Saturday, January 27, 2024

Behold The Lamb of God

We live in a time in history where a strict biblical worldview is almost non-existent, which, of course, leads to a lack of understanding of the biblical gospel, worse the need of the gospel. The great deceiver has and is doing his best to disseminate the lie that we aren't sinners and a savior isn't needed.

The pharisaical religion didn't need or want a savior their works were enough. Other religions throughout history have reduced the importance of a savior and elevate the deeds and efforts of man.

- Since Satan, sin and death have been defeated by Jesus, deception is the only ammo in the enemies arsenal. The lie that people tell themselves "I'm Ok" I don't need the lamb of God
- If people are already telling themselves that they are OK, then why are we as churches not telling them that they have sinned and that sin is proving to be a slow eternal death death death?

In a world that is slowly dismantling the existence of God and and not just God but a Holy and just God. If there is no God who demands perfection then no one misses the mark, no one sins and therefore a savior is not needed. There is nothing to be saved from.

John the Baptist did not preach that kind of message. His message was (Matt. 3:2), "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." His opening line to the religious leaders was (Matt. 3:7), "You brood of vipers, who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?"

- Who is this Lamb and What does he do??

- He is the Lamb of God **Needed** by the World (1:29)

John 1:29 (ESV)

Behold, the Lamb of God

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!

- ***"The Lamb"***
  - Jesus is the one and only, the supreme lamb.
  - Think about how radical this sounded, all those sacrifices for hundreds of years was just a foreshadowing for what Jesus came to do. He was the one and final sacrifice that would be needed.
- **"Of God"**
  - This lamb was from God himself - Abraham
  - What was even more radical as Jesus would affirm later in the 3rd chapter. The father loved the world not just the Jews that he would send this one and only needed lamb
- "**Who takes away**" - Leviticus 16
  - *Christ is the complete atonement for our sins. In many ways, He embodies each aspect of the Day of Atonement. We are told that He is our great High Priest (Hebrews 4:14).*
  - *He is also the "Lamb that was slain from the creation of the world" (Revelation 13:8) as a sacrifice for our sins.*
  - *And He is our scapegoat. Second Corinthians 5:21 says, "God made Him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in Him we might become*

the righteousness of God." Our sins were laid on Christ – He bore our sins just as the scapegoat bore the sins of the Israelites.

- *Isaiah 53:6 prophesies Christ's acceptance of the sin burden: "We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all."*
- *After the sins were laid on the scapegoat, it was considered unclean and driven into the wilderness. In essence, the goat was cast out. The same happened to Jesus. He was crucified outside of the city. "He was despised and rejected by men … He poured out His life unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors. For He bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors" (Isaiah 53:3a, 12). Jesus embodied what the scapegoat represented – the removal of sins from the perpetrators.*

- *Jesus is also the Lamb that was sacrificed for the atonement of our sins*
- *Hebrews 10:1-10*
- *"**Takes away**" is also in the present tense, signifying the ongoing sufficiency of Jesus' sacrifice and the fact that it is available at all times for every sinner who will trust in Him.*
  - *Wiccan Friend*

- ***"The Sin"** The original sin that has been the foundation to the trillions of sin that man has committed against God Thousands of years of people loving themselves more than they love God and their neighbor. Thousands of years and men doing what is right by their own mind rather than by the Commands of God -*

- *"**Behold/Look**" - John says to look at this man Jesus.*

- *John doesn't say, "Look at me! I'm a great prophet!"*
- *He doesn't say, "Look at your good works; they will save you."*
- *He doesn't say, "Look at your religious rituals; they will put you in good stead on judgment day."*
- *He doesn't say, "Look at your religious heritage or your church attendance."*
- *He says, "Look to the Lamb of God!" Jesus saves sinners who look in faith to Him.*
- *Story Spurgeon*
  - ***Isaiah 45:22, which in the King James Version reads, "Look unto Me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth." He began (C. H. Spurgeon Autobiography [Banner of Truth], 1:87),***
  - *The lay preacher said*
  - *"My dear friends, this is a very simple text indeed. It says, 'Look.' Now lookin' don't take a deal of pain. It ain't liftin' your foot or your finger; it is just, 'Look.' Well, a man needn't go to College to learn to look. You may be the biggest fool, and yet you can look. A man needn't be worth a thousand a year to be able to look. Anyone can look; even a child can look."*
    - *Then he pointed out that the text says, "Look unto Me," not to yourself. He went on about ten minutes or so telling everyone who Christ was that they were to look to. He seemed to be at the end of his tether when he looked directly at young Spurgeon and said (1:88), "Young man, you look very miserable. And you always will be miserable—miserable in life, and miserable in death—if you don't obey my text; but if you obey now, this moment, you will be saved." Then he shouted, "Young man, look to Jesus Christ. Look! Look! Look! You have nothin' to do but to look and live." Spurgeon said that he had been waiting to do fifty things, but that word "look"*

