

## Jesus Is - The Lamb of God

Jn.1:29

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Jn.1:29 The next day he (John the Baptist) saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "**Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!**

What do you suppose John meant when he declared to the crowd that Jesus was the "Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!"? What do you think the crowd understood that declaration to mean? We know of course that John was a prophet whose words were from God and therefore true. (John's declaration about who he was and who Jesus is: Jn.1:30-34; Jesus' words concerning John Lk.7:24-30)

What did Israel expect prophetically from God and His Holy word? They would know Abraham's Words when he answered Isaac that "God would provide for Himself a lamb." (Gen.22:7-8) They knew the about the Passover lamb and its blood on the posts and lintel. (Ex.12:3-13) But was there a contemporary view that indicated God would be providing a permanent solution to the problem of sin? A solution that will negate the need for continual sacrifice for their sin. (maybe Isa.53:7; Acts 8:32) Except for the reality that the Lamb was a sacrificial symbol and that the shedding of its blood

was required for forgiveness, we have little else to expect them to connect to.

We know that Isaiah's words in 53:7 point to Jesus but we know that after the fact. The people who heard John declare Jesus the Lamb of God are not so fortunate to already have the NT explain the OT and its shadow of the things to come.

Even before the "Law of Moses" sacrifice of a lamb was the process for gaining forgiveness. From Adam to Moses and from Moses to Jesus forgiveness was dependent upon the sacrifice of a lamb. Not just any lamb but one that qualified by being spotless or pure. (Ex.12:5; Lev.22:20)

We know or can surmise from scripture the necessity: 1<sup>st</sup> - Adam and Eve's sin and their death covered by the blood of a sacrifice. (Gen.3:21) 2<sup>nd</sup> - Abel's sacrifice (Gen.4:4) 3<sup>rd</sup> - Noah (Gen.8:20) 4<sup>th</sup> - Abraham or Abram (Gen.12:8) 5<sup>th</sup> - Job (Job1:5; 42:7-9)

The soul that sins shall die, the sacrifice of an animal was substitutionary; the life blood of the animal for the life blood of the person. (we looked at these things last week) Jesus, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, by His spotless life qualified to take our place and pay the penalty for our sin. (Heb.9:12-14; 1Jn.2:2; Rev.1:5; 5:9-10)

**1Jn.4:10 In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. (see also Rm.3:24-25)**