

This weeks **MEMORY VERSE!**

To learn it well, **READ** it, or **WRITE** it **EACH DAY** after your lesson! Then say it to someone you know!

John 1:29

The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"

Who is the Lamb of God? _____

What will the Lamb of God do? _____



1. **Circle** who Jesus came to die for:
~ one family ~ the whole world
~ one man ~ one nation
2. **Circle** the words below that tell where the blood was to be put.
on the window on the roof
on the floor on the sides and top of the door
3. C _____ died for us.

Name _____

Jesus Is God's Lamb

John 1:15:29; Genesis 3:2-44; Exodus 12:1-3, 29:38-43



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One day John the Baptist stood preaching to a group of people. He had been telling them to get ready for the coming of the King. When he saw Jesus coming he said to them, “I am just a voice to announce His coming.” When John saw Jesus coming toward him, he said “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!” All he had been telling the people had now come true—here was Jesus, the Messiah he had been preparing them for!

When John spoke of a lamb, it must have brought to the minds of the Jews who were listening many pictures of how lambs were used. Let’s go back to the Old Testament and look at some of these pictures. They will help us understand what John meant when he called Jesus the *Lamb of God*.

When Lucifer sinned by rebelling against God, he was thrown out of heaven, because sin always causes separation from God. When Adam and Eve sinned, they were thrown out of the beautiful garden, because sin brings punishment and separation from God. But because God loved people and did not want them to be separated from Himself, He made a way for them to come to Him. All through the Old Testament times, and even into the New Testament times, people came to God through animal sacrifices.

The second boy ever to be born into the world, Abel, was a shepherd. To prepare to worship God he went to the flock and brought a firstborn lamb to sacrifice as an act of worship and confession of sin.

God saw that Abel was sorry for his sins and that he trusted Him. The lamb had done nothing wrong. It died in Abel’s place as his substitute.

Many years later God’s people, the Israelites, were living down in Egypt as slaves to the Egyptians. The wicked king refused to let them go at first, but God worked miracles for them.

God told Moses, their leader, what they should do. Moses said to the people, “Choose a lamb, a perfect lamb for your family. Kill the lamb and put its blood on the doorway of your house. God has said, ‘I will pass through the land, and in every home with the blood on the door, the whole family will be safe; but where there is no blood on the door, the firstborn will die.’ Be packed and ready to leave, for God will free us this night.” All those who trusted and obeyed God were saved from death.

Many more years went by, and the Israelites became a great nation. God had given them laws to live by. Part of this law included the way they were to come to God to worship Him and to have their sins forgiven. It was always through sacrifice, through a lamb or another animal dying in their place.

The priests, those who ministered at the tabernacle and later at the temple, were to offer two lambs a day as a sacrifice, one in the morning and one in the evening. Each day this was to be done. They were never to forget this offering but were to do it day after day as an offering for the whole nation.

Abel brought a lamb to sacrifice for himself; in Egypt a lamb was sacrificed for a family; later a lamb was sacrificed for a nation.

These lambs could not take away the sins of a man, family or nation. All looked ahead to God’s Lamb, Jesus, who would take away the sins of the world.

When the people of the Jewish race heard John introduce Jesus as the *Lamb of God*, they understood at least part of what he meant, that Jesus had come to be God’s Lamb to take away the sin of the world—not just of one man, or one family, or even one nation, but the whole world. After Jesus died, no one ever needed to bring a lamb as a sacrifice. Jesus is our Lamb.

The lambs that were offered as sacrifices before the Lord Jesus came tell us some things that were true of Him as God’s Lamb.

First the lamb had to be perfect. So, our Lord Jesus was perfect. If He had ever sinned even the least little bit, He would have had to die for His own sin.

Second, the lamb gave up its life to save others. Just like the lamb, our Lord Jesus willingly gave up His life. God accepts the death of His Son, Jesus, as the punishment for our sins. Because Jesus did this, God can forgive our sins.

When John called Jesus the Lamb of God, he was showing that Jesus was the one who had come to pay the penalty for our sins. He is the only one who could do this. Jesus gave His life willingly as a gift for us. All we need to do is accept this free gift. If we have accepted this free gift, we can now have fellowship with God and come into His presence through prayer anytime we want. When God looks at us, He no longer sees our sin but instead sees Jesus’ blood as the payment for our sin.