

THE LAMB OF GOD

John 1:29-34

29 The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! **30** "This is He of whom I said, 'After me comes a Man who is preferred before me, for He was before me.' **31** "I did not know Him; but that He should be revealed to Israel, therefore I came baptizing with water." **32** And John bore witness, saying, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and He remained upon Him. **33** "I did not know Him, but He who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'Upon whom you see the Spirit descending, and remaining on Him, this is He who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' **34** "And I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God."

STUDY QUESTION #1

29 “*The next day*” ???

- What happened the day before?
 - “The Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, “Who are you?” (Verse 19 and following)
- And the day after?
 - “Again, the next day, John stood with two of his disciples. And looking at Jesus as He walked, he said, “Behold the Lamb of God!” (Verse 35 and following)
- What is the sequence of events in this story?
 - John the Baptist comes to the Jordan River and preaches and baptizes
 - Jesus comes from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized (Matthew 3:13 and following)
 - Jesus is led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted/tested by the devil (Matthew 4:1 and following)
 - John continues to preach and baptize
 - Big crowd – curious and troubled leaders in Jerusalem send questioners to find out who John is and why he is baptizing
 - Jesus returns from 40 days in the wilderness, and John sees Jesus coming toward him and says, “Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!”
 - Two of John’s disciples hear him and follow after Jesus (Philip and Andrew – John’s disciples, now Jesus’ disciples – His first two!
 - “THE FOLLOWING DAY” – Jesus – more new disciples and they return to Galilee (Verse 43 and following)
 - “On the third day” – the wedding at Cana... (John 2:1)

STUDY QUESTION #2

29 “The Lamb of God”

- Let’s talk about “the Lamb of God”

- The first time of **102 times in the Bible** the word lamb is used (representing 4,000 years of sacrifice!): Gen 22:7 – But Isaac spoke to Abraham his father and said, "My father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." Then he said, "Look, the fire and the wood, but **where [is] the lamb for a burnt offering?**" – And the story of Abel, “keeper of sheep” Gen 4)
- When and by Whom was the first sacrifice made? – Gen 3:21: Also for Adam and his wife the **LORD God made tunics of skin, and clothed them.**
- “Who takes away the sin of the world” – 1 Peter 2:24: “Who Himself **bore our sins in His own body** on a tree...”

STUDY QUESTION #3

- How did John the Baptist know who Jesus was? How did he know what and Who to look for?
 - **He who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'Upon whom you see the Spirit descending, and remaining on Him, this is He who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.'** (Verse 33)

STUDY QUESTION #4

- John says he saw a dove descend upon Jesus at His baptism. What else happened at the same time?
 - Matthew 3:17: “And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, ‘This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased’.
 - See also John 12:28-32; Revelation 10:1-4.

STUDY QUESTION #5

- What did John mean when he said, “He was before me?”

- “He was before me” – Micah 5:2: "But you, **Bethlehem** Ephrathah, [Though] you are little among the thousands of Judah, [Yet] out of you shall come forth to Me **The One** to be Ruler in Israel, **Whose** goings forth [are] from of old, From everlasting." – Literally, “From the days of eternity” (Margin)

STUDY QUESTION #6

- What are John’s concluding and passionate words at the end of this story?
 - “**I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God!**” (Verse 34)
 - Compare with John’s (the disciple) words in 1 John 1:1-3: “that which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life-- 2 the life was manifested, and we have seen, and bear witness, and declare to you that eternal life which was with the Father and was manifested to us-- 3 that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship [is] with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ.”