

## “The Lamb of God”

**Scripture:** Revelation 5:12 “Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing.”

### Introduction:

In regards to the Old Testament, God tells us that it was a tutor or a schoolmaster to lead us to Christ (Gal 3:24). The Hebrew writer goes on to explain that the Old Testament was only a shadow of the reality that was to come (Heb 10:1).

For example, 1 Peter 3:18-21 says: “ *For Christ also died for sins once for all, the just for the unjust, so that He might bring us to God, having been put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit; 19 in which also He went and made proclamation to the spirits now in prison, 20 who once were disobedient, when the patience of God kept waiting in the days of Noah, during the construction of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through the water. 21 Corresponding to that, baptism now saves you — not the removal of dirt from the flesh, but an appeal to God for a good conscience — through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,*”

-Noah and his family were raised out of the sinfulness of this world by flood waters and in the same way baptism now saves us. You see the flood was a shadow of New Testament Baptism.

It’s a pretty amazing thing to consider that everything in the Old Testament is for one purpose...that is to lead us to Christ. In Acts chapter 8 we see Philip doing just that, Philip is told by an angel to go to the road that descends from Jerusalem to Gaza. He meets the Ethiopian Eunuch who is sitting in his Chariot reading Isaiah and from that text Philip taught him about Jesus and baptized him into Christ.

Well, it is this Christ that I would like to talk to you about today. I want to begin with an Old Testament shadow and end with the fulfillment in the New Testament.

Christ is described throughout the scriptures in at least 100 different ways:

Advocate (1 John 2:1)	Faithful Witness (Rev. 1:5)
Almighty (Rev. 1:8; Mt. 28:18)	Faithful and True Witness (Rev. 3:14)
Alpha and Omega (Rev. 1:8; 22:13)	First and Last (Rev. 1:17; 2:8; 22:13)
Amen (Rev. 3:14)	Firstborn From the Dead (Rev. 1:5)
Apostle of our Profession (Heb. 3:1)	Firstborn over all creation (Col. 1:15)
Atoning Sacrifice for our Sins (1 John 2:2)	Gate (John 10:9)
Author of Life (Acts 3:15)	God (John 1:1; 20:28; Heb. 1:8; Rom. 9:5; 2 Pet. 1:1; 1 John 5:20; etc.)
Author and Perfecter of our Faith (Heb. 12:2)	Good Shepherd (John 10:11,14)
Author of Salvation (Heb. 2:10)	Great Shepherd (Heb. 13:20)
Beginning and End (Rev. 22:13)	Great High Priest (Heb. 4:14)
Blessed and only Ruler (1 Tim. 6:15)	Head of the Church (Eph. 1:22; 4:15; 5:23)
Bread of God (John 6:33)	Heir of all things (Heb. 1:2)
Bread of Life (John 6:35; 6:48)	High Priest (Heb. 2:17)
Bridegroom (Mt. 9:15)	Holy and True (Rev. 3:7)
Capstone (Acts 4:11; 1 Pet. 2:7)	Holy One (Acts 3:14)
Chief Cornerstone (Eph. 2:20)	Hope (1 Tim. 1:1)
Chief Shepherd (1 Pet. 5:4)	Hope of Glory (Col. 1:27)
Christ (1 John 2:22)	Horn of Salvation (Luke 1:69)
Creator (John 1:3)	I Am (John 8:58)
Deliverer (Rom. 11:26)	Image of God (2 Cor. 4:4)
Eternal Life (1 John 1:2; 5:20)	Immanuel (Mt. 1:23)
Gate (John 10:9)	Judge of the living and the dead (Acts 10:42)
Faithful and True (Rev. 19:11)	