cleared away the clouds. He looked to Christ and the boy who would go on to become the greatest preacher of the 19th century was saved! And you will be saved too, if you look in faith to Jesus, the Lamb that God provided to take away your sins.

- He is the **Greatest** of Lambs (1:30-31)

  - **John 1:30-31 (ESV)30 This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me.' 31 I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel."**

    - This man this lamb of God has always been since before the foundation of the world

    - This man the messiah is God in the flesh

      - John 8:58 (NLT) **58 Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, before Abraham was even born, I AM!"**

      - John would not and did not recognize Him until he came to baptize for the repentance of sins and was told the Messiah would have the spirt come upon him as a dove

- He too was **Filled** by the Spirit (1:32)

John 1:32 (ESV)

32 **And John bore witness: "I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him.**

- Concerning the Messiah to come, Isaiah wrote,

  - (Isaiah:11:1 *And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots*: Isaiah:11:2 *And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD.*

The Hebrew meaning is “to rest, settle down, and remain.” The word “rest” indicates a permanent dwelling

- Luke 4:18-19 (ESV) from Isaiah 61
- 18 “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, 19 to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.”
- Jesus was not destitute of the Holy Spirit before His baptism, but the revelation of the Spirit coming on Jesus and the voice from heaven affirming that Jesus was God’s beloved Son, in whom He was well-pleased, was a revelation of the Trinity at the outset of Jesus’ ministry (

- He is the One who offers A **New** Baptism (1:33)

John 1:33 (ESV)

33 **I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.**’

John was baptizing with water asking for the Jews to repent, to return to their first love

The pharisees refused and John Called them a brood of vipers basically working for the enemy himself

- We have been both born of the spirit, regenerated and given the faith to believe in the work of Jesus Christ,The Spirit that would circumcise our hearts of stone and leave us with a Spirit that would crave God
- Jesus also baptizes us by the spirit.

- 1 Corinthians 12:13 (NLT) 13 Some of us are Jews, some are Gentiles, some are slaves, and some are free. But we have all been baptized into one body by one Spirit, and we all share the same Spirit.

- John 14:16-17 (ESV) 16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, 17 even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

  - The very power of God himself, in his Spirit, has come to make himself at home in some real degree, and to increasing effect, in us. We are his temple, both individually and collectively (1 Corinthians 3:16; 6:19),

    - 1 Corinthians 3:16 (NLT) 16 Don't you realize that all of you together are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God lives in you?

    - We have been baptized with the Spirit of God and have new heart of flesh. That will never change

    - We have been made new creations

      - 2 Corinthians 5:17 (NLT) 17 This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!

    - Do we have to keep asking for more of the spirit?

      - As A follower of Jesus, empowered to live the life God intended for them by submitting to the presence, power and purpose of the Holy Spirit in their lives.

      - We strive for this spirit filled life by the constant renewing of our mind

      - Sometimes we don't find ourselves dry or lacking

  - and a day is coming when we, like Christ, will reign in glory, fully endowed with the Spirit, to enjoy life, and God in Christ, beyond what we've even imagined so far.

- Jesus I**s** the Son of God (1:34)

John 1:34 (ESV)

34 **And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God**."

- While believers are children of God through the new birth, Jesus is the eternal Son of God. He stands in a unique relationship with the Father. The Jews recognized that when Jesus called God His own Father, He was making Himself equal with God (John 5:18). To be faithful witnesses, we must show people that Jesus is the eternal Son of God in human flesh, the Lamb of God who atoned for the sins of all who believe in Him.

- 1. A **Redeclaration** and Testimony—
- 2. A **Remembrance**—As we did today -
- 3. An expression of a **Relationship**—. We are in one accord in commitment, values and vision
- 4. But interwoven in all of this, it is to be a **Fellowship**—a koinonia, a real sharing and participation in the person and work of Christ.