



## The Lamb!

By Pastor Kelly Sensenig

In a small Oriental town several men were working on a scaffold high above the street. Suddenly one of them lost his footing and fell to the pavement below. Horrified, his companions quickly descended, expecting to find his body broken and mangled. To their surprise they discovered that their friend was unhurt! At the exact moment of his fall some sheep were passing through the street beneath him, and he had landed on the back of one of the animals. There it lay, crushed and dead, but the man was saved. As he gazed upon that lifeless creature, he was heard to say, "It died for me!"

Dear friend, a Lamb broke your fall! A Lamb broke my fall. It was the Lamb of God (Jesus Christ) that taketh away the sin of the world! I thank God for the Lamb, Jesus Christ, who died in my place to grant me forgiveness before God. In this study, we are going to look at the Lamb, as presented in Scripture. Before the cross we read about a lamb that was presented as a sin offering for the people. In the Old Testament the lamb was typified (presented as a picture of Christ). In the New Testament we see the Lamb personified in Jesus Christ. In view of the cross, we read about Jesus Christ becoming the Lamb who would become the sinner's substitute and save the sinner from hell.

"Precious Lamb of glory,  
Love's most wondrous story,  
Heart of God's redemption of man;  
Worship the Lamb of glory."

### **Jesus Christ is presented as the Lamb of God.**

This is portrayed in eight ways.

#### **1. The slain lamb**

Slain speaks of the pain of the Lamb.

The Old Testament lamb was put to death in the place of the person (Exodus 12:3; 12:7-13; 21). The lamb passed through a bloody death. The

blood flowed when the Lamb was slain and the little animal suffered great agony and pain. The animal's throat was cut and the animal wiggled around until death finally came. The lamb bled to death as it suffered before the people and priest.

Repeatedly in the New Testament we read about the metaphor and word picture of Jesus Christ being presented as the Lamb. Jesus, as the New Testament Lamb of God was also slain and put to death on the cross. Christ fulfills the typology of the Lamb.

Revelation 13:8 declares:

“And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.”

From the perspective of suffering, the slain Lamb, Jesus Christ's dreadful death upon Calvary's cross was not an afterthought with God. It was planned in eternity past and came to pass in eternity present. Jesus was “slain” which means He experienced terrible pain and endured great suffering on the cross. His pain was unbearable when He was slain on our behalf. He went through the great agonies of crucifixion for us. He was beaten, bruised, and battered on our behalf.

Isaiah 53:4-5

“Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But 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.”

The Lord Jesus suffered five kinds of wounds: 1) contusions (blows by a rod) 2) lacerations (scourging) 3) penetrating wounds (crown of thorns) 4) perforating wounds (nails) 5) incised wounds (spear)

Yes, Jesus was wounded for me; there on the cross He was wounded for me! The wound or the slaying and suffering of Christ cannot be forgotten when considering the passion of the Lord Jesus Christ. The blood, the thorns, the nails! He was wounded for us. He was slain for us.

I was reading about “A Medical Description of the Crucifixion of Jesus Christ.” It portrays the absolute pain and suffering that Jesus went through on the sinner’s behalf.

“After the arrest in the middle of the night, Jesus was brought before the Sanhedrin and Caiaphas, the High Priest. A soldier struck Jesus across the face for remaining silent when questioned by Caiaphas. The palace guards then blindfolded Him and mockingly taunted Him to identify them as they each passed by; they spat on Him and struck Him in the face.

“Preparations for the scourging are then carried out. The prisoner is stripped of His clothing and His hands tied to a post above His head. The Roman legionnaire steps forward with the flagrum in his hand. This is a short whip consisting of several heavy, leather thongs with two small balls of lead attached to the ends of each. The heavy whip is brought down with full force again and again across Jesus’ shoulders, back and legs.

“At first the heavy thongs cut through the skin only. Then, as the blows continue, they cut deeper into tissues, producing first an oozing of blood from the capillaries and veins of the skin, and finally spurting arterial bleeding from vessels in the underlying muscles. The small balls of lead first produce large, deep bruises which are broken open by subsequent blows.

