I gave my life
FOR THEE



I gave My life for thee,
My precious blood I shed,
That thou might ransomed be,
And quickened from the dead;

PAUL THIESSEN

These words were written by Miss Frances Ridley Havergal. The Havergal Family was a happy, faithful, and ordinary family. Frances had three sisters and two brothers. Born on December 14, 1836, she was a content girl full of life and happiness. By the age of 4, she was able to read the Bible. The family got together on Sundays to sing, and the parents wanted their children to come to know and love the Lord Jesus Christ. When Frances was 11 years old, her mother became ill and died, which was a devastating blow. Little by little, her interest in the gospel increased.

When she was 9 years old, she had heard a message that caused her deep concern about the condition of her soul. The thought came to her that she did not love God, and that she was very bad. For a long time, she read the Bible and prayed for true faith, knowing she did not have it. Frances said that what she wanted most was to know that her sins were forgiven. She expressed that she was willing to lose everything, including her family, if she could obtain it. A friend asked her, if Christ came to her, couldn't she trust Him? That was enough for her; she ran up the stairs to her room, fell on her knees, and trusted Jesus Christ. The change in her was noticeable. The

Bible became her delight, and she saw things in it she had never seen before.

Many of the hymns she wrote express her appreciation and adoration for her Saviour and Lord, along with the blessing of knowing Him.

Like a river, glorious
Is God's perfect peace,
Over all victorious
In its bright increase;

Stayed upon Jehovah,
Hearts are fully blest;
Finding, as He promised,
Perfect peace and rest.

Frances died at the young age of 42 on June 3, 1879. On her tombstone were written the words: **"the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin"** (1 JOHN 1:7).

What about you? Has something similar happened to you? Have you felt a burden in your conscience for the sins you have committed? Have you longed to obtain the forgiveness of your sins? Today the blood of Jesus Christ can still cleanse from all sin. Every person who fully trusts in the Lord Jesus Christ as Saviour has their sins forgiven. Just like Frances, you can

calmly enjoy God's presence and know that you are right with God by having your sins forgiven.

Frances wrote these words that so clearly speak of the gospel she wanted to share. May you also come to understand this truth.

Precious, precious blood of Jesus,
Shed on Calvary;
Shed for rebels, shed for sinners,
Shed for thee.

Precious, precious blood of Jesus,
Let it make thee whole;
Let it flow in mighty cleansing,
O'er thy soul.

Though thy sins are red like crimson,
Deep in scarlet glow,
Jesus' precious blood shall wash thee,
White as snow.

Precious blood that hath redeemed us!
All the price is paid;
Perfect pardon now is offered,
Peace is made.

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