

# Jesus Christ - The Lamb of God

THE LAMB OF GOD

## THE LAMB OF GOD: PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE

### THE LAMB OF GOD IN THE OLD AND NEW TESTAMENTS

**GENESIS:** In the OT, the question is **"WHERE IS THE LAMB?"** In Genesis 22 God commanded Abraham "Take now your son, your only son, whom you love, Isaac, and go to the land of Moriah; and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I will tell you." (Ge 22:2+) On the way to the mountain, Isaac asked his father **"Where is the LAMB for the burnt offering?"** (Ge 22:7+) to which Abraham replied "God will provide for Himself the LAMB

for the burnt offering, my son." (Ge 22:8+). As Abraham prepared to sacrifice Isaac whom he loved, he "raised his eyes and looked and behold, behind him a ram caught in the thicket by his horns; and Abraham went and took the ram and offered him up for a burnt offering in the place of (as a "substitute" for) his son." (Ge 22:13) "Abraham called the name of that place the LORD WILL PROVIDE, (JEHOVAH JIREH) as it is said to this day, "In the mount of the LORD it will be provided." (Ge 22:14+) JEHOVAH JIREH is more literally "Jehovah will see," which conveys the idea that Jehovah sees the need before it arises and provides for the need! The Omniscient One sees your need beloved. The amazing God of all grace (1Pe 5:10+) not only foresaw Abraham's need for "A" lamb, but even more amazing, foresaw our need for "THE" LAMB OF GOD to be our Substitute. And so Paul could testify that "God saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works (not because of any "merit" or because we deserved it), but according to His own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus from all eternity (Jehovah saw our need for the LAMB OF GOD, even before time began!)" (2Ti 1:9+) Spurgeon writes that we "admire Abraham's giving up his son to God. Much more admire Jehovah's giving up His Son for sinners. Jehovah is the great Provider, and He provides the offering, not only for us, but for Himself, for the sacrifice was necessary to God as well as to man. And it is a burnt offering, not only a sin-offering but an offering of a sweet savor unto Himself."

### THE PASSOVER LAMB

**EXODUS:** In Exodus Israel was groaning because of enslavement by Egypt and in great need, a need which Jehovah saw, declaring "I will DELIVER you from bondage. I will REDEEM you with an outstretched arm (In light of the Cross, ponder God's redemption by His "outstretched arm!") and with great judgments." (Ex 6:6+) God redeemed Israel from slavery in Egypt with the blood of a LAMB, instructing Moses "your LAMB shall be an unblemished male a year old...You shall keep it until the 14th day of (Nisan—Jewish Passover 2020 begins at sundown on April 8, ends at sundown April 4), then the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel is to kill it at twilight. Take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts (vertical motion) and on the lintel (horizontal part of the doorframe) (ponder the application of blood vertically and horizontally – could this foreshadow the Cross?) of the houses in which they eat it. And they shall eat the flesh that same night....it is the **LORD'S Passover**... For the LORD will pass through to smite the Egyptians; and when He sees the blood on the lintel and on the two doorposts, the LORD will pass over the door and will not allow the destroyer to come in to your houses to smite you." (Exodus 12:5-8,11, 23+) Clearly Christ's death on the Cross was foreshadowed in Exodus 12+ by the sacrifice of an unblemished lamb whose blood was applied to the entry door, for centuries later Paul recorded the inspired words that **"Christ our PASSOVER [LAMB] has been sacrificed."** (1Cor 5:7Amplified+) Paul adds that "now in Christ Jesus you who formerly were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ." (Eph 2:13+) Beloved, may God grant each of us the Spirit's power to "conduct ourselves in (reverent) fear during the time of our (relatively short) stay upon earth, knowing that we were not redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold from your futile (useless in light of eternity) way of life inherited from your forefathers, but with **PRECIOUS BLOOD, AS OF A LAMB** unblemished and spotless, the blood of Christ" (1 Peter 1:17-19+)

### THERE IS A REDEEMER

Written by Melody Green

Sung by Keith Green

There is a redeemer

Jesus, God's own Son

Precious Lamb of God, Messiah  
Holy One

Jesus my Redeemer  
Name above all names  
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah  
Oh, for sinners slain

Thank you, oh my Father  
For giving us Your Son  
And leaving Your Spirit  
'Til the work on Earth is done

When I stand in Glory  
I will see His face  
And there I'll serve my King forever  
In that Holy Place