“Finally the skin of the back is hanging in long ribbons and the entire area is an unrecognizable mass of torn, bleeding tissue. When it is determined by the centurion in charge that the prisoner is near death, the beating is stopped.

“The half-fainting Jesus is then untied and allowed to slump to the stone pavement, wet with His own blood. The Roman soldiers see a great joke in this provincial Jew claiming to be a king. They throw a robe across His shoulders and place a stick in His hand for a sceptre. A small bundle of flexible branches covered with long thorns is pressed into His scalp.

“Again there is copious bleeding (the scalp being one of the most vascular areas in the body). After mocking Him and striking Him across the face, the soldiers take the stick from His hand and strike Him across the head, driving the thorns deeper into His scalp. Finally, they tire of their sadistic sport and the robe is torn from his back. This had already become adherent

to the colts of blood and serum in the wounds, and its removal, just as in the careless removal of a surgical bandage, cause excruciating pain - almost as though He were again being whipped, and the wounds again begin to bleed.

“The heavy beam of the cross is then tied across His shoulders, and the procession of the condemned Christ, two thieves and the execution detail, begins its slow journey. The weight of the heavy wooden beam, together with the shock produced by copious blood loss, is too much. He stumbles and falls. The rough wood of the beam gouges into the lacerated skin and muscles of the shoulders. He tries to rise, but human muscles have been pushed beyond their endurance.

“At Golgotha, the beam is placed on the ground and Jesus is quickly thrown backward with His shoulders against the wood. The legionnaire feels for the depression at the front of the wrist. He drives a heavy, square, wrought-iron nail through the wrist and deep into the wood. Quickly, he moves to the other side and repeats the action, being careful not to pull the arms too tightly, but to allow some flexion and movement. The beam is then lifted in place at the top of the posts and the title reading “Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews” is nailed in place.

“The left foot is pressed backward against the right foot, and with both feet extended, toes down, a nail is driven through the arch of each. As he pushes Himself upward to avoid the stretching torment, He places His full weight on the nail through His feet. Again there is the searing agony of the nail through His feet. Again there is the searing agony of the nail tearing through the nerves between the metatarsal bones through the feet.

“As the arms fatigue, great waves of cramps sweep over the muscles, knotting them in deep, relentless, throbbing pain. With these cramps comes the inability to push Himself upward. Hanging by His arms, the pectoral muscles are unable to act. Air can be drawn into the lungs, but cannot be exhaled. Jesus fights to raise Himself in order to get even one short breath. Finally, carbon dioxide builds up in the lungs and in the blood stream and the cramps partially subside. Spasmodically, He is able to push Himself upward to exhale and bring in the life-giving oxygen.

“Hours of this limitless pain, cycles of twisting, joint-rending cramps, intermittent partial asphyxiation, searing pain as tissue is torn from His

lacerated back as He moves up and down against the rough timber. Then another agony begins. A deep crushing pain deep in the chest as the pericardium slowly fills with serum and begins to compress the heart. The compressed heart is struggling to pump heavy, thick, sluggish blood into the tissues - the tortured lungs are making a frantic effort to gasp in small gulps of air. The markedly dehydrated tissues send their flood of stimuli to the brain. Jesus gasps, "I thirst."

"He can feel the chill of death creeping through His tissues. With one last surge of strength, He once again presses His torn feet against the nail, straightens His legs, takes a deeper breath, and utters His seventh and last cry, 'Father, into thy hands I commit my spirit.'"

Yes, "he was wounded for our transgressions." He was the Lamb slain! He became the slain Lamb for you and for me!

Isaiah 52:14 records:

"As many were astonished at thee; his visage was so marred more than any man, and his form more than the sons of men."

The onlookers at the crucifixion were awestruck or appalled. Christ was beaten beyond recognition. As he hung on the cross Jesus was no longer recognizable as even a man. People were horrified at the Servant's appearance; He was so disfigured that He would no longer look human. Jesus was the "slain" Lamb.

