

The Life of Christ

Course 2

Jesus said, "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life..." John 14:6

Lesson 4



Jesus Christ...

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- Lesson 3 The Great Teacher
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- Lesson 5 The Risen Lord
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Jesus Christ

The Lamb of GOD

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*"Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world."
John 1:29*

Dear Friend,

The Lord Jesus has many wonderful names, and each name tells us something about Him - who He is and what He has done for us. In this lesson we will be thinking about Jesus as "the Lamb of God."

When John the Baptist first saw Jesus he said, "Behold the Lamb of God, which takes away the sin of the world." When we come to the last book of the Bible, we find that it is "the Lamb" who is upon the throne of God. But what does this name mean?

To understand why Jesus is called "the Lamb of God", we must go to the Old Testament. Throughout the Old Testament there are many "types" of salvation. A "type" is something which pictures or illustrates a spiritual truth. For example, when a person offered a lamb as a sacrifice for his sins, it was a type or picture to show that the Lord Jesus would one day die on the cross for our sins.

In this lesson we are going to consider some of these types or pictures of our salvation and see what God has to teach us from them. We will see why Jesus is called "the Lamb of God."

•The Animals Slain for Adam and Eve

The Bible says that the first man, Adam, was created by God. God created a wife for Adam and her name was Eve. The Bible says that the image of God." And here is something even more wonderful - they were created in such a way that God Himself could dwell in their hearts.



Jesus is the Lamb of God.

God placed Adam and Eve in a beautiful garden called "the Garden of Eden." There were fruit trees of all kinds in this garden. God told them that they could freely eat the fruit of every tree except one. God said,

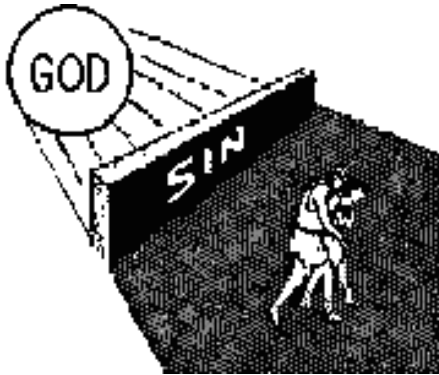
"Of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat of it: for in the day that you eat thereof you shall surely die." Genesis 2:17

Each evening God came down and walked and talked with Adam and Eve. How happy they were! But, one day, someone else came into the garden. It was Satan. He was in the form of a serpent.

Satan told Eve that, if she and her husband ate the forbidden fruit, they would not die as God had said, but they would be like gods. Eve believed Satan instead of believing God. She took the fruit and ate it.

She gave the fruit to Adam and he ate it also. Adam and Eve sinned. They disobeyed God.

God had said, "In the day that you eat thereof you shall surely die." Did Adam and Eve die physically the day? No, they did not. But they died spiritually. This means that they were separated from God. It was their sin that separated them from God.



Before Adam and Eve sinned, they did not need clothing. They were clothed with God's "glory light." Now that they had sinned, this glory light was gone. The Bible says,

*"the eyes of them both they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons."
Genesis 3:7*

When God came to walk with them that evening, Adam and Eve tried to hide from God. They were afraid of God because they knew they had sinned.

God called them to Himself. The aprons of fig leaves which Adam and Eve had made for themselves were not acceptable to God. The Bible says that God clothed them with "coats of skins."

Where did the coats of skins come from? They came from animals. God killed innocent animals to provide the coats of skins for Adam and Eve.

God taught Adam and Eve that something had to die for sin. The Bible says that without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins (Hebrew 9:22). This shows us how terrible sin is in God's sight.



Remember: Without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins. This great truth is taught throughout the entire Bible.

•The Offerings of Cain and Abel

Another "picture" or type of salvation is given in the story of Cain and Abel. Cain and Abel were the sons of Adam and Eve. Cain was a farmer - he grew things to eat. Abel took care of the sheep.

These two sons had been taught the true way to worship God. They knew that they must offer a lamb as a sacrifice for their sins.