King Eternal (1 Tim. 1:17)  
 King of Israel (John 1:49)  
 King of the Jews (Mt. 27:11)  
 King of kings (1 Tim 6:15; Rev. 19:16)  
 King of the Ages (Rev. 15:3)  
 Lamb (Rev. 13:8)  
 Lamb of God (John 1:29)  
 Lamb Without Blemish (1 Pet. 1:19)  
 Last Adam (1 Cor. 15:45)  
 Life (John 14:6; Col. 3:4)  
 Light of the World (John 8:12)  
 Lion of the Tribe of Judah (Rev. 5:5)  
 Living One (Rev. 1:18)  
 Living Stone (1 Pet. 2:4)  
 Lord (2 Pet. 2:20)  
 Lord of All (Acts 10:36)  
 Lord of Glory (1 Cor. 2:8)  
 Lord of lords (Rev. 19:16)  
 Man from Heaven (1 Cor. 15:48)  
 Mediator of the New Covenant (Heb. 9:15)  
 Mighty God (Isa. 9:6)  
 Morning Star (Rev. 22:16)  
 Offspring of David (Rev. 22:16)  
 Only Begotten Son of God (John 1:18; 1 John 4:9)  
 Our Great God and Savior (Titus 2:13)  
 Our Holiness (1 Cor. 1:30)  
 Our Husband (2 Cor. 11:2)  
 Our Protection (2 Thess. 3:3)  
 Our Redemption (1 Cor. 1:30)

Our Righteousness (1 Cor. 1:30)  
 Our Sacrificed Passover Lamb (1 Cor. 5:7)  
 Power of God (1 Cor. 1:24)  
 Precious Cornerstone (1 Pet. 2:6)  
 Prophet (Acts 3:22)  
 Rabbi (Mt. 26:25)  
 Resurrection and Life (John 11:25)  
 Righteous Branch (Jer. 23:5)  
 Righteous One (Acts 7:52; 1 John 2:1)  
 Rock (1 Cor. 10:4)  
 Root of David (Rev. 5:5; 22:16)  
 Ruler of God's Creation (Rev. 3:14)  
 Ruler of the Kings of the Earth (Rev. 1:5)  
 Savior (Eph. 5:23; Titus 1:4; 3:6; 2 Pet. 2:20)  
 Son of David (Lk. 18:39)  
 Son of God (John 1:49; Heb. 4:14)  
 Son of Man (Mt. 8:20)  
 Son of the Most High God (Lk. 1:32)  
 Source of Eternal Salvation for all who obey him (Heb. 5:9)  
 The One Mediator (1 Tim. 2:5)  
 The Stone the builders rejected (Acts 4:11)  
 True Bread (John 6:32)  
 True Light (John 1:9)  
 True Vine (John 15:1)  
 Truth (John 1:14; 14:6)  
 Way (John 14:6)  
 Wisdom of God (1 Cor. 1:24)  
 Word (John 1:1)  
 Word of God (Rev. 19:13)

## Transitional Statement:

There is one term that seems to be a common denominator in identifying Jesus. Jesus is called the Lamb of God. Today, I hope we will be able to understand why.

## Lesson:

### I. Let's start with the Old Testament Shadow of the Lamb

#### A. Cain and Abel

Genesis 4:1-5

Now the man had relations with his wife Eve, and she conceived and gave birth to Cain, and she said, "I have gotten a manchild with the help of the Lord." 2 Again, she gave birth to his brother Abel. And Abel was a keeper of flocks, but Cain was a tiller of the ground. 3 So it came about in the course of time that Cain brought an offering to the Lord of the fruit of the ground. 4 Abel, on his part also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of their fat portions. And the Lord had regard for Abel and for his offering; 5 but for Cain and for his offering He had no regard. So Cain became very angry and his countenance fell. NASU

1. Cain brought the fruit of the soil  
 -Wrong in God's eyes Verse 4
2. But, Abel brought a pleasing offering  
 -And it came from his flock....  
 -A lamb  
 -Firstlings (1<sup>st</sup> born)  
 -Included the Fat portion

- \*Represented his best
- \*All this done trusting in God (Hebrews 11:4)