"I saw One hanging on a tree,  
In agony and blood,  
Who fixed His languid eyes on me,  
As near His cross I stood.

Sure, never to my latest breath,  
Can I forget that look;  
It seemed to charge me with His death,  
Though not a word He spoke.

My conscience felt and owned the guilt,  
And plunged me in despair,  
I saw my sins His blood had spilt,  
And helped to nail Him there.

O, can it be, upon a tree,  
The Savior died for me?  
My soul is thrilled, my heart is filled,  
To think He died for me!"

Revelation 5:6-12

"And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been 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 that sat upon the throne. And when he had taken the book, the four beasts and four and twenty elders fell down before the Lamb, having every one of them harps, and golden vials full of odours, which are the prayers of saints. And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; And hast 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 beasts 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 that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing."

When we think of the pain of crucifixion and death, which Jesus passed through for each one of us, it's no wonder that throughout eternity we will sing with endless gratitude: "Worthy is the Lamb that was slain!" This will be the heavenly anthem that will ring throughout the ages of unending time which will bring honor to the Lamb who died to save the human race. Throughout eternity we will remember that "he was wounded for our transgressions." Our worship of the slain Lamb will be very personal and wonderful. We will remember what He has done for us and give Him all the honor and praise throughout the ages of time as eternity rolls on. Someday we will join this glad heavenly throng and sing praises to the Lamb who died in the sinner's place. Heaven revolves around the Lamb.

"There was music in the heavens  
At the dawning of the days,  
When the morning stars together  
Sang their great Redeemers' praise.  
But the music that surpasses

All this earth has heard and known,  
Will ring out when all the ransom  
Gather round the throne.”

## 2. The sacrificial lamb

Sacrifice speaks of the substitution of the Lamb.

Leviticus 3:7

“If he offer a lamb for his offering, then shall he offer it before the Lord. And he shall lay his hand upon the head of his offering, and kill it before the tabernacle of the congregation: and Aaron's sons shall sprinkle the blood thereof round about upon the altar.”

Leviticus 14:10-13

“And on the eighth day he shall take two he lambs without blemish, and one ewe lamb of the first year without blemish, and three tenth deals of fine flour for a meat offering, mingled with oil, and one log of oil. And the priest that maketh him clean shall present the man that is to be made clean, and those things, before the Lord, at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation: And the priest shall take one he lamb, and offer him for a trespass offering, and the log of oil, and wave them for a wave offering before the Lord: And he shall slay the lamb in the place where he shall kill the sin offering and the burnt offering, in the holy place: for as the sin offering is the priest's, so is the trespass offering: it is most holy.”

Leviticus 14:25

“And he shall kill the lamb of the trespass offering, and the priest shall take some of the blood of the trespass offering, and put it upon the tip of the right ear of him that is to be cleansed, and upon the thumb of his right hand, and upon the great toe of his right foot.”

We find that a lamb was one of the offerings used in the Old Testament sacrificial system in both the tabernacle and temple. Although there were other animals that were sacrificed during the Old Testament era the lamb stands out as a significant portrayal of Christ's sacrifice upon the cross. Lambs needed to be offered for both the people and priests. The Old Testament lamb was judged and took the place of the person. It was ceremonially sacrificed on the altar *temporarily* covered the necessary penalty of sin that each person deserved (Heb. 10:3-4). The main

emphasis is that the lamb was substituted in place of the individual. When a lamb was sacrificed for another person it became that person's substitute. This is the emphasis of sacrifice.

Philemon 1:18

"If he hath wronged thee, or oweth thee ought, put that on mine account."

Paul gives the perfect illustration of substitution. Whatever bill the runaway slave had was to be put on Paul's account and he would pay for it! This is what Jesus Christ, as the Son of God, did for us when He died on the cross. Our sin debt and bill was charged to Him. It was credited to His account and He endured the wrath of God on our behalf. Yes, Jesus paid it all. He paid the sin debt that God required for each one of us so we could go free from sin's penalty and judgment.

