

ceremonies are far less extensive than the ceremonies of the Old Testament, since we know more about the reality which they signify, and do not need as extensive ceremonies. Salvation was never a result of keeping a ceremony, but a result of the attitude of faith toward God and entirely based upon the grace of God through Jesus Christ. As Paul says, "Christ is the end of the law to those who believe."

LETTER 36
1959

THE BLOOD COVENANT

Thank you for sending me the copy of H. Clay Trumbull's book, *The Blood Covenant*, and asking me to make a careful examination of it. I am always glad to do anything I can to help in the vital work that you are carrying on for our wonderful Saviour.

As I looked over the book I felt quite sorry that this should have been republished instead of one of the other fine books that your grandfather wrote. He was a great servant of the Lord and did much to advance the testimony to the Gospel. Some of his other books would probably have been of far greater relevance to present-day conditions than this one.

At least two-thirds of the book is made up of discussion of customs of primitive tribes. The value of this material for Bible study is highly questionable. The only way in which it can be shown to have much real importance for the Bible is on the assumption that the customs of which he gives so many illustrations from the experiences of recent travellers in Arabia, Africa, and China, were also known in the lands of the Bible at the time when the Old and New Testaments were written. Evidence for such a