

GROWING IN GOD PODCAST



GIG308 – Blood that Cries to God from the Ground

Hi, and welcome to the podcast. This is a special edition for our *Growing In God* podcast, as it is produced from a Zoom call that we at Hargrave Ministries have occasionally with our donors. When we have these times together and feel it is important for others to be a part of what we are discussing, we create the meeting into a podcast for release. So I hope that you will enjoy this podcast; and if you like being a part of these discussions, I would encourage you to go to our website at hargraveministries.org and join our Fellow Workers.

I just want to take a little time in the Word this morning and connect our hearts together in something that is a little different, maybe it is unique. I know we are coming out of times of prayer. That is what Silas is talking about, the week-long time of prayer for the oneness of all Christians. We have been in a session of prayer here in the United States for America, and we have just finished Memorial Day as well as these times of prayer for our country. Included in that is prayer for not just the United States, but for having the United States be something to the world of getting the Word out to the world.

In the process of this, I do not know how many of you have seen it, but there is a speech that the President gave on May 6th about the National Day of Prayer, which is part of this time of prayer that we have been having; and there are a lot of good things that were said in that. But one thing he does talk about is the struggle of the United States since its beginning. We know that we have seen a lot of things from our beginning that have to do with war and with bloodshed, which of course is what we talk about when we are talking about Memorial Day.

I just want to read a part of it here. He says,

America's faith was seen most prominently during our struggle for independence, when the Second Continental Congress declared a day of "humiliation, fasting, and prayer" to seek God's providence and ask for His protection and blessing in their fight for freedom, virtue, and posterity. Just weeks later, armed with unshakable faith, the Colonies declared their independence from Great Britain on July 4th, 1776, and paved the way for freedom's ultimate victory five years later at Yorktown. In the years since, this proud birthright of faith moved our Nation to expand the promise of independence to the furthest reaches of our continent; preserve our Union in the midst of a bloody Civil War; abolish slavery; win two world wars; defeat evil forces...¹

Anyway, he goes on and talks about the experience that we have had as a nation. And it is interesting when you look at the history of this nation, and maybe many other nations that have had a lot of bloodshed in their history; sometimes that bloodshed is necessary. But I just wanted to point that out to you, it is something that you may be interested in reading yourself. You can go to the White House website and see it.

¹ <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/2026/05/presidential-message-on-national-day-of-prayer/>

Also, there was a speech that was given by the President for and surrounding Memorial Day, and I just want to read a little bit of that. Again, I am not trying to make this a big, political thing, and to me, an issue about Trump. This is an issue about our President and statements that were made surrounding the sacrifice of people who gave their lives, and I want that to be the focus of what I am saying. But it says,

The greatest fighting force the world has ever known is built upon the extraordinary service of selfless men and women who safeguard our liberty and preserve our way of life. Since the birth of our Nation nearly 250 years ago, countless souls have lost their lives in this noble and righteous pursuit. On Memorial Day, we honor these American heroes. America endures in strength, power, and prosperity because of the awe-inspiring selflessness and valor of those in uniform willing to lay down their lives in its defense. From the frozen fields of Valley Forge and the beaches of Normandy to the jungles of Vietnam and the mountains of Afghanistan, the sacrifice across our Armed Forces is the foundation upon which our Republic stands.

He goes on with this, and again, this is available for you to see. But I want to jump down just to one more paragraph. It says,

All Americans inherit the glorious gift of liberty that has been purchased with the spilled blood of brave warriors and the tears and heartache of those they left behind. It is fitting and necessary for our Nation to pause for an annual reminder of the enduring and perilously high cost of freedom, but the immeasurable gravity of what has been sacrificed for the greater good deserves our eternal reverence and unwavering gratitude every day.²

I know Memorial Day is past, I know many of these times of prayer for our country are past; but I just feel like there is something where we need to not let it just pass, and say, "Well, those days have gone by. We recognized it, we celebrated it," or whatever. He says at the end that there needs to be almost a daily gratitude that we have in our hearts for those who gave their lives and paid the ultimate price. Because it is very true, that of all the things we could look at with this nation, it was built upon the blood of many men and women that gave their lives.

You can say, "Well, some people were drafted." Yes, but by and large, it has been a gift that was given willingly. I know my father dropped out of college to prepare for World War II, seeing it coming, and many of his fellow college students did the same; so that by the time Pearl Harbor took place, they were already trained, they were officers in the military and ready to lead this country. So, a lot of people made a lot of sacrifice.