Floyd Barackman said:

"Since the debt of sin (which is judgment) had to be paid, then a substitute had to be found if sinners were to be delivered from this obligation" (the obligation of judgment).

This means that a substitute had to be found in order for you and me to escape our obligation to pay for our sin by suffering the eternal judgment of God in hell. Of course, this substitute was Jesus Christ. The New Testament Lamb (Jesus Christ) was sacrificed for us, which means He became our substitute.

1 Corinthians 5:7 declares:

"Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us."

Christ's being "our passover" for us is reminiscent of the time when God passed over the children of Israel while slaying the firstborn of Egypt. God passed over His people and spared them from judgment and death.

Exodus 12:13 tells the true story:

"And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye are: and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy you, when I smite the land of Egypt."



Passover means that through Christ's death on the cross the anger and judgment of God will pass over us and not touch or harm us. When expressing faith in Christ, the believing sinner will not be condemned hell (Rom. 8:1). Jesus being the One who was "sacrificed" means that Christ became our substitute (replacement) on the cross, paying sin's penalty on our behalf. God's judgment passes over us because of the Lamb's sacrifice. Jesus, as our Lamb, took our place on the cross. As the final Lamb, Jesus became our substitute (replacement) on the cross. He died, as me, for me, instead of me, on account of me, in my place. He is the sacrificial Lamb that God required to pay for the judgment of your sin.

"I should have been crucified,  
I should have suffered and died,  
I should have hung on the cross in despair,  
But Jesus God's Son took my place."

A younger girl's mother had a serious type of cancer. She was told that her mother would need a blood transfusion. The doctor explained to the little girl that another person would have to give their blood to her mother so her mother could live. The child paused for a brief time. Believing she would give away all her blood and die for the life of her own mother she said to the doctor, "I will give all my blood so mother will live. I love her." And this is what Jesus said when He died on the cross. He told the Father that He loved us and that He would give His blood for you and me, so we might live with Him in Heaven someday.

Jesus was the sacrificial lamb, our personal substitute, who bore the cancer of sin in our place. Jesus took upon Himself the penalty for our sin, which was one of judgment and hell. He did this for you and for me! He wore our crown, took our beating, and was separated from God and died in our place. Will you place your faith and trust in the One who died in your place? When you do, Christ will give you the free gift of eternal life.

Romans 10:13

"For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

"My faith looks up to Thee,  
Thou Lamb of Calvary,  
Savior divine:

Now hear me while I pray;  
Take all my guilt away;  
O let me from this day  
Be wholly Thine.”

### **3. The silent lamb**

Silence speaks of the humility of the Lamb.

Isaiah 53:7

“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 sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth.”

In this prophetic verse, which pointed to Christ, the quiet, gentle nature of sheep is stressed. Seeing many sheep sheared for their wool or killed as sacrifices, Israelites were well aware of the submissive nature of sheep. Jesus, as the Lamb of God (John 1:29), quietly submitted to His death. He did not try to stop those who opposed Him; He remained silent rather than defend Himself. The word “dumb” means voiceless and mute. Christ did not oppose His enemies or the Father’s will but humbly submitted to it.

Matthew 26:63

“But Jesus held his peace. And the high priest answered and said unto him, I adjure thee by the living God, that thou tell us whether thou be the Christ, the Son of God.”

Matthew 27:14

“And he answered him to never a word; insomuch that the governor marvelled greatly.”

1 Peter 2:23

“Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously.”

Jesus was the silent Lamb who committed His way to the Father and willingly gave Himself for you and me. He did not openly oppose His enemies and persecutors but humbly and silently died in our place.

Philippians 2:8 echoes this truth:

“And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.”

Jesus as the silent Lamb was submissive to the Father’s will. The Lamb (Jesus Christ) was silent when He was led to the cross in order to die the sinner’s death. He humbly, in a lonely fashion, walked toward the hill of Mount Calvary for you and me. He died on the cross in great agony without opposing those who were crucifying Him.

Acts 8:32

“He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and like a lamb dumb (voiceless, mute) before his shearer, so opened he not his mouth.”