3. Here, in the beginning of time we see the sacrifice of a Lamb taking front and center stage with God.

B. Abraham and Isaac in Genesis Chapter 22:1-14

1. God tells Abraham to take his only son and sacrifice him (Verse 1-2)
  - Hebrews 11:17 says Only begotten Son
2. It was a 3 day journey (Verse 4)
  - Any other day events come to mind?
3. Where is the lamb? (Verse 8)
  - God will provide the lamb
  - Abraham knew his son was the sacrifice and must die
4. Isaac saw:
  - The Altar
  - Wood
  - Fire
  - Knife
    - a. But, where is the lamb?
      - His heart must have raced as he knew something was different
      - Abraham says you are the sacrifice
    - b. Abraham and Sarah were old when Isaac was born and now even older.
      - Isaac could have run away...but he stayed
    - c. Isaac probably pleaded for another way
      - Maybe they prayed
      - Hugged
      - Cried together
      - \*Maybe there were sweet drops like blood on Isaac as his father said no you must die.
5. Abraham tried to kill Isaac but was stopped
  - God provided a lamb to take his place.
  - Isaac had the sentence of death but lamb took his place.
6. Did you happen to catch the place where this happened? Mount Moriah
  - Mount Moriah would latter become Jerusalem

C. The Passover in Exodus Chapter 12

1. The house of Jacob had been enslaved 430 years
  - God raised up Moses to deliver them
  - Let my people go
  - Plagues
2. The 10<sup>th</sup> Plague
  - Death of the 1<sup>st</sup> born by the destroyer

3. Passover feast instituted
  - Kill a lamb
  - Roast the lamb and consume it
  - Put its blood over the door post of you homes
    - The destroyer will pass you by
    - \*The lambs blood represented salvation and deliverance

#### D. At Mount Sinai in Exodus Chapter 19

1. Here God establishes Israel as His nation
    - Law was given
  2. Sacrifices were required
    - a. Burnt offering (Devotion) Ex. 29:38-42
      - A lamb sacrificed every morning and evening
    - b. Sin offering and Trespass offering
      - A Lamb
    - c. Day of atonement
      - A lamb
        - 1<sup>st</sup> born
        - Without spot or blemish
- \*Lambs were used  
-So lambs take front and center stage with Israel
- \*And the shedding of a lambs blood was seen to be connected with forgiveness.

## II. Now, let's look at God's explanation of the Lamb.

- A. We will let God explain the importance of the lamb to us

-Read about Jesus

*Isaiah 53:1-7*

*Who has believed our message?  
And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?  
2 For He grew up before Him like a tender shoot,  
And like a root out of parched ground;  
He has no stately form or majesty  
That we should look upon Him,  
Nor appearance that we should be attracted to Him.  
3 He was despised and forsaken of men,  
A man of sorrows and acquainted with grief;  
And like one from whom men hide their face  
He was despised, and we did not esteem Him.  
4 Surely our griefs He Himself bore,  
And our sorrows He carried;  
Yet we ourselves esteemed Him stricken,  
Smitten of God, and afflicted.  
5 But He was pierced through for our transgressions,  
He was crushed for our iniquities;*

*The chastening for our well-being fell upon Him,  
 And by His scourging we are healed.  
 6 All of us like sheep have gone astray,  
 Each of us has turned to his own way;  
 But the Lord has caused the iniquity of us all  
 To fall on Him.  
 7 He was oppressed and He was afflicted,  
 Yet He did not open His mouth;  
 Like a lamb that is led to slaughter,  
 And like a sheep that is silent before its shearers,  
 So He did not open His mouth.  
 NASU*

*Isaiah 53:12  
 12 Therefore, I will allot Him a portion with the great,  
 And He will divide the booty with the strong;  
 Because He poured out Himself to death,  
 And was numbered with the transgressors;  
 Yet He Himself bore the sin of many,  
 And interceded for the transgressors.  
 NASU*

B. You see, Jesus was the Lamb, He is the Reality

1. John 1:29 "The next day he saw Jesus coming to him and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!"
2. We have seen everyone else with a lamb but now, we see God Himself with a lamb in His arms....
  - What is God doing with a Lamb?
  - Is God going to make a sacrifice?
3. God and His sacrificial Lamb brings us to Calvary brethren....to the foot of the cross.
4. It is here at the cross that God sees us with the sentence of death for our sins
  - Our sins had separated us from God Isa 59:1-2
  - Darkness had come between us and our Father
5. Then in the grandest display of Love God offered a sacrificial Lamb on the cross like altar to pay for our sins.
  - He gave his only begotten Son Jesus
  - \*And Jesus was willing to do it
    - Hebrews 12:2 "fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, ...."

