Cross...
- + This is the Blood that fills the chalice that we take during the Divine Liturgy and have life through it.
- + This is the Blood that has opened for us the path to the high Holies to inherit eternal glory with Christ.
- + This is the Blood that has made us valuable and keeps interceding for us forever.
- + This is the Blood that has defeated death and always gives us victory over the prince of the powers of darkness, **“And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb”** (Rev.: 12:11).
- + This is the Blood that remained manifest and effective after the resurrection and forever. One can get in contact with this Blood through true repentance and fervent prayers. Then, one would say with Thomas: **“My Lord and my God!”** (John: 20:28).
- + This is the Blood that has attached us to the True Lamb and caused us to follow Him wherever He takes us as it was said about the saintly redeemed in the Book of Revelation: **“And I heard the sound of harpists playing their harps. They sang as it were a new song before the throne. These are the ones who follow the Lamb wherever He goes. These were redeemed from among men, being first fruits to God and to the Lamb. And in their mouth was found no deceit, for they are without fault before the throne of God.”** (Rev.: 14:2-5).



Fr. Yohanna Naseef

fryohanna@hotmail.com