Charles Spurgeon wrote in his sermon:

“Our Lord was brought to the shearers that he might be shorn of his comfort, and of his honour, shorn even of his good name, and shorn at last of life itself; but when under the shearers he was as silent as a sheep. How patient he was before Pilate, and Herod, and Caiaphas, and on the cross. You have no record of his uttering any exclamation of impatience at the pain and shame which he received at the hands of these wicked men. You hear not one bitter word ... Again, as he did not utter a word against his adversaries, so he did not say a word *against any one of us*.”

No, the Lord Jesus did not complain while dying for your sins and mine. He took the penalty silently and bore the hell for our sins. As He hung on the cross, He silently bore the penalty for your sin and mine. Jesus was the silent Lamb that was submissive to the Father’s will and ready to die the sinner’s death.

#### **4. The sin-bearing lamb**

Sin-bearing speaks of the work of the Lamb.

Isaiah 53:12

“Therefore will I divide him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he hath poured out his soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.”

This point presents the specifics of Christ's sacrifice on the cross. The Lamb (Jesus Christ), as our substitute, took upon Himself both the sin (Adamic sin inherited by everyone) and all our sins (personal sins) of the human race upon Himself. The work of the Lamb involved Christ becoming a substitute for sin and sins. Isaiah seems to be focusing on the sin that the human race inherited from Adam. The "sin-bearing" aspect of the Lamb's work points then to the specific details of Christ's substitutionary work on the cross.

Ted Turner once said:

"I don't want anybody to die for me. I've had a few drinks and a few girl friends. If that's going to put me in hell, then so be it."

In spite of what this man and others say, Jesus did die for them. He died for everyone, even false teachers who deny Christ and make a mockery out of His name.

2 Peter 2:1

"But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction."

What amazing love!

Jesus died bearing two types of sins.

a. Christ bore the penalty for SIN (sin inherited from Adam).

Some have suggested that we should not be charged with Adam's sin. But this is a ridiculous conclusion that is not based upon Scripture.

Romans 5:12

"Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned."

This refers to what we might call original sin. You do not sin in order to become a sinner; you sin because you are already a sinner. You have inherited a sin nature and penalty from Adam. The Bible teaches the federal headship of Adam. Adam acted as the head of the human race and

plunged the human race into sin which was generated from his own sin. As the federal head of the human race, Adam's sin was considered by God to be the act of all people that stem from Adam since we receive the same sin nature inherited from Adam. Therefore, all mankind receives a penalty of death for participating with Adam's sin. This is why we need a Lamb, a sin-bearer, to take away this sin! The Lamb who died to remove this inherited sin of Adam was Jesus.

John 1:29

"The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world."

Christ's bore the sin (Adamic sin) of the world when hanging on the cross. In bearing our sin Christ would "take away" (John 1:29) the necessary judgment that we deserved for being involved with Adam's sin. Furthermore, He would also take away our sin, providing complete forgiveness and acquittal before God for the sin that was inherited from Adam. He was the sin-bearing Lamb! He deal fully and finally with sin.

Charles Haddon Spurgeon is history's most widely read preacher. Today, there is available more material written by Spurgeon than by any other Christian author, living or dead. One day the preacher was testing the acoustics in the vast Agricultural Hall, Spurgeon shouted, "Behold the Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world." A worker high in the rafters of the building heard this and became converted to Christ as a result.

Hebrews 9:26

"For then must he often have suffered since the foundation of the world: but now once in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself."

Have you had your sin put away? Has the Adamic sin been erased from your record? Only the Lamb can provide forgiveness for Adam's sin which was inherited and passed down through the generations of time.

2 Corinthians 5:21

"For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him."

Jesus died for the sin that you inherited from Adam. He died to take it away and grant you forgiveness.

“If you from sin  
Are longing to be free,  
Look to the Lamb of God.  
He to redeem you died on Calvary,  
Look to the Lamb of God.”

b. Christ bore the penalty for SINS (sins committed because of Adam’s sin)

Jesus also bore the weight and judgment for our sins while hanging on the cross. These refer to all the sins that a godless world would commit throughout the course of history and time.

