

“ BEHOLD THE LAMB OF GOD!” – JOHN 1:36.

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NOTE: - All Bible texts are taken from the King James Version; and the compiler has supplied all emphasis throughout this Study Document.

THE LAMB OF GOD HAD TO BE SLAIN: -

- The apostle Paul has laid down a foundational principle concerning the forgiveness of sins, and that is, “without shedding of blood is no remission” (Hebrews 9:22). This principle is foundational to the whole of the Christian gospel. It gives us the reason **WHY** Jesus “laid down his life for us” (1 John 3:16).
- The apostle John in holy vision saw in the midst of the throne of God in heaven, “stood a Lamb as it had been slain” (Revelation 5:6).

Because of this truth of the slain Lamb, the heavenly angels proclaim, “Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing” (Revelation 5:12).

THE LAMB SLAIN FROM THE FOUNDATION OF THE WORLD: -

- The apostle Peter records that Jesus “was foreordained before the foundation of the world” (1 Peter 1:20) to be the Lamb of God to redeem us by his Own blood.

The apostle John also records the fact that Jesus was “the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world” (Revelation 13:8).

In other words, the Father and the Son conceived of the gospel of our salvation founded upon the death of Christ, before the foundation of this world was laid.

This plan was conceived of in eternity, as Paul has recorded for us concerning “the grace of God that bringeth salvation” (Titus 2:11) that “according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began” (2 Timothy 1:9).

GOD HIMSELF SHALL PROVIDE THE LAMB: -

- The godly patriarch Abraham when his son Isaac asked him where was the lamb for their burnt offering, responded, “My son, God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering” (Genesis 22:8).

Here is a clear principle of the gospel in type. As God did himself provide for Abraham a “ram”, so that he “offered him up for a burnt offering in the stead of his son” (Genesis 22:13), God himself would provide the Lamb that would be offered up as a sacrifice for the sins of the world.

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.” (John 3:16 & 17.)

“God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him” (1 John 4:9.)

The apostle John has recorded for us concerning the Father, that he “sent his Son [to be] the propitiation for our sins.” (1 John 4:10.)

“The Father sent the Son [to be] the Saviour of the world” (1 John 4:14.)

- Because of this truth concerning the Father himself sending his Only Son to be the Lamb of God to save the world, the redeemed in heaven proclaim, “Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb” (Revelation 7:10.)

THE LAMB OF GOD WHO SHALL TAKE AWAY THE SINS OF THE WORLD: -

- The message that John the Baptist proclaimed pointing out Jesus Christ to be the Lamb of God who was to take away the sins of the world, is just as relevant today as it was 2, 000 years ago.
“The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.” (John 1:29.)

The apostle John clearly indicated that “Jesus Christ the righteous” is indeed “the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for [the sins of] the whole world” (1 John 2:1 & 2.)

John exhorts his readers that they should “know that he was manifested to take away our sins” (1 John 3:5.)

- The apostle Paul has testified concerning Christ that “he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself” (Hebrews 9:26.)

OUR REDEMPTION IS THROUGH THE PRECIOUS BLOOD OF THE LAMB: -

- The apostle Peter wrote in his first epistle that we “were not redeemed with corruptible things, [as] silver and gold”. No indeed, our redemption has been obtained with something far more precious than gold or silver, “But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.” (1 Peter 1:18 & 19.)
- The apostle Paul wrote of Jesus, “in whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins” (Ephesians 1:7.)

He repeated this teaching in his epistle to the Colossians, “in whom we have redemption through his blood, [even] the forgiveness of sins.” (Colossians 1:14.)

- Referring to the justification that comes by God’s grace, Paul also referred to “the redemption that is in Christ Jesus” (Romans 3:24.)

Paul also wrote that “Christ Jesus” has been “made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption” (1 Corinthians 1:30).

- Jesus as our great Heavenly High Priest, “by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place¹, having obtained eternal redemption [for us]” (Hebrews 9:12).
- The apostle John recorded in his book of Revelation concerning “the Lamb”, that the twenty-four elders who surround the throne of God, praise him because “thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation” (Revelation 5:8 & 9).

THE SPOTLESS LAMB OF GOD: -

- In the typical sacrificial system the Lord commanded the children of Israel, that the animal sacrifices all had to be “without spot” (Numbers 19:2); “Your lamb shall be without blemish” (Exodus 12:5). This no doubt was a shadow pointing forward to the **sinlessness** of Jesus Christ as the perfect Lamb of God.

