

**Morning Worship - May 5, 2013**  
**John 1:29-34, Behold the Lamb of God**

1. **Introduction - Read John 1:29-34**

- a. This section is strangely repetitive:
  - i. John repeats verse 15 in verse 30 -15 (John bore witness about him, and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.'")
  - ii. John emphasizes twice that the Baptist, "did not know him."
  - iii. John emphasizes twice that the Baptist, "Baptizes with water."

2. Vs. 29 **Jesus is \_\_\_\_\_ as the \_\_\_\_\_ Lamb.**

- a. **29 The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"**
  - i. *The 29th verse is the Mount Everest of John's witness for Christ - Frederick Dale Brunner.*
- b. **Behold [idou]** - to provoke attention for the coming statement of importance.
- c. **The Lamb of God [amnos]** - literally a young sheep
- d. **Who takes away** - [airo] - to lift up and carry away
- e. **sin of the world** - [hamartia] - the moral consequence of having sinned - guilt; being evil.
  - i. Not just **sins**, plural, but **the sin** singular; not just the **fruit** ("sins") but the **root** ("sin"), that is to say, not just the effects but the cause; not just the foul deeds but their foul source and result (guilt).
- f. **World [kosmos]** - people associated with a world system that is estranged from God.
- g. **The Lamb of God** - where does John the Baptist get this terminology? What Scriptural precedent is there for "Lamb of God?"

**5 Ideas throughout history**

- 1. **The Suffering-Servant Lamb** of Isaiah 53 [written in 700 B.C., hundreds of years before the life and death of Christ.]
  - i. **Isaiah 53:7-8** - 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. 8 By oppression and judgment he was taken away; and as for his generation, who considered that he was cut off out of the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people?
  - ii. **Isaiah 53:4-6** - Surely he has borne **our** griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. 5 But he was pierced for **our** transgressions; he was crushed

for **our** iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed. 6 All **we like sheep have gone astray**; **we have turned—every one—to his own way**; and the Lord has **laid on him the iniquity of us all**.

- c. **Isaiah 52:13** -Behold, my servant shall act wisely; he shall **be high and lifted up, and shall be exalted**.
    - i. Lifted up [hypsothesetai] - a **key crucifixion verb** in the first half of the Johannine Gospel.
  - d. **Isaiah 53:11-12** - Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied; by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant, **make many to be accounted righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities**.
- 2. **The Passover Lamb** of Exodus 12 [written over 1,000 years before Christ]
    - a. **Exodus 12:5-7** - Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male a year old. You may take it from the sheep or from the goats, 6 and you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month, when the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill their lambs at twilight. 7 "Then they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it...For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the Lord. 13 The blood shall be a sign for you, on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you, when I strike the land of Egypt.
  - 3. **The Perpetual Lamb** in the Morning and Evening Sacrifices of Exodus 29:38-44.
    - a. **Exodus 29:38-44** - "Now this is what you shall offer on the altar: two lambs a year old day by day regularly. 39 One lamb you shall offer in the morning, and the other lamb you shall offer at twilight."
  - 4. **The Triumphant Lamb of the Apocalypses** - Book of Revelation
    - 1. **Revelation** - 5:8 And when he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each holding a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints.
  - 5. **Abrahamic Lamb** - Genesis 22:8, 13
  - 6. Comprehensive View - all are at least symbolic or prophetic.
  - 7. **CLOSE - 1 Corinthians 5:6-7** -Your boasting is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump? 7 Cleanse out the old leaven that you may be a new lump, as you really are unleavened. **For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed.**