

From time to time I wonder why the plan of salvation has to be the way that it is. I mean, what was it that demanded the shedding of the blood of Christ for the remission of our sins? Could it not have been accomplished some other way? Naturally, I have no answer other than that it was God's plan, and as such it was the best one. But in my thoughts something else struck me about it all. When we look at it from God's point of view we are a people who are stubborn of will. So many times the Bible calls it a hardness of heart, mind, or even the neck. In this idea of hardness, I see what may be a very important truth. God is confronted with the problem of softening that heart, of changing it so that it is no longer stubborn and like stone, as we read in Ezekiel 36:25ff. It is a little like a problem we have when we have a bolt that has rusted and cannot be loosened. Out comes 'liquid wrench' or some similar product to soften the hardened crust around the threads. But what can God use to soften our hearts? Well, it seems that the strongest substance capable of doing the job is the blood of Christ. The overpowering love and sacrifice which is represented by that blood causes us to respond, change, soften. Through it we submit our wills and rely on God for all things. This blood is powerful, but we must allow it to penetrate our heart so that it can be softened. For those hearts that remain hardened, God will ultimately crush. Have you let the blood of Christ truly sink into your heart?