We look at the sacrifices that were made, as he says, by those who stayed home. Look at the women of America during World War II that went into factories and other places to make the planes and the weapons that were necessary, and to make the other provisions. And one of the things that we see during all of this is the oneness of this nation that drew together to bring about the results that we have had, not just for ourselves, but for other nations to win their freedom because of the concept that freedom is an important and enduring value for all humans. And so, it has been not only something that we have won for ourselves, but it has been a gift that was given to other nations through this struggle and the blood of those who gave themselves to it, doing this to bring us to a spiritual connection with the reality of the blood that was shed.

I am going to read some Scriptures to us that tie this together. In Romans the fifth chapter, verses 6-8, it says, "For while we were still helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will hardly

² <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2026/05/memorial-day-2026/>

die for a righteous man; though perhaps for the good man someone would dare even to die. But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.” So we know that the true hero of death is Christ, because He not only gave Himself for the death on the cross, but He also won the victory over death by His resurrection; and so, there is this spilling of blood that transpired. God at the right time brought Christ into the world to die for, it says, the sinners, those who are not righteous. But in this verse 7 it says, “For one will hardly die for a righteous man, though perhaps for a good man someone would dare even to die.” And I thought about that during this time of Memorial Day, because here the Bible is saying, “It is a big deal to give up your life, and most people won’t do it; even for a righteous man, people will rarely die.” But when we talk about Memorial Day, when we talk about those who have given their lives for many reasons through the years in this country, it is amazing because the Bible says it is a rare deed; and yet we look at how many have given their life and paid that ultimate price of death, not for a righteous man, not even for a righteous nation, but for the principles that they believed in and held sacred – the principles of freedom, the principles of faith, the principles of knowing that this country was something that was dedicated in its foundations to God. And so, many of them were giving their life to God to see established the country and the nation of the United States that so many had done previously. Many gave their lives because of the lives of others who had already given their lives. It is amazing what we have. And I want it to be amazing to us as believers, because I think that this should all have a special place in our hearts, in our souls and our psyche, as believers in Christ and believers in the cross; as believers in His death and believers of not only the death of Christ, but the death of the martyrs who died after Christ in His name for the faith.

This is something that is very real, and it has not stopped up to today. That is why we cannot stop with just having an annual celebration of Memorial Day. It is more like was said in the speech, there must be a daily gratitude, there must be a daily recognition of the spilt blood that we walk upon in our faith, and we move into.

In John the fifteenth chapter at verses 12-14, it says, “This is My commandment, that you love one another, just as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends. You are My friends if you do what I command you.” Verse 17 says, “This I command you, that you love one another.” It is this great love. And I think one of the things that we are seeing eroded today is the love of this country and this nation. I think that is horrific, because when we see what is going on in many, many circles that are tearing down this nation and tearing down what it stands for, we see that people are literally spitting on the blood of those who spilt their lives out for this nation to exist today; that people could have the freedom to speak against the nation, speak against the flag, speak against the President, speak against the faith of Judeo-Christianity that stands up today for the moral reality and the life that is given for the land that was promised. And we see this not just in America, but we certainly see it in Israel, the giving of life for the promise of the land. And that is what this nation started as: it was a promise of a place to come and serve God. It was seen by many as the new Jerusalem. And I think you could say, “No, it is Israel that is the new Jerusalem,” but it is like God was creating something that would be the force to allow Israel to survive what it was going to go through and what it has gone through since its inception as a state. And I think that what has been built here is a covering, is a protection, so that the Word of God can be fulfilled over Israel.

So there are a lot of things at play here. But what I am trying to tie them all into is the reality of the blood that was necessary. And we see it in the Scriptures, “No greater love has anyone than to lay down his life for his friend.”

In John 10, verses 11-15, Christ said,

“I am the good shepherd; the good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep. He who is a hired hand, and not a shepherd, who is not the owner of the sheep, sees the wolf coming, and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. He flees because he is a hired hand and is not concerned about the sheep. I am the good shepherd, and I know My own and My own know Me, even as the Father knows Me and I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep.”

And there again, we see this today. We see a lot of these people who call themselves politicians and those serving the country, but they are hirelings because they are not willing to pay the price of blood. In fact, they are speaking against the price of blood that has been paid and will continue to be paid for the survival of our freedom and the survival of this nation, and the principles of serving God in freedom on which this nation was founded. I think that it is an interesting thing, and we will see it. It would be fun to see speeches start that way: If you are going to criticize the country, if you are going to tear down the symbols of the statues of heroes who have given their lives and stood to create this country, the first question before you start speaking under these liberties should be, “Are you willing to spill your blood for it to survive, or are you just tearing it down?”