Thank you, oh my Father  
For giving us Your Son  
And leaving Your Spirit  
'Til the work on Earth is done

There is a Redeemer  
Jesus, God's own Son  
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah  
Holy One

Thank you, oh my Father  
For giving us Your Son  
And leaving Your Spirit  
'Til the work on Earth is done

And leaving Your Spirit  
'Til the work on Earth is done

**Spurgeon comments on the precious blood of the Lamb of God** "Standing at the foot of the Cross, we see hands, and feet, and side, all distilling crimson streams of precious blood. It is **"PRECIOUS"** because of its redeeming and atoning efficacy. By it the sins of Christ's people are atoned for; they are redeemed from under the law; they are reconciled to God, made one with Him. Christ's blood is also **"PRECIOUS"** in its cleansing power; it "cleanses us from all sin." (1Jn 1:7+) "Though your sins are as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow." (Isa 1:18+) Through Jesus' blood there is not a spot left upon any believer, no wrinkle nor any such thing remains. O precious blood, which makes us clean, removing the stains of abundant iniquity, and permitting us to stand "accepted in the Beloved" (Eph 1:6KJV+), notwithstanding the many ways in which we have rebelled against our God. The blood of Christ is likewise **"PRECIOUS"** in its preserving power. We are safe from the destroying angel under the sprinkled blood. Remember it is God's seeing the blood which is the true reason for our being spared. Here is comfort for us when the eye of faith is dim, for God's eye is still the same. The blood of Christ is **"PRECIOUS"** also in its sanctifying influence. The same blood which justifies by taking away sin, does in its after-action, quicken the new nature and lead it onward to subdue sin and to follow out the commands of God. There is no motive for holiness so great as that which streams from the veins of Jesus. And **"PRECIOUS,"** unspeakably precious, is this blood, because it has an overcoming power. It is written, "They overcame through the **BLOOD OF THE LAMB.**" (Rev 12:11KJV+, cf 1 Jn 5:4-5+) How could they do otherwise? He who fights with the precious blood of Jesus, fights with a weapon which cannot know defeat. The blood of Jesus! sin dies at its presence, death ceases to be death: heaven's gates are opened. The blood of Jesus! we shall march on, conquering and to conquer, so long as we can trust its power!"

**ISAIAH:** "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 (literally "laid on Him with a death-dealing blow"). 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." (Isaiah 53:6-7+) Centuries later when the Ethiopian Eunuch ask Phillip "of Whom does the prophet Isaiah speak?" "Philip opened his mouth and beginning from (Isaiah 53:7+) he preached Jesus to him." (Acts 8:32-35+)

## Related Resources:

- [How do the elements of the Passover Seder point to Christ?](#)
- [What is the Haggadah / Aggadah?](#)
- [What is Passover?](#)
- [Should Christians celebrate Passover?](#)
- [Jewish Questions - questions from Jews and about Judaism](#)

**THE GOSPEL OF JOHN:** John the Baptist answers the Old Testament question, declaring "**Behold the LAMB OF GOD** Who takes away the sin of the world." (Jn 1:29+). The renowned preacher C H Spurgeon once tested an auditorium in which he was to speak that evening. Stepping into the pulpit, Spurgeon loudly proclaimed, "**Behold the Lamb of God, Who takes away the sin of the world.**" Satisfied with the acoustics, he left and went his way. Unknown to him, there were two men working in the rafters of that large auditorium, neither one a Christian. One of the men was pricked in his conscience by the verse Spurgeon quoted and became a believer later that day! May Spurgeon's experience encourage all of us to boldly, unashamedly proclaim the Gospel of the Lamb, which is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes (Ro 1:16+).

**THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST:** Keep in mind that the most common Name for Jesus in the Revelation is **"THE LAMB."** (Lamb -29x, Jesus-14x!) After our Lord Jesus Christ had been raised from the dead on the third day according to the Scriptures (1Cor 15:4+), He came into the room in the presence of the 11 disciples, and encouraged Thomas (who was doubting the truth of His resurrection) to "Reach here your finger and see My hands and reach here your hand, and put it into My side and be not unbelieving, but believing." Thomas answered and said to Him, "My Lord and my God!" (Jn 20:27-28+) Those same nail-scarred hands John saw in that room on earth, were the very scars he saw in his glorified Lord's hands in heaven when he testified "I saw between the throne and the elders a **LAMB** standing, as if **SLAIN** (The same Greek verb [sphazo] was used to describe the slaughter of the Passover lamb in Ex 12:6!) (Revelation 5:6-note). **Spurgeon** asks "Why should our exalted Lord appear in His wounds in glory? The wounds of Jesus are His glories, His jewels, His sacred ornaments. Jesus wears the appearance of a **SLAIN LAMB** as His court dress in which He wooed our souls, and redeemed them by His complete atonement. Nor are these only the ornaments of Christ: they are the trophies of His love and of His victory. He has divided the spoil with the strong. He has redeemed for Himself a great multitude whom no man can number, and these **SCARS** are the memorials of the fight. Ah! if Christ thus loves to retain the thought of His sufferings for His people, how precious should His wounds be to us!"