1 Corinthians 15:3

“For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures.”

This refers to all the “sins” that we have committed because we have inherited Adam’s sin nature. These are the many added sins which have their source in our original sin which we inherited from Adam. Because we have inherited Adam’s sin and possess a sin nature, we produce many sins in our lives that have their origin from the inherited Adamic sin that every one of us is born with (“In sin did my mother conceive me” - Ps. 51:5). Because of our Adamic sin and the sin nature passed on from Adam, we are not only born in sin but we also commit many sins throughout our lifetime.

1 Peter 2:24

“Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.”

1 John 2:2

“And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.”

Hebrews 9:28

“So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation.”

Today we think in trillions in relationship to our economic debt. But there was another debt that was also numbered in the trillions. It was the debt of our sins that Jesus bore on the cross of Calvary. Trillions of sins were placed upon Christ as He hung on the cross. In judicially bearing our sins, he took the necessary judgment in our place, removing our judgment, but also providing us with forgiveness and acquittal before the Father. The Lamb died for our sins, suffering the wrath of God on our behalf and providing us with forgiveness before God. He was the sin-bearing Lamb!

Have you had your sins put away? Are you forgiven? Have your personal sins been erased from your record? Only the Lamb can give you forgiveness before God.

Revelation 7:14

“These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.”

This is a beautiful expression of forgiveness which is found only through the sacrificial death of Christ and shedding of His blood. What can wash away my sin, nothing but the blood of Jesus!

When a large religious service was being conducted at the Golden Gate Exposition in San Francisco, many people quickly became aware that the minister delivering the main address was not thoroughly orthodox. Although a gifted speaker, he began to direct most of his eloquence against the power of the blood of Christ.

Ruth E. Marsden relates that when his fluent oratory ended, a timid, elderly lady stood up in the midst of the crowd and softly began to sing a great hymn by William Cowper as a touching rebuttal to the modernist's remarks. A hush fell over the assembly as they heard those faint but familiar words: "There is a fountain filled with blood drawn from Immanuel's veins, and sinners plunged beneath that flood lose all their guilty stains." Before she could begin the second stanza, approximately a hundred people rose to join her. By the time she reached the third verse, nearly a thousand Christians all over the audience were singing that blessed song of faith.

The triumphant, thrilling strains rang out loud and clear: "Dear dying Lamb, Thy precious blood shall never lose its power, till all the ransomed church of God be saved to sin no more." Many were deeply moved as that humble believer stood up for her Lord and with the light of Heaven upon her face gave testimony that she had found peace through the blood of His cross!

## 5. The sinless lamb

Sinless speaks of the purity of the Lamb.

The Old Testament Lamb was to be a pure lamb without any spot or blemish.

The typical message of Exodus 12:5 is clear:

"Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male of the first year: ye shall take it out from the sheep, or from the goats."

Leviticus 1:3

"If his offering be a burnt sacrifice of the herd, let him offer a male without blemish: he shall offer it of his own voluntary will at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation before the Lord."

Leviticus 14:10

"And on the eighth day he shall take two he lambs without blemish, and one ewe lamb of the first year without blemish, and three tenth deals of fine flour for a meat offering, mingled with oil, and one log of oil."

Of course, all of this was a prefigurement and picture of the final Lamb that would one day come, Jesus Christ, who would be offered on the cross for our sins. Jesus, as the sinless Lamb, "offered himself without spot to God" (Heb. 9:14). This speaks of the purity and impeccability of Christ. Jesus became sin for us legally and judicially on the cross but His spirit was never polluted with sin for He was the spotless Lamb of God.

"Guilty, vile, and helpless we;  
Spotless Lamb of God was He;  
"Full atonement!" can it be?  
Hallelujah! What a Savior!"



## 1 Peter 1:18-20

“Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot: Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you.”

