



The Heart of the Matter

We live in a day when blood is seldom seen in public. Apart from a cut finger or a rare superficial wound, we don't witness the presence of blood. Surgical operations are done in secret, sterile places behind closed doors, off limits to the general public. Slaughterhouses are rarely visited by the average citizen. Most will spend their lives eating meals made from animals they personally did not kill. It has not always been so! In fact, in earlier times the slaughter of animals, the presence of blood, and the connection between these symbols, the sinner, and deliverance from that sin were common scenes . . . everyday affairs. Because we are so removed from all that, words like *sacrifice*, *shedding of blood*, and *altar* need to be explained and understood. By doing so, our appreciation for the cross where God's Lamb was slain will be enhanced.



Discovering the Way

1. A Prediction of the Substitute (Isaiah 53:1-6)

Written some 750 years before Jesus's crucifixion, Isaiah offered a prediction of the death that makes clear Jesus's position as our substitute.

2. An Explanation of the Sacrifice (Leviticus 4:1-7)

Sacrifices were made as a way for people to renew their fellowship with God after having fallen into sin.



Starting Your Journey

Jesus is the final sacrifice, an innocent lamb who died and rose again for the sins of humanity.



Tools for Digging Deeper



Growing Deep in the Christian Life: Returning to Our Roots
by Charles R. Swindoll
CD series of 23 CDs, with workbook



Growing Deep in the Christian Life: Essential Truths for Becoming Strong in the Faith
by Charles R. Swindoll
paperback book



Essential Truths: A Pocket Guide for Growing Deep
by Insight for Living
card set

To order any of these related resources, call
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