In **Isaiah** Jehovah declared "**Behold**, I have inscribed (engraved) you on the palms of My hands." (Isaiah 49:16+)

**Spurgeon** asks "What are these wounds in Thy hands, these sacred stigmata, these ensigns of suffering? The graver's tool was the nail, backed by the hammer. He must be fastened to the Cross, that His people might be truly graven on the palms of His hands. There is much consolation here. We know that what a man has won with great pain he will keep with great tenacity. Child of God, you cost Christ too much for Him to forget you." Spurgeon goes on to add "It does not say, "Thy name." Yes, the name is there, but that is not all: "I have graven **THEE**." See the fulness of this! I have graven thy person, thine image, thy case, thy circumstances, thy sins, thy temptations, thy weaknesses, thy wants, thy works; I have graven thee, everything about thee, all that concerns thee; I have put thee altogether there. Wilt thou ever say again that thy God hath forsaken thee when he has graven thee upon His own palms?"

In the face of such amazing love, how could God ever forget His people? Do you ever feel like He has forgotten you or your difficult circumstances? Then take heart, for He Himself has declared "I will never desert you, nor will I ever forsake you." (Heb 13:5+) and the scars on the Lamb that was slain seal His promise forever!

Augustus Toplady spoke of this great truth writing "My name from the palms of His hands eternity will not erase; Impressed on His heart it remains, in marks of indelible grace. Yes, I to the end shall endure, as sure as the earnest is giv'n; More happy, but not more secure, then even the glorified spirits in Heav'n." Play his hymn:

### [A Debtor to Mercy Alone](#)

A debtor to mercy alone,  
Of covenant mercy I sing,  
Nor fear, with God's righteousness on,  
My person and off'rings to bring.  
The terrors of law and of God  
With me can have nothing to do;  
My Savior's obedience and blood

Hide all my transgressions from view.

The work which His goodness began,  
The arm of His strength will complete;  
His promise is Yea and Amen,  
And never was forfeited yet.  
Things future, nor things that are now,  
Not all things below or above,  
Can make Him His purpose forego,  
Or sever my soul from His love.

My name from the palms of His hands  
Eternity will not erase;  
Imprest on His heart, it remains  
In marks of indelible grace.  
Yes! I to the end shall endure,  
As sure as the earnest is giv'n;  
More happy, but not more secure,  
When all earthly ties have been riv'n.

As Spurgeon remarks "How loving, then, how full of superlative, super-excellent affection is God toward you and toward me in so recording our names." In view of so great a sacrifice procured by the meek and gentle Lamb of God, let us join now with that heavenly throng singing with a loud voice "**Worthy is the LAMB** that was **SLAIN** to receive power and riches and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing... To Him who sits on the throne, and to the **LAMB**, be blessing and honor and glory and dominion forever and ever." (Revelation 5:12-13<sup>+</sup>)

#### TO SUMMARIZE:

- The question in the OT was "**WHERE IS THE LAMB?**"
- The answer in the NT is "**BEHOLD THE LAMB!**"
- Our cry throughout eternity will be "**WORTHY IS THE LAMB!**"

And all God's children said "Hallelujah! Amen!"

The Apostle John writes

The Lamb in the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and will guide them to springs of the water of life; and God will wipe every tear from their eyes." (Rev 7:17<sup>+</sup>)

In the mysterious working of God, the **LAMB** Who died to redeem us and give us new life in Himself is now our **SHEPHERD** Who ever lives to make intercession for us (Heb 7:25<sup>+</sup>) and to make us, His SHEEP, lie down in green pastures, to lead us beside still waters, to restore our soul, to guide us in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake, to walk with us through the valley of the shadow of death, to prepare a table before us in the presence of our enemies, to anoint our head with oil, to cause our cup to overflow. "Surely goodness and lovingkindness will follow (us) all the days of (our) life, and (we) will dwell in the house of the LORD forever." (Ps 23:1-6<sup>+</sup>)

Father, as we BEHOLD THE LAMB "slain from the foundation of the world" (Rev 13:8KJV<sup>+</sup>) and ponder with wonder and awe the REDEMPTION wrought by our REDEEMER'S precious blood, may Your Spirit use this eternal Word of Truth to enable us to daily die to self and lovingly follow the Good Shepherd all the days of our life. Amen

Worship the Lamb singing....

