

The Lamb of God (John 1:19-34)

- In Biblical times names were never accidental. Mary was told by an angel to name her son Jesus because he would save His people from their sins
- Our Lord's name in Hebrew is 'Yeshua' which means Jehovah is salvation.
- Applied to Mary's son it makes a specific point: He is the Savior of the world
- Jesus is also ascribed many titles denoting His character or His work as Messiah
- 'Bread of Life' or 'Light of the World' or 'Wonderful Counsellor' 'Prince of Peace'
- At the start of his ministry 1 of his most striking titles was given: 'Lamb of God'

1. The Lamb Was Recognized (1:19-29)

- As the second Elijah John was to herald Christ "Savior of the World" (Mal 4:5)
- John clearly identifies himself (vs 20:23) when questioned by the Pharisees
- His task was simply to call God's covenant people back to their God & Messiah
- The announcement was also a warning to faithless Israel of coming judgment
- Note also the activity of John (vs. 24-28) the Pharisees were intrigued with him
- They questioned why he baptized Jews and where he got his authority from
- The Pharisees did not understand John's message so He testifies to who Jesus is
- Vs 29 John says '*He is the Lamb of God*' – He is the sacrificial lamb
- '*Jesus takes away the sin of the world*' He is God's provision for lost people
- This does not mean Jesus pays the ransom for every sinner in the world
- If so then every sinner in the world would be saved, Jesus was not a universalist
- Jesus would be contradicting himself when he prays not for the world (Jhn 17:9)
- It also does not mean Jesus only made such salvation possible (Jhn 6:37, 39)
- Intention of Jesus' death for the world is for a particular people out of the world

2. The Mission of the Lamb (1: 30-34)

- As the lamb of God, Jesus takes the place of guilty sinners & pays their sin debt
- John testifies that Jesus is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit

3. Claims of the Lamb

- The Lamb of God is God's free grace provision for guilty lost sinners
- The Lamb of God establishes the pattern of true discipleship (Phil 2: 5-8)
- The Lamb of God is the judge of everyone who will live upon this earth
- The Lamb of God is Himself the very glory of heaven- He is exalted above all