Jesus Christ was impeccable and without sin. Jesus could not sin, would not sin, and did not sin. He was the sinless Son of God and the Lamb of God without blemish. For this reason He could die as the sinner’s sacrifice and pay the necessary penalty for sin. God required a perfect sacrifice to remove the penalty of sin. Jesus was the lamb without spot and blemish in answer to Old Testament typology.

You cannot separate the sacrificial blood of Jesus Christ (“precious blood of Christ”) from His purity (“as of a lamb without blemish and without spot”). This is because the blood that Christ shed on Calvary’s cross was pure, precious, and sinless blood. It was not tainted with Adam’s sin. Jesus did not have Adam’s sin flowing through his veins. Although human, Christ’s blood was also divine and pure. Therefore, the blood of the Lamb was precious (costly) in both its purity and redemptive benefits. The Lamb’s blood is “precious” to the believing, blood-washed sinner which means it possesses an incalculable cost to everyone who has been redeemed by it or set free from sin’s penalty and power. All the treasures of gold on earth could never pay for one single drop of blood that was shed on Calvary’s cross. The Lamb’s blood is precious.

“Oh! precious is the flow  
That makes me white as snow;  
No other fount I know,  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.”

J Pierpont Morgan was a noted American financier and multi-millionaire of an earlier generation. Before his death he composed a will consisting of 37 articles and 10,000 words. While Mr. Morgan had been involved in transactions involving millions of dollars during his lifetime, he left no doubt in his will as to what was the most important transaction he had ever made.

In his will he wrote:

"I commit my soul in the hands of my Saviour, full of confidence that having redeemed me and washed me with His most precious blood, He will present me faultless before the throne of my Heavenly Father. I entreat my children to maintain and defend, at all hazards and at any cost of personal sacrifice, the blessed doctrine of complete atonement of sins through the blood of Jesus Christ once offered and through that alone."

## **6. The sovereign lamb**

**Sovereignty speaks of the kingliness of the Lamb.**

Jesus Christ is portrayed in Scripture as the sovereign Lamb or supreme ruler who defeats His enemies and deserves praise as the preeminent and royal King of the ages.

The Lamb's sovereignty is seen in two ways.

a. The Lamb defeats His earthly enemies.

Revelation 17:14

"These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful."

This prophetic scene projects us into the end times. Someday the Lamb will be challenged for world dominion. Guess who wins? The Lamb, the Lord Jesus Christ who is the King, will slay the enemy, the Antichrist and his armies, and take over the world! No earthly tyrant can stop the will of the Lamb! This is because Jesus Christ is the sovereign Lamb!

b. The Lamb receives His heavenly worship (Rev. 7:9)

Revelation 7:9-10

"After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands. And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb. "

The Lamb throughout eternity will receive the worship of God's redeemed as the eternal King of the Ages. This is because He is the sovereign Lamb. He is the King of Kings and Lord of Lords (Rev. 19:16). He deserves all worship and praise as the only eternal sovereign "Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords" (1 Timothy 6:15).

"O worship the King, all glorious above,  
O gratefully sing His power and His love;  
Our Shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days,  
Pavilioned in splendor, and girded with praise."

## **7. The satisfying Lamb (Rev. 7:17)**

Satisfying speaks of the provision of the Lamb.

Revelation 7:17

"For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes."

Many today are looking for satisfaction in the world but they will never find true and lasting satisfaction when drinking from the waterholes of the world system. True satisfaction can only come through our relationship with Christ. Of course satisfaction can be experienced in this life as we practice abundant living as Jesus promised (John 10:10) but this satisfaction will also be experienced throughout eternity when we are in the presence of the Lamb.

God's people will experience satisfaction in Heaven as they fellowship with the Lamb in Glory in a special and intimate way. His life and provision will bring satisfaction and contentment to their hearts.

### **a. The feeding of the Lamb**

The first figurative expression "feed them" means "to feed, furnish, or tend a flock as a shepherd." The picture is that Jesus Christ will be our Shepherd. It means the Lamb of Glory will supply our every need as our caring Shepherd. Of course, this expression is one of the most beloved and common imageries used in the Old Testament (Ps. 23; 80:1; Isa. 40:11; Ezek. 34:23). Jesus, the Lamb, is also depicted as the Shepherd of His

people in the New Testament (John 10:11; Heb. 13:20; 1 Pet. 2:25; 5:4). In Heaven, Christ is portrayed as our Shepherd, caring for us, attending to us, and supplying our every spiritual need.

