LAMB, LAMB OF GOD

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"The next day John (the Baptist) saw Jesus coming unto him, and said, 'Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world. This is He of whom I said, After me comes a Man who has preference over me: for He existed before me. And I knew Him not: but that He might be manifested to Israel, I therefore came baptizing with water.' And John bore record, saying, 'I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it stayed upon Him. And I knew Him not, but He who sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me, 'Upon whom thou shall see the Spirit descending, and remaining on Him, the same is He who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' And I saw, and bare record that this is the Son of God.' Again on the next day afterwards, John stood, with two of his disciples; and looking upon Jesus as He walked, he said, Behold the Lamb of God! And the two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus. (John 1:29-37)

"He was despised and rejected by men; a Man of Sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from Him. He was despised, and we esteemed Him not. Surely He has borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows, yet we did esteem Him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. He 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. All of us like sheep (a flock) have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed, and He was afflicted, yet He opened not His mouth. He is brought as a Lamb to the slaughter, and as a ewe before her shearers is silent, so He opened not His mouth. He was taken from oppression and from judgment: and who of His generation shall consider: that He was cut off out of the land of the living: and for the transgression of My people was He stricken. And He made His grave with the wicked, and with the rich in His death; because He had done no violence, neither was any deceit in His mouth. Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise Him; He has put Him to grief: when You shalt make His soul an offering for sin, (Isaiah 53: 3-10) (verses 7 & 8 quoted in Acts 8:32-33)

Lamb: from the Greek word: **amnos** which means: a lamb; a sacrificial lamb (used for sacrifice); a young sheep or goat without blemish (especially a one-year old male lamb).

God: from the Greek word: *Theou* which means: "God" - refers to the Supreme Being who created, and owns and sustains all things.

Lamb: from the Hebrew word: *kasser* which means: 'as-a-lamb' - from *seh* which means: "one of a flock" - a sheep, or a goat: a lamb. (1)

Sheep: from the Hebrew word: *ukarahel* which means: 'as-a-sheep' more properly: 'as-a-ewe' - from *rachel* which means: a ewe (a female sheep) (4)

John the Baptist declares Jesus to be the <u>Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.</u> In Isaiah chapter 53, Jesus is declared to be the Lamb who was afflicted, smitten, stricken bruised, wounded, slaughtered, and cut of from the land of the living, for our transgressions and iniquities, and for our griefs and sorrows: an offering for sin - our sin!! Consider also these verses:

"...You know that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your futile way of live received by tradition from your fathers; but by the precious blood of Christ, as of a Lamb without blemish and without spot. Who truly was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you, Who by Him do believe in God, who raised Him up from the dead, and gave Him glory; that your faith and hope might be in God." (I Peter 1:18-21)

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"But Christ having come as a High Priest of the good things to come, by a greater and more Perfect Tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this creation; and not by the blood of goats and calves, but through His own blood. 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)

"For Christ did not enter into the Holy Place made with hands, which is a copy of the True-one; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God <u>for us</u>. Nor yet that He should offer Himself often, as the high priest entering into the Holy Place every year with blood of others (animals). For then he must often have suffered since the foundation of the world: but now <u>once</u> at the consummation <u>He has appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself.</u>" (Hebrews 9:24-26)

Jesus, the Messiah, is the <u>Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.</u> His <u>'once'</u> and for-all-time sacrifice of Himself on the cross, replaces, and fulfills, the Old Covenant 'sin offering' laws! The laws concerning the various sin offerings, in the Old Covenant book of Leviticus, are described in chapters 4-6:13; 9:7-11, 22-24; 12:6-8; 15:2, 14, 25-30; 14:19, 31. <u>His sacrifice of Himself on the cross</u>, also replaces, and fulfills, the Old Covenant Passover tradition. (see Leviticus chapter 12).

Whenever the title "Lamb" is used alone in reference to Christ Jesus, the implied meaning is "the <u>Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world."</u>. In the Book of Revelation this title "Lamb" is used many times in reference to Jesus, consider these:

"And I beheld in the midst of the throne and of the four creatures, and in the midst of the elders, a Lamb standing, as if slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth. And He came and took the book out of the right hand of Him who sat upon the throne. And when He had taken the book, the four creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, having every one of them harps, and golden vials full of incense, which are the prayers of saints. And they sung a new song, saying, 'You are worthy to take the book, and to open the seals; for You were slain, and have redeemed us to God by Your blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; and have made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.' And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the creatures and the elders: and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands; saying with a loud voice, 'Worthy is **the Lamb** who was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honor, and glory, and blessing.' And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, I heard them saying, 'Blessing, and honor, and glory, and power, be unto Him who sits upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever." (Revelation 5:6-13)

JESUS is ...

the Lamb, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world – even our sins! Once! By the precious blood of Christ Jesus!

Once! Forever and ever!

Worthy are You Lord Jesus - the Lamb who was slain - to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honor, and glory, and blessing. Forever and ever!!!