#### MY REDEEMER LIVES

Well I know my Redeemer lives  
I know my Redeemer lives  
All of creation testify  
This life within me cries  
I know my Redeemer lives, yeah

The very same God that spins things in orbit

Runs to the weary, the worn and the weak  
 And the same gentle hands that hold me when I'm broken  
 They conquered death to bring me victory

Now I know my Redeemer lives  
 I know my Redeemer lives  
 Let all creation testify (aaah)  
 Let this life within me cry  
 I know my Redeemer, he lives  
 To take away my shame  
 And He lives forever, I'll proclaim

That the payment for my sin  
 Was the precious life He gave  
 But now He's alive and  
 There's an empty grave

And I know my Redeemer (lives) He lives  
 I know my Redeemer lives  
 Let all creation testify (aah)  
 Let this life within me cry  
 I know my Redeemer, I know  
 (My redeemer lives) I know my Redeemer lives  
 I know, know, know, know (my Redeemer lives)  
 I know that I know, that I know, that I know, that I know  
 (I know my Redeemer lives) my Redeemer lives  
 Because He lives I can face tomorrow (He lives)  
 Whoo, whoo, yeah, yeah, yeah  
 I know, I know (He lives) He lives, He lives, yeah, yeah  
 I spoke with Him this morning (He lives) He lives, He lives  
 The tomb is empty, He lives, He lives  
 I'm gonna tell everybody, yeah

## Redemption by the Lamb of God

The Question in the Old Testament was... <b>Where is the Lamb?</b>		The Answer in the New Testament is... <b>Behold the Lamb!</b>		The Cry throughout eternity is... <b>Worthy is the Lamb!</b>
The ram in the thicket	The Passover Lamb	The Lamb of God	Christ our Passover	The Lamb that was slain
Ge 22:1, 2, 7, 8, 13, 14 Jehovah Jireh: The LORD Will Provide	Ex 12:5-7, 13, 14+ [Ex 12:1-51] 430 yr in Egypt, 30 yr free, 400 in bondage Compare Ex 12:40+ (430) with Acts 7:6+ (400)	Jn 1:29, 36+ Jn 19:31-33, 36, Ps 34:19, 20 (See study of Jehovah Roi - The LORD is my Shepherd)	1Cor 5:7+ Isa 53:7+ Acts 8:32-34, 35+ 1 Pe 1:18-19+ 1 Pe 2:24+	Jn 20:20, 27 Rev 5:6, 9, 12+ Rev 19:7, 9+ Rev 21:22, 2+ Re 22:1, 3+
				<a href="#">Come Let Us Worship</a> <a href="#">Here I Am to Worship</a> <a href="#">We Bow Down</a>

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[Listen, watch and worship the Lamb of God!](#)

## RELATED RESOURCES:

- See in depth [200+ page verse by verse commentary](#) on John 10:1-42 - The Good Shepherd Who began the Sacrificial Lamb!
- [What does it mean that Jesus is the Lamb of God? | GotQuestions.org](#)
- [What does it mean that the Lord is my Shepherd \(Psalm 23\) | GotQuestions.org](#)
- [What did Jesus mean when He said, "I am the good Shepherd | GotQuestions.org](#)
- [How is Jesus the "True Shepherd" in John 10:1-5 | GotQuestions.org](#)
- [The Lamb of God in Scripture](#) - C H Spurgeon
- Blogpost: [THE LAMB OF GOD](#)
- Adrian Rogers article [Jesus: The Lamb of God](#)

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## International Standard Bible Encyclopedia - LAMB OF GOD

(ho amnos tou theou): This is a title specially bestowed upon our Lord by John the Baptist (John 1:29-36), "Behold, the Lamb of God, that taketh away the sin of the world!" In Testament of the Twelve Patriarchs an apocryphal book, probably of the 2nd century- we have the term used for the Messiah, "Honor Judah and Levi, for from them shall arise for you the Lamb of God, saving all nations by grace." But the term does not seem to have been of any general use until it received its distinctly Christian significance. It has been generally understood as referring to the prophetic language of Jeremiah 11:19, and Isaiah 53:7.