Anyway, I want to go on with some Scriptural things here, because I think we lose sometimes what an amazing principle we have; and this is part of what I want us to join our hearts to today as believers, as those who are living. Because again, we are coming out of many days of prayer and many events that are times of prayer for this country, and I think we need to see another aspect and connect our hearts with the reality and the power of what it means to give blood and to see blood spilt.

In Genesis the fourth chapter, we know the story of Cain and Abel is here. It says in verses 8-10,

Cain told Abel his brother. And it came about when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother and killed him. Then the Lord said to Cain, “Where is Abel your brother?” And he said, “I do not know. Am I my brother’s keeper?” He said, “What have you done? [and listen to this] The voice of your brother’s blood is crying to Me from the ground.”

“The voice of your brother’s blood is crying to Me from the ground.”

One thing about it, God never forgets the spilled blood. The blood of Abel was crying out to God. We talk about prayer for this country – tune in to the scream of prayer from those who have given their lives, whose blood was spilled on this ground. They may be dead, but they are not gone; and their blood is crying out to God from the ground, crying out to see the purpose for which they gave their life fulfilled. They gave their life for a reason. They gave their life for a vision. They gave their life for a faith in a righteous nation that would do the will of God in the world, that would be a light unto the world of the Word of God and the will of God, that would be a part of the strength that is necessary to see the Kingdom of God come about into this earth as it is established in heaven.

It is a cry for the Kingdom to come to earth – that is what this blood is crying out for and crying to, and that is what we are a part of. We are yoked with these hearts. And when we look, as we will, into the book of Revelation, we see that the spilling of blood is not completed yet, but it will be completed. If we believe God is hearing our prayer for this country, if we think God is hearing our prayers that we pray daily, ask yourself how much more is God hearing the prayer that is the cry of the blood of our brothers and sisters that have spilt their lives for the vision and the purpose? The Scriptures talk about that: We have not yet resisted to the shedding of blood. (Hebrews 12:4) It makes a distinction between those of

us who are still here in the flesh praying, and those who have given their lives by the shedding of blood for that vision. But we give ourselves today to be one with that cry, to believe in that cry, to know that God is hearing that cry, and even to be reminders. We are those that are the watchmen on the wall crying out to God to remember. And this is one of the things that we want to know, that every day God is remembering the spilt blood of our brothers and sisters. It is such an important reality for us.

When we go on through this topic in Genesis, we talk a lot, and we have talked in our walking together, about this idea of seeing futility in the earth; and this is where futility really came from. After He says, "I have heard the voice of your brother's blood crying to Me from the ground," He goes on in verses 11-12 to say, "Now you are cursed from the ground," Cain was cursed from the ground, "which has opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. When you cultivate the ground, it will no longer yield its strength to you; you will be a vagrant and a wanderer on the earth." The curse, the judgment that came upon Cain, was not from God. It was from the ground that opened its mouth to receive the blood of the innocent.

I think that is a heavy thing. We talk about all that is transpiring in the world today, and I do not know if we recognize how much of it is based upon the blood that has been shed and received by the earth. But we know that this thing of futility we labor and battle with every day comes from one source, the blood spilled into the earth. And I do not think we realize that. I mean, you can look for weather patterns and this and that to explain the change in the earth and all that is going on; but if you really want to see where it comes from, it is the cry of the blood. It is the earth refusing to be a partner with that which is spilling the blood on the earth.

Let's go to the book of Luke, chapter 22, verses 39-44. We know this is Christ after the Last Supper. It says,

He came out and proceeded as was His custom to the Mount of Olives; and the disciples also followed Him. When He arrived at the place, He said to them, "Pray that you may not enter into temptation." And He withdrew from them about a stone's throw, and He knelt down and began to pray, saying, "Father, if You are willing, remove this cup from Me; yet not My will, but Yours be done." Now an angel from heaven appeared to Him, strengthening Him. And being in agony He was praying very fervently; and His sweat became like drops of blood, falling down upon the ground.

It is essential that the blood of Christ had to fall and be spilt upon the ground. It was not the blood of the cross, it was the blood of His agony for humanity that fell upon the ground. It was so necessary that the blood of the Savior, the salvation, the Messiah, had to be spilt upon the ground in order to cleanse the ground from its perversion of the blood that Cain brought through his brother Abel.

This process of sanctification was very Scriptural, very necessary. And I think we need to see that when we pray for America as a country, as a land, we are not misguided. We need to pray for the land. We need to pray for this nation as a nation, as the ground that God has given us that is bound by futility because it has received the pollution that comes from the blood being spilt upon it. This is a truth that we need to recognize.

