

Lesson Notes:

Jesus, Truly the Lamb of God

Until Jesus' atoning sacrifice for our sins men and women were forced to sacrifice lambs and other animals to cover their sins. This demonstrates to us the seriousness of sin. In addition, it was not acceptable to take your prayers and petitions directly before God prior to the death of our Lord Jesus. The reason for this is because God cannot tolerate sin in his presence. Because of Jesus' sacrifice for us he has taken away our sins so that we may enjoy fellowship with God. Following are reasons that assure us that Jesus truly is the Lamb of God that takes away the sins of the world.

Scriptural Principles

- 1) **John the Baptist recognized Jesus as the Lamb and the Son of God** – In **John 1:29-34** when John saw Jesus walking toward him to be baptized he saw a dove from heaven descend upon Jesus and he recognized him both as the son and Lamb of God.
- 2) **The Old Testament Prophets predicted that the Lamb of God would be despised and rejected of Men.** – In **Isaiah 53:3-9** the prophet Isaiah describes the rejection of Jesus and what he endured during his mission on earth. In **Matthew 26:55-56** when the Pharisees came to the Garden of Gethsemane to take Jesus they carried clubs and swords and his own disciples fled. In **Matthew 26:67-68** the Sanhedrin spat on him, mocked him and slapped him.
- 3) **Jesus was a Man of compassion** – Even though he was despised by men John records in **John 11:33-35** how Jesus healed the sick and the down trodden. In **Luke 18:35-42** Jesus wept at Lazarus Sister' sorrows.
- 4) **Our Sorrow and death is caused by our own sin.** – In **Genesis 3:13, 15-19** we find that as a result of our original sin we experience death and sorrow.
- 5) **In contrast Jesus was without sin and his sorrows were a result of him bearing our sins.** – The writer in **Hebrews 4:14-16** and **Hebrews 9:26 -28** tells us that Jesus was without sin. Had he not been sinless he would not have been an acceptable sacrifice for our sins.
- 6) **Jesus carried the sorrow of "loneliness".** – In **Matthew 26:35-41**(Garden of Gethsemane) the disciples would not even stay awake with him. In **Luke 2:46-50** his own Mother Mary did not understand his full purpose and calling. But in **John 19:25-27** in a courageous act of love while suffering and dying on the cross he makes provision for the care of his own mother.

- 7) **Jesus reveals to Nicodemus and us all that he is the Son of God – In John 3:14-17** Jesus tells Nicodemus that he is the son of God and what his true purpose is on earth.

- 8) **When Jesus died the veil in the temple ripped in two – In Matthew 27:51** at the exact moment Jesus yielded up his spirit the veil in the temple which separated God and Man split in two which signified that man's sin debt had been paid. We no longer needed to sacrifice lambs and goats to cover our sins and the nation of Israel no longer needed a priest to make yearly sacrifices on their account. Now all of us can take our prayers and petitions before God because of the atoning sacrifice by our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.