

“Lamb of God”

1. Picture of the Lamb (Exod. 12:1-30, 43-51)
 - a. A lamb was to be taken and slaughtered for a family to eat.
 - b. Its blood was to be painted on the door posts so as to mark those of faith.
 - c. It was to be a male lamb w/o blemish and none of its bones were to be broken (see Jn. 19:33-36 cf. Ps. 34:20)
 - d. It's more than a picture I know, it was a real event with real people putting faith in the living God and it was to be observed as an everlasting ordinance (Exod. 12:14). But more on that later.
2. Proclamation of the Lamb (Jn. 1:29)
 - a. Jesus is the ultimate Passover Lamb and by His perfect (unblemished) offering, He “takes away the sin of the world!” 1 Cor 2:8
 - b. There is a progressive revelation where we see a single animal (perhaps a lamb) slain for a man (Adam) to be covered. Then, we see in the Exodus a lamb sacrificed for a family. Later we see a lamb slain for the sins of the nation and finally we see the perfect Lamb from heaven (Jn. 3:13) slain (Jn. 3:14) for the entire world (Jn. 3:16).
3. Power of the Lamb
 - a. In Jn. 2:19 after Jesus chastised those in the Temple; He proclaimed, “Destroy this Temple and in three days I will raise it up.” See vv. 20-22.
 - b. In Jn. 10:11, 15-18 we see again how Jesus promised that He would take up His life again – but after **He** laid it down!
 - c. We see here why John called Him the “Lamb of God.” Jesus would lay down His life as an atoning sacrifice for those who put their faith in Him i.e. His sheep.
4. Purification of the Lamb
 - a. In Matt. 26:26-28 Jesus is celebrating Passover with His Disciples and He took the bread and the cup and said that it was His body and “blood of the new covenant which is shed for many for the remission of sins.”
 - b. It was literally during the Passover Feast when Jesus offered up Himself as “the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.”
 - c. 1 Pet. 1:18-19. [Communion here] Isa 52:13-53:12
5. Preeminence of the Lamb
 - a. Because it was not possible for death to hold Him (Acts 2:24), The Lamb of the New Covenant rose, conquering death (Mk. 16:6) and becoming the firstfruits (1 Cor. 15:20) of our living hope (1 Pet. 1:3-4).
 - b. In the most glorious book and (perhaps) in its most glorious chapter; we see the slain – yet holy and majestic – perfectly righteous triumphant Lamb celebrated as He – the only One worthy – took the scroll to open it. Read Rev. 5:1-10. →
 - c. And by virtue of His vicarious victory, the “everlasting” Passover ordinance is perpetually fulfilled. His work and our redemption is complete! It is finished yet the results are perpetually existential. Such is why Jesus could take an ordinance which was to be practiced perpetually and apply it to His atoning work of which He now rests! In fact, all of the OT ordinances are fulfilled in His person and work (e.g. Col. 2:9-15).
 - d. In the greeting of the letter, the Lamb is seen as the “faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth ... who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood...” (1:5).
 - e. He is “the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End who is, who was, and who is to come” (8).

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- f. He is the One “who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore. Amen. And I have the keys to Hades and death” (18).
- g. And He is the One for whom those of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues; and including all creatures above and below, will praise forevermore (Rev. 7:9-10).

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I believe there will come a day when “every knee [will] bow... and every tongue will confess that Jesus Messiah is Lord” (Phil. 2:10-11). Oh, don’t you just wish that every soul would recognize such today? It is precisely why most do not acknowledge such that we experience such turmoil. It’s not ultimately political, financial, or social turmoil which causes our real trouble, but such tribulation flows from the depravity of our spiritual unrighteousness – not trusting God (Jn. 3:18-20)! And to believe that any financial, social, or political ideal is the answer is utter delusion for which the evil one strives. God implores us and the Scripture commands us to repent and trust in the LORD’s provision for our salvation (Acts 17:30). When we look to any other “remedy,” we construct an idol of our own delusion – an idol which is helpless to save. We must instead look to the “living God” (not dead and impotent idols) and put our faith in the One “who lives, was dead, (and now raised) and is alive forevermore (Rev. 1:18)! Hence, we can inherit an incorruptible and imperishable redemption which cannot be taken away (cf. 1 Pet. 1:18-19). And we are assured of this by the witnessed, affirmed, recorded, and experienced resurrection of Jesus Messiah (cf. 1 Cor. 15:1-34)!