

## The Lamb of God

John 1:29-34

**The Lamb Removes Sin (John 1:29-32)** We see John the Baptist referring to Jesus Christ as the Lamb of God. This really is a fulfillment of prophecy. During Passover, the sacrificed lamb's blood was spread over the doorposts of the home. The angel of death passed over the home with the blood covering. Exodus 12 records the first Passover with the instructions of how this should have been accomplished. This was a clear foreshadowing of what Jesus Christ would do. 1 John 3:5 speaks to John the Baptist's claim of Jesus removing the sins of the world. ***"You know that he appeared in order to take away sins, and in him there is no sin."*** Three main areas of significance as to why the lamb of God removes sin.

- a. **The Lamb is the ultimate sacrifice.** According to Hebrews 9:22, there has to be a blood sacrifice for the removal of sin. ***"Indeed, under the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins."*** And Hebrews 7:27 shares why this was: ***"He has no need, like those high priests, to offer sacrifices daily, first for his own sins and then for those of the people, since he did this once for all when he offered up himself."*** The book of Hebrews is a bridge between Jewish practices that were shadows of Christ to the New Covenant Christians as to why they are significant.
- b. **The Lamb is our substitute.** Jesus took our place! We deserved the death that Jesus died! In God's love, mercy, and grace, He sent His son Christ to be our substitute. (Abraham and Isaac, the ram). 2 Cor. 5:21 ***"For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God."*** Romans 5:8 ***"But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."*** 1 Peter 2:24 ***"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."***
- c. **The Lamb satisfies the required payment.** God required and still requires that there must be a sacrificial payment to satisfy the broken law (sin) of all of mankind. Romans 3:23-25 shows this: ***"for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, 25 whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins."*** And Romans 6:23 ***"For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."***

**The Lamb Gives Us Rebirth Through the Holy Spirit (John 1:33)** We see in the Old Testament that God poured His Holy Spirit upon people, yet His Spirit did not dwell within individuals until the work of Christ was complete and the day of Pentecost occurred. Ezekiel

and Joel both prophesied about this coming. John the Baptist is referring to the promise of Christ in Acts 1 about the Holy Spirit coming to believers. We also see Paul's references to the Holy Spirit dwelling within the believer in Romans 8:9 and 1 Cor. 6:19. ***"You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him."*** (Rom. 8:9) and ***"Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own,"*** (1 Cor. 6:19). Only God can do this rebirth through the work of the Lamb and our reception of the Lamb through faith. We will clearly see this explanation of the rebirth more in John 3.

**The Lamb is Recognized as the Son of God (John 1:34)** John recognized Jesus, do you recognize Jesus as the only one who can remove your sin, give you eternal life, free you from the bondage of sin, give you peace, joy, and purpose? The phrase "Son of God" was used by the Jews in 2 Sam. 7:14 and Psalms 2:7. John wanted to show crystal clear who Jesus is and what He came to do! Do you believe this? John 20:30-31 ***"Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; 31 but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name."***

### **Application**