

**A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF
THE CONCEPTS OF BLOOD IN THE
YORUBA TRADITIONAL BELIEF
AND THE NEW TESTAMENT.**

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ABSTRACT

Blood has taken a vital position in worship both in Yoruba traditional religion and in Christianity. This essay has been written with the understanding to make an average Yoruba traditional person see and accept the efficacy, supremacy and ever sufficiency of the blood of Jesus Christ over and above any other blood.

The essay has been divided into five chapters. The first chapter gave the introduction and significance of the study. Chapter two expounded the concept of Blood in the Yoruba traditional belief. The third Chapter gave the Concept of Blood in the New Testament.

Following the discussions in the previous Chapters the fourth Chapter of this essay dealt with the comparative analysis of the Concepts of Blood in the Yoruba traditional belief and the New Testament. The comparison brings out some weaknesses in Yoruba traditional concept of Blood sacrifice. The fifth Chapter dealt with observation and the full benefits of Christ's blood.

Finally, the essay was brought to its close with the facts that Christ's blood is the only needed blood that is acceptable to God Almighty.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the writer, can see that the blood of Jesus is still at work and many people still believe in the efficacy of the precious blood of Jesus Christ because it was assumed that the blood of bulls, goats, sheep in the Yoruba Traditional concept

could only ward-off disaster and purify outwardly the sinful man, where as Christ sacrifice could deal with both the flesh and conscience of the worshippers. The reason being that, it was the blood of one who was consciously obedient to the will of God.

Who being in very nature of God,
 did not consider equality with God
 something to be grasped, but made
 himself nothing, taking the very
 nature of a servant, being made
 in human likeness, And being found
 in appearance as a man he humbled
 Himself and became obedient to death –
 even death on a cross! (Ph. 2:6-8 N.I.V.).

Repeated sacrifices were necessary under the Yoruba Traditional Concept of Blood sacrifice but in Christ's sacrifice in the New Testament Concept of Blood was offered once for all. It is the only needed form of sacrifice acceptable to God. It is a sacrifice of love.