### 1. Sacrificial Sense of the Term:

It is far more probable, however, that the true source of the expression is to be found in the important place which the "lamb" occupies in the sacrifices, especially of the Priestly Code. In these there was the lamb of the daily morning and evening sacrifice. How familiar this would be to the Baptist, being a member of a priestly family! On the Sabbath the number of the offerings was doubled, and at some of the great festivals a still larger number were laid upon the altar (see Exodus 29:38 Numbers 28:3, 9, 13). The lamb of the Passover would also occupy a large place in the mind of a devout Israelite, and, as the Passover was not far off, it is quite possible that John may have referred to this as well as to other suggested ideas connected with the lamb. The sacrificial significance of the term seems to be far more probable than the mere comparison of the character of our Lord with meekness and gentleness, as suggested by the words of the prophets, although these contain much more than the mere reference to character (see below). That this became the clearly defined conception of apostolic teaching is clear from passages in Paul and Peter (1 Corinthians 5:7 1 Peter 1:18 f). In the Book of Revelation the reference to the Lamb occurs 27 times. The word here used differs from that in John. The amnos of the Gospel has become the arnion of the Apocalypse, a diminutive form suggestive of affection. This is the word used by our Lord in His rebuke and forgiveness of Peter (John 21:15), and is peculiarly touched therefore with an added meaning of pathetic tenderness. Westcott, in his Commentary on John 1:29, refers to the conjecture that there may have been flocks of lambs passing by on their way to Jerusalem to be used at the feast. This is possible, but fanciful. As applied to Christ, the term certainly suggests the meekness and gentleness of our Lord's nature and work, but could not have been used by John without containing some reference to the place which the lamb bore in the Judaic ritualism.

### 2. As Variouslly Understood:

The significance of the Baptist's words has been variously understood. Origen, Cyril, Chrysostom, among the ancients, Lucke, DeWette, Meyer, Ewald, Alford, among the moderns, refer it to Isaiah 53:7; Grotius, Bengel, Hengstenberg, to the paschal lamb; Baumgarten-Crusius, etc., to the sin offering; Lange strongly urges the influence of the passage in Isaiah 53, and refers to John's description of his own mission under the influence of the second part of Isaiah, in which he is supported by Schaff. The importance of the Isaiah-thought is found in Matthew 8:17 Acts 8:32 1 Peter 2:22-25.

### 3. As Set Forth by Isaiah:

It is to be observed that the Septuagint in Isaiah 53:7 translates the Hebrew word for sheep (seh), by the Greek word for lamb. In 53:10, the prophet's "suffering one" is said to have made "his soul an offering for Isaiah sin," and in 53:4 "he hath borne our griefs," where bearing involves the conception of sin offering, and as possessing justifying power, the idea of "taking away." John indeed uses not the Septuagint word (pherein), but (airein), and some have maintained that this simply means "put away" or "support," or "endure." But this surely loses the suggestion of the associated term "lamb," which John could not have employed without some reference to its sacrificial and therefore expiatory force. What Lange calls a "germ perception" of atonement must certainly have been in the Baptist's mind, especially when we recall the Isaiah-passages, even though there may not have been any complete dogmatic conception of the full relation of the death of Christ to the salvation of a world. Even the idea of the bearing of the curse of

sin may not be excluded, for it was impossible for an Israelite like John, and especially with his surroundings, to have forgotten the significance of the paschal lamb, both in its memorial of the judgment of Egypt, as well as of the deliverance of Israel. Notwithstanding every effort to take out of this striking phrase its deeper meanings, which involve most probably the combination of all the sources above described, it must ever remain one of the richest mines of evangelical thought. It occupies, in the doctrine of atonement, a position analogous to that brief word of the Lord, "God is a Spirit" (John 4:24), in relation to the doctrine of God.

The Lamb is defined as "of God," that is, of Divine providing. See Isaiah 53 Revelation 5:6; Revelation 13:8. Its emphatic and appointed office is indicated by the definite article, and whether we refer the conception to a specific sacrifice or to the general place of a lamb in the sacrificial institution, they all, as being appointed by and specially set apart for God, suggest the close relation of our Lord to the Divine Being, and particularly to His expiatory sacrifice.

L. D. Bevan