When it was time to bring their offerings to the Lord, Abel brought a lamb and offered it as a sacrifice for his sins. But Cain did not bring a lamb; instead, he brought some of the beautiful fruits that he had been growing.

The Bible says that God accepted Abel's offering, but He rejected Cain's offering. It is important for us to know why God was pleased with one offering and displeased with the other.

God accepted Abel's offering because Abel obeyed Him and offered a lamb which is a type or

picture of the Lord Jesus dying for our sins.



God rejected Cain's offering because Cain did not obey Him. Instead of offering a lamb as a sacrifice for his sins, Cain did what he thought was right. But God did not accept his offering.



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What is God teaching us in the story of Cain and Abel? He is teaching us that there is only one way sinful men can approach a holy God. We must come trusting Christ's blood which was shed for our sins. The Bible says,

*"... it is the blood that makes and atonement for the soul."
Leviticus 17:11*

•The Passover Lamb

We come now to another wonderful type of our salvation - the Passover.

God's people, the Jews, were in Egypt. They were slaves of

Pharaoh, the king of Egypt. Pharaoh was very cruel to them, so the children of Israel cried to the Lord. God heard their cry and sent Moses to lead them out of the land of Egypt.

God told Moses to go to Pharaoh and say, "Thus says the Lord God of Israel, Let My people go.

But Pharaoh would not let the children of Israel go. He said, "Who is the Lord that I should obey His voice?"

God gave Moses power to bring nine great plagues, or judgments, on the land of Egypt. Each time there was a plague on the land, Pharaoh would promise to let the children of Israel go. But, when Moses removed the plague, Pharaoh would change his mind and refuse to let them go.

Then, one day, God told Moses that He was going to send one final plague on the land. He would send His death angel over the land, and the oldest son in every house would die. God said, "Pharaoh will surely let you go after this."

God made provision for His people so that their oldest sons would not die. Each family was to set aside a lamb. The lamb must be perfect - without any blemish. They were to keep the lamb for four days, then kill it. They were to take the blood of the lamb and put it on the top and the sides of the doorway of their house. This blood would protect their oldest son from death. God said,

*"... when I see the blood, I will pass over you."
Exodus 12:13*

It happened just as God had said. The death angel passed through the land and in every house that did not have the blood on the doorposts, the oldest son died. In every house that had the blood on the doorposts, the oldest son died. In every house that had the blood on the doorposts, the

oldest son lived. He was safe! It was the blood of the lamb that protected him from God's judgment.



What is God teaching using the story of the Passover? He is teaching us that it is the blood of Jesus Christ that protects us from God's judgment. Christ is our Lamb. The Bible says,

"For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us." 1 Corinthians 5:7

When we take Christ as our Savior, we are protected by His blood. When God looks into our heart and sees that we are trusting in Christ's blood, He says, "I will pass over you. My judgment will not fall on you."

•The Lamb as a Sacrifice

After the children of Israel left Egypt, they crossed over the Red Sea. At Mount Sinai, God gave them the Ten Commandments. These commandments told them what was right and what was wrong in God's sight.

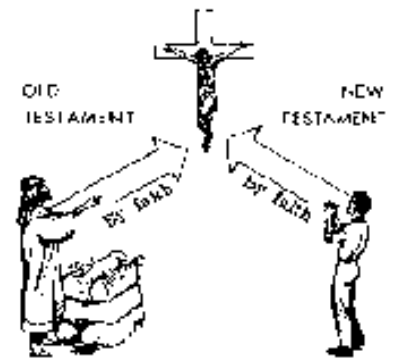
Because they had sinful hearts, the children of Israel did not keep God's holy laws. This meant that they were sinners and under the penalty of death. But God made provision for them so they could be forgiven of their sins.

The person who wanted to be forgiven could bring a lamb to the tabernacle as a sacrifice for his sins. He laid his hands upon the

lamb and said something like this, "I have sinned, but God has allowed this lamb to die in my place." That lamb died for the sins of that person.