The Scriptures have recorded repeatedly the fact that Jesus Christ was truly the **sinless** and **righteous** Lamb of God.

Jesus asked the Jews of his day, “Which of you convinceth me of sin?” (John 8:46).

The apostle Paul wrote concerning Christ “who knew no sin” (2 Corinthians 5:21).

“For such an high priest became us, [who is] holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners” (Hebrews 7:26).

Christ “offered himself without spot to God” (Hebrews 9:14).

The apostle Peter wrote concerning Christ “who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth.” (1 Peter 2:22).

Peter also wrote that Christ has redeemed us with his blood as “a lamb without blemish and without spot” (1 Peter 1:19).

The apostle John recorded that “in him is no sin” (1 John 3:5).

The first Christian martyr Stephen proclaimed Jesus to be “the Just One” (Acts 7:52).

The apostle Peter accused the Jews of having “denied the Holy One and the Just” (Acts 3:14).

The apostle Peter has also recorded in his 1st epistle that “Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust” (1 Peter 3:18).

¹ The Greek expression that has been translated as “into the holy place” is “eis ta hagia”. It literally can be translated as “into the sanctuary”.

The apostle John has pointed us when we sin to “Jesus Christ the righteous” (1 John 2:1) as our Advocate with God the Father.

☞ Truly Jesus Christ was offered up as the sinless, just and righteous Lamb of God.

JESUS WAS MEEK AND GENTLE AS A LAMB: -

- The gospel prophet Isaiah likened Jesus’ meek and quiet submission to the mistreatment that he suffered at his trials and crucifixion to the gentleness of a lamb before its shearer.

“He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth.” (Isaiah 53:7.)

“And the high priest arose, and said unto him, Answerest thou nothing? what [is it which] these witness against thee? But Jesus held his peace.” (Matthew 26:62 & 63.)

“And when he was accused of the chief priests and elders, he answered nothing. Then said Pilate unto him, Hearest thou not how many things they witness against thee? And he answered him to never a word; insomuch that the governor marvelled greatly.” (Matthew 27:12 - 14.)

“And when Herod saw Jesus, he was exceeding glad: for he was desirous to see him of a long [season], because he had heard many things of him; and he hoped to have seen some miracle done by him. Then he questioned with him in many words; but he answered him nothing.” (Luke 23:8 & 9.)

“And went again into the judgment hall, and saith unto Jesus, Whence art thou? But Jesus gave him no answer.” (John 19:9.)

That this prophecy found fulfillment in the life of Jesus was confirmed in the story of the evangelist Philip and his preaching to the Ethiopian eunuch as recorded in the book of Acts. The eunuch was reading this very prophecy when Philip approached him, “The place of the scripture which he read was this, He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and like a lamb dumb before his shearer, so opened he not his mouth.” (Acts 8:32.)

The evangelist applied this prophecy to Jesus in the following unmistakable words, “Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus.” (Acts 8:35.)

THE BLOOD OF THE LAMB: -

- The redeemed who will come out “out of great tribulation” will “have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb” (Revelation 7:14).

The saints who overcome the Dragon, who is also called the Accuser of the Brethren, “overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony” (Revelation 12:11).

“The blood of Christ”, shall “purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God” (Hebrews 9:14).

“Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate.” (Hebrews 13:12.)

THE LAMB IS LORD OF LORDS AND KING OF KINGS: -

- The apostle Paul recorded concerning the “Lord Jesus Christ: Which in his times he shall show, [who is] the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords; Who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; whom no man hath seen, nor can see: to whom [be] honour and power everlasting. Amen.” (1 Timothy 6:14 - 16.)
- The apostle John has recorded the truth that the Lamb “is Lord of lords, and King of kings” (Revelation 17:14.)

As John saw the 2nd Coming of Jesus in prophetic vision, he saw the following scene and he saw also the name that is written upon the Lamb - “KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS”.

“And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him [was] called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. His eyes [were] as a flame of fire, and on his head [were] many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. And he [was] clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. And the armies [which were] in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And he hath on [his] vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.” (Revelation 19:11 - 16.)

☞ It should come as no surprise therefore that all creation shall proclaim, “And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying, Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, [be] unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever.” (Revelation 5:13.)