There are a couple more Scriptures. One is Genesis the ninth chapter, verses 3-6. It says,

"Every moving thing that is alive shall be food for you; I give all to you, as I gave the green plant. Only you shall not eat flesh with its life, that is, its blood. Surely I will require your lifeblood; from every beast I will require it. And from every man, from every man's brother I will require

the life of man. Whoever sheds man's blood, by man his blood shall be shed, for in the image of God He made man."

In Numbers, it is talking about the pollution of the land by the blood. Numbers 35:33-34 says,

"So you shall not pollute the land in which you are; for blood pollutes the land and no expiation can be made for the land for the blood that is shed on it, except by the blood of him who shed it. You shall not defile the land in which you live, in the midst of which I dwell; for I the Lord am dwelling in the midst of the sons of Israel."

So we see that there was this whole process. You can see it in Deuteronomy 21 about what happens if you find a man who was killed in the field and nobody knows how he was killed. There is a whole way in which it has to be dealt with and redeemed by the men in the closest city, because of this idea that when blood comes upon the land, it pollutes it.

In Deuteronomy 21 verses 6-9, it says,

"All the elders of that city which is nearest to the slain man shall wash their hands over the heifer whose neck was broken in the valley; and they shall answer and say, 'Our hands did not shed this blood, nor did our eyes see it. Forgive your people Israel whom You have redeemed, O Lord, and do not place the guilt of innocent blood in the midst of Your people Israel.' And the bloodguiltiness shall be forgiven them. So you shall remove the guilt of innocent blood from your midst, when you do what is right in the eyes of the Lord."

A pretty heavy statement. We see this over and over, this idea that the land is polluted, this idea of the oppression that the nations are under because of the spilling of blood, and yet we know that we have the redeeming of it.

We see it again, as I said, in the book of Revelation. We see the same cry of the blood that was shed. In Revelation 6:9-11, it says,

When the Lamb broke the fifth seal, I saw underneath the altar the souls of those who had been slain because of the word of God, and because of the testimony which they had maintained; and they cried out with a loud voice, saying, "How long, O Lord, holy and true, will You refrain from judging and avenging our blood on those who dwell on the earth?" And there was given to each of them a white robe; and they were told that they should rest for a little while longer, until the number of their fellow servants and their brethren who were to be killed even as they had been, would be completed also.

So we see that the spilling of innocent blood has not come to a conclusion. But we also see it is part of this breaking of the seals that the cry of the spilt blood is turned loose, and it will cry out until there is a resolution and the winning of the victory of Christ in this earth. So somehow, I do not know, maybe all this does not make a lot of sense to you, and maybe it seems like it is disjointed. But I just feel like we as believers, first and foremost in the salvation that comes from the spilling of Christ's blood, and recognizing that His blood was spilt upon the ground, we relate to it as our salvation. But there is a salvation to the earth, the ground, that must come because it has been polluted. It has been subjected to futility. And believe me, if there is a people that are behind Romans 8 and the release of the earth from futility, it is us. And I think we need to recognize that part of that reality is us joining our hearts, joining our spirits, to this great cry that comes up at this time of the breaking of the seals, to see a release of the earth from all futility from our flesh, from mankind, and see the purposes of Christ fulfilled that came and had to come by the spilling of blood into this earth. We believe that our prayers

for the Kingdom, our prayers for America, our prayers for the world and mankind globally, are joined today with these prayers of blood. We have the spilling of blood, and ultimately of Christ's blood; and He said, "It is finished." And so we believe that we are going to be part of the conclusion of this reality, that blood was shed, and that blood is crying from the earth; and God is hearing it, and God will bring His justice because of it. So we bless this in the name of the Lord. I hope this meant something to you all, and we believe for it.

Okay, would anyone like to comment?

Go ahead, Lisa

Lisa Savage: Well, first of all, congratulations on not crying through the whole thing, I would have. One thing that I remember is that we remember the dead and we complete the mission, which I think is a thing. The other thing when you were talking is that when the Holocaust was going on, after they were killing the Jews they were burying them. They could not keep the blood from rising to the surface. Blood kept rising. Whatever they put in, there was blood. And it was just another example of the blood crying out, the ground crying out about the blood that was poured out.

Gary: Amen. Give us the grace, Lord, because it is an amazing example for us to follow in the footsteps of those that have given the ultimate price. Like You told the voices under the altar, there are more to be added. So Lord, if it comes to a time when You choose for us to make that ultimate sacrifice, give us the grace, the faith, and let us draw upon their example to walk out Your will in our lives.