For thousands of years, men sacrificed animals as God had told them to do. The blood of these animals did not take away their sins; these sacrifices were simply types or pictures of Christ's death for us. Their many sacrifices pointed forward to the one sacrifice of Christ on the cross.

Old Testament believers were saved by Christ's death on the cross just as we are, but there is one difference. They were saved by looking forward in faith to Christ's death, and we are saved by looking back in faith to His death on the cross.



•Jesus is Our Lamb

In this lesson we have learned a great truth: Without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.

Perhaps by now you are wondering, "Why don't we offer a lamb as a sacrifice for our sins?"

The reason we do not offer a lamb as a sacrifice is because Jesus is the Lamb of God and He died for our sins. Jesus is the real Lamb - the fulfillment of the types in the Old Testament. When John the Baptist saw Jesus, he said,

"Behold the Lamb of God, which takes away the sin of the world." John 1:29



What does this name "The Lamb of God" mean? It means that **Jesus Christ is the perfect and complete sacrifice for our sins.** There is no need for us to offer a sacrifice because Jesus died for our sins.

Because He was sinless, Jesus could take our place and die for our sins. Because He was the Son of God, He could die for the sins of the whole world. The Bible says,

"He is the propitiation (the perfect sacrifice) for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world."
1 John 2:2

The Lord Jesus was crucified about nine o'clock in the morning. He died about three o'clock in the afternoon. Before Jesus died, He cried out, **"It is finished!"**

What did Jesus mean when He cried out, "It is finished"? He meant that He had finished the work He came to do. He

had offered Himself as the perfect and complete sacrifice for sins. There need never be another sacrifice for sins. The Bible says,

"But this man (Jesus Christ), after He had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God. For by one offering He has perfected for ever them that are sanctified."

Many imperfect sacrifices ^{Heb. 10:1-14} **IC** One perfect sacrifice

•We Are Justified Forever

The Bible says that we are "justified" by Christ's blood, that is, by His death on the cross for us.

What does it mean to be "justified"? It means to be declared righteous in God's sight. It means to be declared "Not guilty!" by God Himself.

How can God forgive us of our sins and declare us righteous when we have committed so many sins? God forgives us because He sees Christ's perfect and complete sacrifice for us. God does not overlook our sins, but He forgives them because He sees the blood of His Son which was shed for them. The Bible says,

"... we have redemption through His blood, even the forgiveness of sins."
Colossians 1:14



Our enemy, Satan, likes to remind us of our sins and failures. He likes to condemn us and make us feel guilty.

It is true that we have sinned. Even after we are saved, we say and do wrong things. But God has told us what to do about our sins. We are to confess them to Him asking Him to cleanse us with the precious blood of Christ. Then, we are to believe that God has forgiven us. The Bible says,

"... the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin." 1 John 1:7b

On the cross, the Lord Jesus paid for all our sins, even the ones we commit after we are saved.

When Satan condemns us by pointing to our sins, we can answer him by pointing to blood of Christ. We can say, "Yes, I have sinned, but the blood of Jesus Christ, God's Son, cleanses me from all sin."

God has said that He will never again bring up our sins against us. And what's more, He will not allow anyone else to do so! The Bible says,

"Who shall lay anything to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth." Romans 8:33

Because Jesus died on the cross for us as the Lamb of God, we are justified forever. We no longer have to be afraid to come to God. Through the blood of Christ we can come boldly into His presence. The Bible says,

"Having therefore, brethren boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus ... Let us draw near (to God) with a true heart in full assurance of faith...."
Hebrews 10:19,22



Discovered Gem

Jesus Christ is the Lamb of God, the perfect and complete sacrifice for our sins.


QUIET TIME HIGHLIGHTS Week - 4

There is a Bible passage listed for each day. Read it carefully. Write out the verse(s) that impress you most. Then write down in your own words what it is in the verse(s) that impresses you. Perhaps you have a personal need that the Lord answers for you in the Scripture. Or perhaps He shows you something about Himself that you have not known before. This is YOUR Personal Quiet Time with the Lord, so keep it personal.