6. It was because of our sins that this Lamb of God had to be sacrificed

-1 Peter 2:24 “and He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wounds you were healed.”

-2 Corinthians 5:21 “He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.”

7. I can't begin to understand this

-That God so loved us that He would give His only son (John 3:16)

#### **IV. Jesus the Lamb of God**

A. Think about biblical history

1. Jesus was God's Sacrifice:

-Jesus knew his destiny because it was appointed to Him before the earth was ever made.

-1 Peter 1:20 “For He was foreknown before the foundation of the world, ....”

-Jesus was God's Only begotten Son

-First born

-Without spot or blemish

-Jesus Represented God's First fruit (Like Abel sacrificial lamb)

-That which was Best

-Jesus was a substitute for us (Like Lamb that took Isaac's place)

-Jesus was even sacrificed on same mountain, Mount Moriah

-Jesus is our Savior and Deliver (Like the Passover Lamb)

-Jesus' blood brought forth forgiveness of sins

#### **V. The story is told of a young boy who learned about the lamb of God**

*The time had come to sacrifice again. My two small sons, they walked beside me on the road. The reason they came was to watch the lamb. Daddy, Daddy, what will we see there? There's so much we don't understand.” So, I told them of Moses and father Abraham. And I said, “boys, WATCH THE LAMB.”*

*For there will be so many in Jerusalem today. We must be sure the lamb doesn't run away And I told them of Moses and father Abraham. And I said, “boys, WATCH THE LAMB.”*

*We reached the city and I knew something must be wrong. There were no joyful worshipers, no joyful worship songs. I stood there with my children In the midst of angry men. And then I heard the crowd cry out again, "CRUCIFY HIM! CRUCIFY HIM!"*

*We tried to leave the city, but we could not get away. Forced to play in this drama A part I did not want to play. Why upon this day were men condemned to die? Why were we standing here where soon they would pass by?*

*I looked up and said, "Even now they come." The first one cried for mercy, the people gave him none. The second one was violent, he was arrogant and loud. I still can hear his angry voice screaming at the crowd.*

*Then someone said "there's Jesus" and I could scarce believe my eyes. A man so badly beaten, he barely looked alive. Blood poured from his body, from the thorns upon his brow Running down the cross and falling on the ground.*

*I watched Him as He struggled Watched Him as He fell. The cross came down heavy upon His back and the crowd began to yell.*

*In a moment I felt such agony. In a moment I felt such loss.*

*Until a Roman soldier grabbed my arm and said, YOU THERE, YOU CARRY HIS CROSS!"*

*At first I tried to resist him. Then his hand reached for his sword. And so I knelt and took the cross—from the back of my Lord. I placed it on my shoulder and started down the street. The blood that He'd been shedding was NOW, running down my cheek.*

*They led Him to Golgotha. They drove nails in His hands and feet. And yet upon the cross I heard Him pray, "FATHER, FORGIVE THEM!"*

*Oh, never have I seen such love in any other eyes. "Into thy hands I commit my spirit" And then He died.*

*I stood for what seemed like a year; I lost all sense of time. Until I felt two tiny hands holding tight to mine. My children stood there weeping.*

*I heard the oldest say, "Father, please forgive us "WE LET OUR LAMB GET AWAY!"*

*"Daddy, what have we seen here today? There's so much we don't understand.*

*So, I took them in my arms — and we turned and faced the cross And I said, "Dear children—BEHOLD THE LAMB!"*

**Conclusion:**

**Have you accepted the sacrifice of the Lamb?  
-By being buried in baptism.**

**Have you given God your best?**

**Are you walking in a manner worthy of your calling?**

**God says of Jesus this is my beloved son in whom I am well pleased Listen to Him  
-Matt 17:5**