

TUESDAY**The Passover Lamb**

[Quote] book of Revelation refers to Jesus as “the Lamb” nearly thirty times. From the earliest days in the plan of redemption, God’s people have used lambs as a symbol of the coming Messiah. Abel offered “the firstborn of his flock” (*Gen. 4:4*), and before Israel departed Egypt for the land of promise, they were instructed to redeem every firstborn person or animal with a lamb one year old (*Exod. 12:5*). **UNQUOTE**

- Unifying theme of Scripture = God’s everlasting covenant of *righteousness by faith* to redeem humanity from sin.

- Covenant disclosed in these 4 thoughts:

REVELATION 13:8 slain from the foundation of the world.

HEBREWS 13:20 His blood shed on Calvary is “the blood of the everlasting covenant”

2 CORINTHIANS 5:21 ‘For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him”

1 Peter 1:18–20 ¹⁸knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, ¹⁹but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot. ²⁰He indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you

- Determined by Godhead before Creation
- Announced in Garden (Gen 3)
- Ratified in vision to Abraham Genesis 15
- Renewed thru life of Person of Jesus Christ
 - ratified thru His death/burial/resurrection
- God satisfied His own justice = paid our death penalty for our sins
- Person of Jesus Christ = last Adam **1 Corinthians 15:45**

- Jesus = Substitute human sacrifice = lived the one human life that satisfied God's holiness

[LESSON QUOTE] The rest of us have sinned, and the way we live our sinful lives quite literally tells lies about the nature of our Maker.

Where we had failed, He lived perfectly. In His humanity, He was everything the human race was supposed to be. He reflected God's glory perfectly. "If you have seen me," He told Philip, "you have seen the Father" (*John 14:9*, CEV).

- In OT = this justice / initiated thru /repetitious substitutionary sacrificial system that pointed forward in faith to Christ
- Substitutes sacrificed on altar symbolically represented Christ—the spotless Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world
- In NT = Christ fulfilled that sacrificial system, standing in as humanity's Substitute, offering up His life "once for all" (Romans 6:10; Hebrews 7:27; 10:10) = plan was in place from eternity past
- Soon as sin penetrated God's sphere of God's righteousness in Garden, God announced the Messiah Deliver—Seed of woman
- God introduced substitutionary sacrificial system = to provide path to righteousness by faith
- God had to make tunics from animal's skin to cover nakedness Adam/Eve
- Represents being clothed w/ robe of righteousness of Christ
 - our Substitute = our righteousness (**1 Corinthians 1:30**)
- Careful study of OT reveals / saints of Old understood their Redeemer would provide humans w/His robe of righteousness by faith, and one day resurrect His righteous ones to clothe them w/ immortality (**1 Corinthians 15:53–54**).
- Saved by entering into everlasting covenant = looking forward to Messiah-Christ

Exodus 12:1–11 = To protect the Israelites from the 10th/final plague God brought on Egypt = Lord instituted a Passover ceremony.

- For seven days prior to Passover meal = no leaven / in their homes
- To be spared according to His promise/ God required each household select spotless male lamb as sacrifice
 - personally apply blood of / Passover lamb
 - smearing it on doorposts of their homes
- **Exo 12:13** “When I see the blood, I will pass over you; and the plague shall not be on you to destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt”
- They were to be fully dressed / ready to go / eat Passover meal = roasted sacrifice/ unleavened bread / bitter herbs = in haste
- Symbolism of Passover pointed to Christ’s ministry of atonement for humanity’s sins.
- Leaven represented sin = unleavened bread symbolized Jesus’ sinless life = Bitter herbs symbolized His suffering
- Apostle Paul identifies Christ as our one true *Passover Lamb*, **1 Corinthians 5:7**, “Indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us”
- His sacrifice—typified in Passover lamb—of no value to us unless
 - we personally accept Him as Savior/Lord
 - having His blood applied to our account.
- Jesus = crucified on Passover / further demonstrating
 - that He is the antitypical Lamb

Isaiah 53:7–8 [written approximately 700 yrs before life of Jesus Christ]

⁷He was oppressed and He was afflicted, Yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, And as a sheep before its shearers is silent, So He opened not His mouth. ⁸He was taken from prison and from judgment, And who will declare His generation? For He was cut off from the land of the living; For the transgressions of My people He was stricken. ⁷He was oppressed and He was afflicted, Yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, And as a sheep before its shearers is silent, So He opened not His mouth. ⁸ He was taken from prison and from judgment, And who will declare His

generation? For He was cut off from the land of the living; For the transgressions of My people He was stricken.

- Exact fulfillment of this prophecy by the *Person of Jesus Christ* proves beyond a shadow of a doubt that He was no imposter.

The spotless Lamb of God became our Substitute to atone for our sins. Stricken by God, crucified and pierced for our transgressions, the weight of our sins caused Him spiritual anguish, crushing His holy heart.

[LESSON QUOTE] In John 18:19, 20, Jesus said that He “spoke openly” (*NKJV*) of His doctrine. In a parallel way, regarding the Passover lamb in Exodus 12:5, 6, the children of Israel were instructed to choose a lamb for Passover, and “keep it,” or put it on display during the days leading up to the sacrifice. When the high priest questioned Jesus about His teachings, He made reference to the fact that He Himself had been on open display in the temple for everybody to consider. His life, His works, His teaching—all revealed who He really was. He is the Lamb without blemish, the most powerful expression of God’s righteousness and glory.