

# He Laid Down His Life for His Sheep

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"I am the Good Shepherd. **The Good Shepherd gives His Life for the sheep.** But he who is a hireling, and not the Shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming, and leaves (abandons) the sheep, and flees; and the wolf catches them, and scatters the sheep. The hireling flees, because he is a hireling, and does not care about the sheep. I am the Good Shepherd, and I know My sheep, and I am known by My own (sheep). As the Father knows Me, even so know I the Father; **and I Lay Down My Life For The Sheep.** And I Have other sheep who are not of this fold; these also I must bring, and they shall hear My voice; and there shall be one fold, and One Shepherd. Therefore, My Father loves Me, because I lay down My life, so that I might take it (up) again. No man takes it from Me, but I Myself lay it down. And I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it (up) again. This commandment I have received from My Father." (John 10:11-18)

**I lay down:** from The Greek word *tithemi* which means: I-lay-Down; (used in verses 11, 15, 17, and 18). Properly: to lay down, to set down, to put down, to place down. In context: Jesus is referring to His physical death on the Cross.

**My Life:** from The Greek words *ten psychen mou* which mean: the life of-me; or more properly in english: my life. Jesus is re for our deliverance and salvation.

**For the Sheep:** from The Greek words *hyper ton probaton* which mean: for the sheep. Probaton: refers to any animal that goes out into a pasture and grazes within it. But, in context, **probaton** is specifically referring to sheep in a figurative sense: in that Jesus is referring to people who have heard His voice and have decided to follow Him as His own true believers and followers.

**In Context:** Jesus is freely laying down His Life as an atoning sacrifice on the Cross for the forgiveness of sin, for all those people (His own true sheep) who will believe on the Name of Jesus.

## What did the laying down His Life require of Jesus:

### ~ He had to Despise the Shame of being publicly crucified on the Cross:

"Therefore seeing we also are encompassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which does so easily besets us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus the Author and Finisher of Our Faith; who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the Right Hand of the Throne of God." (Hebrews 12:1-2)

"He has poured out His Soul unto death; and He was numbered with the transgressors; and He bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors." (Isaiah 53:12)

### ~ He had to Humbled Himself and Became Obedient unto Death on the Cross:

"Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus; who, Existing in the Form of God, thought it not comprehensible to be Equal With God; but Emptied Himself, and having taken the Form of a Servant, being-Made in the Likeness of Men. And Being-Found in Appearance as a Man, He humbled Himself Becoming Obedient unto Death, even the Death of the Cross. Therefore God has also highly exalted Him, and given Him a Name which is above every name; so that at the Name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." (Philippians 2:5-11)

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## ~ He had to Become an Offering and a Sacrifice on the Cross for us:

"Be you therefore imitators of God, as dear children; and walk in love, as also the Christ has loved us, and gave-up Himself for us as an Offering and a Sacrifice to God into a sweet smelling aroma." (Ephesians 5:1-2)

"But when Christ came as a High Priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this creation; nor by the blood of goats and calves, **but through His own blood (through His death on the Cross)** He entered in 'once' into the Holy-place, having obtained eternal redemption for us. For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifies to the purifying of the flesh; how much more shall the Blood of Christ, who through the Eternal Spirit Offered Himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? (Hebrews 9:11-14)

## ~ He Endured for us the pain and suffering of the Cross:

"**He (Jesus) was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities:** the chastisement of our peace was upon Him; and with His stripes we are healed. We all like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD (God the Father) has laid on Him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth. He was brought as a Lamb **to the slaughter.** ... Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise Him; He has put Him to grief; when **He shall make His soul (Life) an offering for sin,**" (Isaiah 53:5-7)

## ~ He had to Pay the Ransom Price for Our Deliverance:

"But Jesus called them unto Himself, and said, 'You know that the princes of the Gentiles exercise dominion over them, and those who are great exercise authority over them. But it shall not be so among you; but whoever will be great among you, let him be your minister; and whoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant; even as the Son of Man came not to be served, but to serve, and to give His life A Ransom for many.' " (Matt. 20:25-28)

"There is one God, and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus; who gave Himself as A Ransom for all, to be testified in due time." (1 Tim. 2:1-6)

**Ransom:** the 'purchasing money' paid for the freedom of slaves, or prisoners; the price of ransoming. That is, Christ, being eternally righteousness, laid down His Life through His death on the cross, as a ransom payment for our sin!

## ~ He had to Become the Propitiation for Our Sins.

"My little children, these things I write unto you, so that you will not sin. And if any man sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, **Jesus Christ the Righteous-One.** And **He is the Propitiation for our sins;** and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world." (1John 2:1-2)

"Beloved, let us love one another; for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God, and knows God. He who does not love does not know God; for God is Love. In this-way was the love of God was manifested towards us, in that God sent His Only Begotten Son into the world, so that we might live through Him. In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us, **and sent His Son (Jesus): the Propitiation for our sins.** Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another." (1John 4:7-11)

**Propitiation:** an atoning sacrifice; presented as an offering to appease, or to satisfy the just requirements of someone who has been offended. Our sinfulness has offended God the Father, creating a permanent barrier of separation between us and the Father who is altogether Holy and Righteous. But Jesus has broken down this barrier of separation by becoming the Propitiation for our sins.

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### What did the laying down His Life accomplish for His Sheep:

#### ~ He Made Purification for our Sins Through Himself:

And Jesus, "being the Brightness of His (the Father's) Glory, and the Express Image of His (the Father's) person, and Upholding All Things by the Word of His Power, **and Having Made through Himself Purification of (our) Sins**, He sat down on the Right Hand of the Majesty on High." (Hebrews 1:1-3) (i.e. Jesus made us pure, holy, and righteous, by laying down His Life for us)

#### ~ He became our Deliverer from sin and wrath:

"For they themselves report to us about what manner of entering in we had with you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God; and **to wait for His Son from the heavens, whom He raised from the dead, even Jesus, who delivered us from the wrath to come.** (1Thessalonians 1:9-10)

"I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present within me. For I delight in the law of God in the inward man; but I see another law in my body, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my body. O wretched man that I am! **Who shall Deliver me from the body of this death?** I thank God, **through Jesus Christ our Lord...**" (see Romans 7:18-25)

#### ~ He Has Obtained Eternal Redemption for Us:

"But Christ came as a High Priest of Good Things to Come, by a greater and more Perfect Tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this creation. Nor through the blood of goats and calves, **but through His own blood He entered once into the Holy Place, having obtained Eternal Redemption (for us).**" (Hebrews 9:8-12-15)

**Redemption:** a ransoming; specifically, redemption from the penalty of sin.

"The Grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; looking for that Blessed Hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Savior Jesus Christ; **Who gave Himself for us, so that He might Redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto Himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.**" (Titus 2:11-14)

#### ~ He Has Perfected and Consecrated for All Time Those Being Sanctified:

"But this Man (Jesus), after He had offered **one sacrifice (Himself) for sins for all time,** 'sat down on the Right Hand of God;' (Psalm 110:1) and from that time foreword waiting 'until His enemies are made His footstool.' (Psalm 110:1) **For by-one offering He has perfected for all time those being sanctified.**" (Hebrews 10:12-14-20)

## Jesus Laid Down His Life for His Sheep

Jesus did this by despising the shame, enduring the cross, being obedient unto death, by bearing our sins upon Himself, and by being wounded for our transgressions !!

He Himself became the Ransom and Propitiation for our Redemption from eternal wrath!

Through the Laying Down of His Life we are perfected, Consecrated, made pure, holy, righteous, and restored unto Eternal fellowship with Father in Heaven !!!

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