 **MONDAY** **Read: John 6:22-29**

Verse(s) that impressed me most: _____

This is what impresses me about the verse(s) _____

 **TUESDAY** **Read: John 6:30-35**


Verses(s) that impressed me most: _____

This is what impresses me about the verses(s) _____

 **WEDNESDAY** **Read: John 5:36-40**


Verse(s) that impressed me most: _____

This is what impresses me about the verse(s): _____

 **THURSDAY** **Read: John 6:41-59**


Verse(s) that impressed me most: _____

This is what impresses me about the verse(s): _____

 **FRIDAY** **Read : John 6:60-71**

Verse(s) that impressed me most: _____

This is what impressed me about the verse(s) _____

 **SATURDAY** **Read: John 7:1-13**

Verse(s) that impressed me most: _____

This is what impresses me about the verse(s): _____

 **SUNDAY** **Read: John 7:14-24**

Verse(s) that impressed me most: _____

This is what impresses me about the verse(s): _____

QUESTIONS PAGES

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Turn to the Questions page as you finish each lesson. Fill in the answers for that lesson before going on to next lesson.
2. When you have studied the lessons and have completed both Question Pages, carefully detach these question pages from the center of the book. Fold for mailing and place a First Class stamp in the proper place.

Don't forget to write in your name and return address.

Send in your ANSWER SHEETS ONLY!

Save your lessons for future reference Course

QUESTIONS

INSTRUCTIONS: Select the best answer (a), (b), or c, and write it in the square provided.

- 1. A "type" in the Old Testament is...
 - (a) a commandment from God.
 - (b) a story which primarily tells of an historical fact.
 - (c) Something which pictures or illustrates a spiritual truth.
- 2. When God killed innocent animals to provide coats of skin for Adam and Eve, He was teaching them the great Biblical truth that...
 - (a) the blood of animals can forgive sins.
 - (b) without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.
 - (c) sin is not a serious thing and God will easily overlook it.
- 3. God accepted Abel's offering but rejected Cain's. God is teaching us in this story that...
 - (a) He will accept whatever man does so long as he means well.
 - (b) there is only one way man can approach God, and that is by trusting Christ's blood which was shed for our sins.
 - (c) Abel must have been a better person than Cain.
- 4. The story of the Passover teaches us that...
 - (a) the blood of Jesus Christ protects us from God's judgment.
 - (b) all the Jews were saved from the Death Angel.
 - (c) the oldest sons were saved from death because they lived holy lives.
- 5. Both Old Testament believers and New Testament believers are saved by...
 - (a) living good, moral lives.
 - (b) Jesus Christ's death on the cross.
 - (c) believing there is a god.

- 6. We do not offer a lamb as a sacrifice for our sins today because...
 - (a) Jesus is the real Lamb of God and He has died for all our sins.
 - (b) churches do not have altars for offering animal sacrifices.
 - (c) God is a God of love and He just overlooks our sin.
- 7. Jesus is called the Lamb of God because
 - (a) Jesus sacrificed lambs for us.
 - (b) He was like a lamb in need of a Shepherd.
 - (c) He is God's perfect and complete sacrifice for our sins.
- 8. When the Lord Jesus cried out on the cross, "It is finished," He revealed to us that His primary purpose for coming to earth was...
 - (a) to offer Himself as the perfect and complete sacrifice for our sins.
 - (b) to be a moral teacher.
 - (c) to work miracles.
- 9. To be "justified" means
 - (a) to live good lives
 - (b) that God does not think that our sins are important.
 - (c) to be declared "not guilty" by God Himself.
- 10. God forgives us, even though we sin, because
 - (a) He pretends our sins are not there.
 - (b) He sees Christ's perfect and complete sacrifice for us.
 - (c) We are trying our best to do what is right.

What is the most important thing you have learned in this lesson? _____

PLEASE PRINT You must return answer sheet before you get next lesson.

Name _____ Phone _____ Age _____

Parent's name _____ Apt# _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

