

Jesus is the Sacrifice for Sin

John 1:29-34 **The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! 30 This is he of whom I said, ‘After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me.’ 31 I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel.” 32 And John bore witness: “I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. 33 I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’ 34 And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God.”**

❖ 1) Jesus “The Lamb of God”

- **“Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!”**

➤ The Scene

- People coming to hear the prophet preach... People coming in need of Renewal...
- And John’s message was to point to Jesus Christ... as the Lamb of God....

➤ He could have chosen anything to say about Jesus...

- Eternal, Amazing, Creator, Wonderful, Mighty, Wise....YET...He chose to say...

❖ Behold the Lamb of God

➤ There was so much meaning packed in that one line,

- John knew exactly what He was saying... He was not speaking of a fluffy little zoo animal
- There was a Depth of Meaning for these people when He said this.... [And for you too...](#)

➤ The O.T. Sacrificial System (to understand... you need to know this)

- For the People of Israel to stay in continued fellowship with God... they needed sin offerings...
 - As the son of a priest... John the Baptist was well acquainted with the sacrificial system
- **To have sins forgiven an atonement needed to be made**
 - **Leviticus 4:32-35** ³² “If he brings a lamb as his offering for a sin offering, he shall bring a female without blemish ³³ and lay his hand on the head of the sin offering and kill it for a sin offering in the place where they kill the burnt offering. ³⁴ Then the priest shall take some of the blood of the sin offering with his finger and put it on the horns of the altar of burnt offering and pour out all the rest of its blood at the base of the altar... And the priest shall make atonement for him for the sin which he has committed, and he shall be forgiven.
 - ◆ He wasn’t calling Jesus a pet... or a nice guy, or an amazing guy...
 - ◆ This isn’t a nice set of verses is it?....It is gruesome...
- **The Lamb Atonement**
 - Perfect lamb without blemish....The Priest would lay his hand on it and kill it...
 - So... that is what they did for forgiveness... to continue on fellowship with a Holy God...
- **These animal sacrifices Continued Perpetually**
 - **Exodus 29:38-39** “Now this is what you shall offer on the altar: two lambs a year old day by day regularly.
- **Charles Spurgeon – Known as the prince of Preachers... preached in London**
 - “There had been slain before the Lord a lamb every morning, and a lamb every evening, all the year round throughout the centuries of Israel’s history. Always and ever the continual sacrifice of the lamb was the symbol of Jehovah’s dwelling with his people. But John puts his finger down upon a single sacrifice, and says, “This is *the* Lamb.” All the other daily lambs had been but prefigurations of this. “Behold the Lamb.”
- **Universal Law of God:**

- Hebrews 9:22 Indeed, under the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.
- **John the Baptist had this in mind.... So he was not saying this HAPHAZARDLY**
 - He knew of the countless animals slain since the days of Abraham
 - All but **Prefigures** of the Lamb to come... They **pointed** to
 - They were living **Parables**...
- **The Problem: The death of lambs was not enough to bear our sins**
 - Hebrews 10:11 ¹¹ And every priest stands daily at his service, offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which **can never take away sins. (But Jesus Could)**

❖ 2) Jesus, The Lamb of Isaiah 53

➤ This is who John had in mind....

- The prophet Isaiah 750 years earlier prophesied of His coming...
- Isaiah 53:7 ⁷ He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he opened not his mouth.
- And you can see this in your mind with what you know of His beating and death on the cross

➤ In Acts 8 – This is the passage the Ethiopian Eunuch was reading when Philip began to explain

- That it was Jesus... Jesus is that Lamb slain.... The Ethiopian was saved

❖ 3) Only Jesus could be this Lamb...

- In OT System... they needed a spotless lamb from the flock...

➤ Jesus is Holy - God brought His Son into this world without an earthly Father...

- Therefore the sin of Adam did not pass to the earthly body of Jesus...

➤ He was born of the virgin Mary

- Luke 1:35 ³⁵ And the angel answered her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born **will be called holy**—the Son of God.

➤ Only Jesus walked this earth without Sin...

- Heb 4.15 “he was without sin”
- 1 Peter 1:19 ¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot.

❖ 4) Jesus is The Lamb OF God

➤ Jesus was God’s Lamb...

- When men sinned... they had to go and get their own lamb from their flock to take for sacrifice
- Or buy one from their neighbors...

➤ Man was in a Great Predicament...

- We could find no suitable sacrifice for our sins... The animals were not enough
- Our sin was offensive to a Holy God...
- We were without hope... We could not bear our own sins...
- Nor could we carry each other’s sins...
- He could not pay for them with a lifetime of work or suffering...
- If justice were to be done... It would be our demise...

