

Behold, the Lamb of God!

Promise: Jesus bears our sins so that we might live to righteousness

Pastor Timothy A. Duesenberg

Isaiah 49:1-7; Psalm 40:1-12; 1 Cor 1:1-9; [John 1:29-42a](#)
(2nd Sunday after the Epiphany, 1/19/20)

The next day [John] saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"
— v.29

Lead In – When athletic teams name themselves after animals they pride themselves in coming up with names like Lions, Tigers, Bears, Jaguars, or even Wolverines or Badgers. What's up with calling yourself Gophers? But of all the names I have heard I've never run across the Lambs. The Ram's yes, but not the Little Lambs... So why the association of a lamb with Christ our Lord?

I. Israel's Rich Association with Sacrificial Animals

- Abel's offering from his flock...
- The incredible testing of Abraham at Mt Moriah...
- Passover Lamb on Eve of the Exodus...
- The scapegoat on the Day of Atonement...

II. The Mystery of Isaiah's Suffering Servant

- All we like sheep have gone astray...
- He is like a lamb led to the slaughter...
- He bears our iniquities and makes us righteous!

III. So when John Points to Jesus And Says...

- He points to Jesus as the sin bearer...
- He points to His in being slaughtered for our sins!
- He points to Jesus as our Passover from death...

Parting Shot – Speaking of the Passover Meal, as the houses of all the Hebrews had their doorframes painted with the blood of the Passover Lamb which had been earlier sacrificed and eaten; so we have painted, so to speak, the door of our lips with the sacramental and supernatural blood of our Savior as we partake of His body and blood in Holy Communion. This because Jesus is the Lamb of God.

Gen 4:4 and Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat portions. And the LORD had regard for Abel and his offering,

Gen 22:2 He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you."

Gen 22:8 Abraham said, "God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So they went both of them together.

Gen 22: And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son.

Ex 12:3 Tell all the congregation of Israel that on the tenth day of this month every man shall take a lamb according to their fathers' houses, a lamb for a household.

Lev 16:21 And Aaron shall lay both his hands on the head of the live goat, and confess over it all the iniquities of the people of Israel, and all their transgressions, all their sins. And he shall put them on the head of the goat and send it away into the wilderness.

John 1:29-42a ESV

Behold, the Lamb of God

²⁹The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!

³⁰This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me.' ³¹I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel." ³²And John bore witness: "I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. ³³I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' ³⁴And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God."

³⁵The next day again John was standing with two of his disciples, ³⁶and he looked at Jesus as he walked by and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God!" ³⁷The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. ³⁸Jesus turned and saw them following and said to them, "What are you seeking?" And they said to him, "Rabbi" (which means Teacher), "where are you staying?" ³⁹He said to them, "Come and you will see." So they came and saw where he was staying, and they stayed with him that day, for it was about the tenth hour. ⁴⁰One of the two who heard John speak and followed Jesus was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. ⁴¹He first found his own brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which means Christ). ⁴²He brought him to Jesus.

Is 53:6 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.

Is 53:7 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.

He was wounded for our transgressions (5), His soul makes an offering for sin (10), He will make many to be accounted righteous (11)

1 Pet 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.

1 Pet 1:18-19 you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot.

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