



Advent 2017
Jesus, God's Prophet
Jesus, God's High Priest
Jesus, King of kings
Jesus, the Lamb of God

Jesus, the Incredible Lamb of God

John 1:29-36; *The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"³⁰ This is the one I meant when I said, 'A man who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.'³¹ I myself did not know him, but the reason I came baptizing with water was that he might be revealed to Israel."*

³² *Then John gave this testimony: "I saw the Spirit come down from heaven as a dove and remain on him. ³³ And I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water told me, 'The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and remain is the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.'³⁴ I have seen and I testify that this is God's Chosen One."³⁵ The next day John was there again with two of his disciples. ³⁶ When he saw Jesus passing by, he said, "Look, the Lamb of God!"*

Who is Jesus to you? Do you recognize Him as John did, as the Lamb of God?

All of what God does and has done on our behalf is incredible. Consider what God does; calls simple people like you and I to be His messengers. He doesn't give up on us and instead calls us into a relationship with Him. He doesn't rule over us with force and might but with grace and love.

Now consider the Lamb of God, how incredible is His story as revealed in Isaiah 53:1-7; *Who has believed our message and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?² He grew up before him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of dry ground. **He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.** ³ **He was despised and rejected by mankind, a man of suffering, and familiar with pain.** Like one from whom people hide their faces he was despised, and **we held him in low esteem.** ⁴ **Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering,** yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted. ⁵ **But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities;** the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed. ⁶ **We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.** ⁷ **He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; he was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth.***

Jesus, the Lamb of God is our Eternal Lamb; Revelation 7:9-10, *"After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. And they cried out in a loud voice: "Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb." Verses 16 -17, "Never again will they hunger; never again will they thirst. The sun will not beat upon them, nor any scorching heat. For the lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd; he will lead them to springs of living water. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."*

Tomorrow is Christmas, as you open gifts and enjoy the fellowship of your family and friends, make sure that you take some time to bow to the lamb of God. Thank him and reflect on Peter's words from 1 Peter 1:18-21; *For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors, ¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. ²⁰ He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake. Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and so your faith and hope are in God.*

The most important decision we'll ever make lies with the Lamb of God. Have you been saved by the blood of Jesus? Is your name written in His book? Revelation 21:27; *Nothing impure will ever enter it, nor will anyone who does what is shameful or deceitful, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life.*

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