➤ We Must Understand –

- **God’s wrath toward sin MUST be satisfied... It must...**

- Fact #1 – He is Holy.....Fact #2 – Sin is the opposite of Holy
- Fact #3 – God Hates Sin.....Fact #4 – God is a Just Judge
 - ◆ When wrong is done... A penalty must be paid.... This is true even in our own day...
- Fact #5 – We had nothing to offer

- **God provides the Lamb**
 - **As He looked for Justice to be done for our sins.... His wrath Unsatisfied**
 - He looked to His Co-equal Son.... With whom He'd had fellowship for eternity
 - His One and Only Son
- **The Father officiated the Sacrifice**
 - **This truth is given from: Gen**
 - **God foretold of it in the life of Abraham**
 - God told Abraham to sacrifice his only Son...
 - ◆ Now God has never condoned human sacrifices... they are a sin to him...
 - ◆ In this one instance He told Abraham to do it as a test...
 - Abraham was very old when He had Isaac, and it was a miracle to ever have him...
 - ◆ And He loved Him deeply.... But He was obedient to God...
 - And Isaac carried His own wood onto the top of that mount, and Abraham tied him up
 - ◆ Abraham was torn and broken about this but, He knew that God could give him back....
 - **He held that knife to the sky... ready to thrust it deep into the heart of Isaac**
 - ◆ And to take His life...
 - ◆ But God stopped him... much to the delight of Abraham
 - ◆ And in the bushes there was a young ram caught
 - ◆ And as Isaac had already wondered about where the sacrifice would come from....
 - **Abraham prophetically said before:**
 - ◆ Genesis 22:8 ⁸ Abraham said, "God will provide himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So they went both of them together.
- **God Provided His Son as the Sacrifice**
 - Abraham said hundreds of years earlier... "God will provide **himself** the lamb for a burnt offering"
 - And when the knife of divine judgment was held high... no one stopped the Father
 - He allowed it to be plunged into His Son....
 - Isaiah 53:10 (ESV) ¹⁰ Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him; he has put him to grief; when his soul makes an offering for sin
- **Jesus Did this with Joy**
 - Abraham said hundreds of years earlier... "God will provide himself the lamb for a burnt offering"
 - Hebrews 12:2 ...who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame,
 - **Why was it joyous for Him?**
 - Is 53.11b "... (He will) make many to be accounted righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities."

❖ 5) Jesus The Lamb Must Die

- **When John the Baptist calls him the Lamb.... He says so speaking of His death...**
 - Lambs were slaughtered... every morning and evening they were slaughtered...
 - So this is the imagery John is giving here...
- **We see this Truth in Rev**
 - Revelation 5:9b ".....worthy are you..... for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation,

❖ 6) Jesus The Lamb of God is the Sin Bearer

- 1 Peter 2:24 ²⁴ He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.
 - Our Sins were placed on Jesus
 - He took them from us... He carried them away...
- **Sin is Heavy** – Men are crushed under the weight of it...

- Jesus had it placed on Him... and He carried it... He carried them away

❖ 7) Jesus the Lamb of God was The Substitute

- **Meaning... He died in your place, and was punished in your place**
 - 2 Cor. 5:21, "He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him."
 - Jesus was made to be sin for us
- **The Wrath of God toward sinful man, was placed upon Jesus**

❖ 8) Jesus the Lamb of God Takes Away Sin

- **He takes them Away.... Continually**
 - **John Speaks in the present tense here... Besides this we see...**
 - Hebrews 10:12 ¹² But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God,
 - Hebrews 10:14 ¹⁴ For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified.
 - ◆ Took One Sacrifice by Him... to remove all of them (if a person believes)
 - ◆ It lasts forever... stretches into the past, and into the future...
- **Blots them Out/ Doesn't Remember them**
 - Isaiah 43:25 ²⁵ "I, I am he who blots out your transgressions for my own sake, and I will not remember your sins.
- **Cast them far away**
- **Psalm 103:12 ¹² as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us.**
- **Out of Sight**
 - Micah 7:19b. "...You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea."
- **All other sacrifices**
 - Just held off the wrath of God... Jesus' sacrifice takes away our sins...

❖ God's Wrath can be Removed or Not

- **John 3:36 ³⁶ Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him.**
- **Look at this verse.... To the one who believes... he has eternal life... (His sins taken from him)**
 - These people have had God's wrath removed from them....
 - Sin removed – wrath removed
- **Those who do not obey... who do not have their sins taken away**
 - "the wrath of God remains on Him"
 - Nothing has removed it...

❖ What will You do?

- **Who will bear your sins? You or Jesus?**
- **Everyone deserves wrath... and there is One Remedy**
 - Believe on Him and have your sins taken away!
- **If you have believed... Do you live in this truth...?**
 - Does the truth that your sins have been removed Resonate daily with you?
 - Or do you live in guilt? Why would you...?
- **If you have believed in Christ... believe in what He said He did for you...**
 - John 8:36 So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.