

“Behold! The Lamb of God!”

John 1:29-34

Johns “culminating testimony” concerning our Lord Jesus Christ

1. “The Lamb of God”

vv. 29-31

(1) The Culmination of John’s Testimony and Preaching

“The next day

John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, ‘Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!’”

-1- A testimony to his followers

-2- The last and best day of his ministry!

- the day *after* he gave testimony to the commission
- the day *before* his disciples began to follow Jesus

-3- Filling out his ongoing testimony

“This is He of whom I said, ‘After me comes a Man who is preferred before me, for He was before me.’”

-4- Revealed by God in His way and in His time

“I did not know Him; but that He should be revealed to Israel, therefore I came baptizing with water.”

- John could not recognize Him according to his own wisdom!
- John’s baptizing the preparation for the revealing of Christ
 - for him
 - for his followers and those adhering to his message

(2) The Meaning

“The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!”

-1- The Ultimate Lamb – the fulfillment of all that had been foreshadowed under the O.T. figure

- the continual and daily temple sacrifice of the one year old lamb
 - innocent
 - without blemish
 - a substitute

-2- God’s Lamb – the divine and perfect provision

-3- The One provided for all nations

(1) What John saw at Our Lord’s Baptism (32)

“I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and he remained upon Him.”

- “saw” Gk. perfect tense
 - What he saw had *continuing* effects
- not a mere vision, but actual occurrence
- as recorded in the other gospel accounts

(2) The Divinely-revealed Significance (33)

“I did not know Him, but He who sent me

-1- The sign promised to John:

The Spirit would *descend* and *remain* on this One

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.’”

-2- The significance:

This is the One who baptizes with the Holy Spirit

- He is the One who provides the cleansing that is from God, in the power of the Spirit
- He is the One who bestows new life in the power of the Spirit

(3) John’s Summary Testimony (34)

“And I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God.”

- This One – the Lamb of God, the One who baptizes with the Holy Spirit – this One is the Son of God

Further Application:

2. “He Who Baptizes with the Holy Spirit”

vv. 32-34