In Heaven we will experience the Lord's special shepherding ministry over our lives. His constant care and provision will be experienced. We will share and experience the wonder of His person, knowing that He is near to us and supplying our every spiritual need forever and forever.

The Lamb's shepherding ministry will bring eternal joy and comfort to our hearts. In Heaven we will discover that Jesus is enough!

#### b. The fountains of the Lamb

The second figurative expression "living fountains" points to the source of water, a spring, which indicates the refreshing or satisfying provision that the Lamb will bring to our hearts in Heaven and throughout eternity. As the Lamb, the Lord Jesus Christ will supply our needs and bring satisfaction into our hearts. Eternal satisfaction is what we will experience in Heaven.

The Lamb's fellowship and life will bring satisfaction to our hearts. Yes, in Heaven we will discover that Jesus is enough!

The feeding and fountains are then figurative expressions (Rev. 22:17) suggesting the spiritual supply and satisfaction that God's saints will experience in Heaven. The Lamb, as our Shepherd, will supply our every spiritual need and satisfy our hearts and lives forever and forever.

Psalm 17:15

As for me, I will behold thy face in righteousness: I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with thy likeness.

F. F. Bullard wrote  
"When I in righteousness at last  
Thy glorious face shall see;  
When all the weary night has passed,  
And I awake with Thee,  
To view the glories that abide,  
Then and only then will I be satisfied."

Of course today, the Lord satisfies our lives today as we experience in some measure the provision and satisfaction of His eternal life abiding within us. Jesus said in John 4:14: “But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.”

The satisfying supply and provision we receive today is just the foretaste of even a greater and more glorious eternal satisfaction we will experience when we see Christ face to face and allow Him to “feed” us and lead us “unto the living fountains (springs) of waters.” Our satisfaction will be complete and unending like a gushing fountain of water bubbling up out of the earth.

Psalm 16:11

Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore.

The Lamb’s life will be personally experienced and enjoyed individually throughout eternity. Each one of us will have a personal and intimate relationship with Him as we experience His Shepherding care and satisfaction which He brings to our hearts and lives. This is what makes Heaven – Heaven!

Revelation 21:22

“And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it.”

Unlike the old Jerusalem there will be no temple in the eternal heavenly Jerusalem because God Almighty and the Lamb (Jesus Christ) will be forever present. The whole city will be a virtual temple. The presence of God with man was the symbol of the earthly tabernacle and temple but in the New Jerusalem and throughout eternity this presence is a reality. The Bible teaches that the heavenly temple (holy of holies) is not confined to a structured place; it is the Lord God Himself. The message being presented is that we will have direct and constant access to God and the Lamb throughout eternity and experience a blessed fellowship with Him.

“The bride eyes not her garment,  
But her dear Bridegroom’s face;

I will not gaze at glory  
But on my King of grace.  
Not at the crown He giveth  
But on His pierced hand;  
The Lamb is all the glory  
Of Emmanuel's land."

## **8. The marriage service of the Lamb**

Marriage speaks of the wedding of the Lamb.

Revelation 19:7-9

"Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints. And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God."

Someday in Heaven the Church will be married to Jesus Christ the Lamb. The marriage will be officially consummated (2 Cor. 11:2) and we will be forever wedded to Jesus Christ, joined to Him, live in His presence, and enjoy His blessed company forever. What a day this will be! We are someday going to be officially recognized as the Lamb's wife.

We are going to a wedding someday, a heavenly wedding, where we will be eternally joined to the Lamb who died for us, rose again for us, prepared a place in Heaven for us, and who is one day going to return to take us home to this wondrous place.

Jesus said in John 14:1-3:

"Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also."

Yes, someday there is going to be a glorious wedding processional back to the Father's House. By Rapture (1 Thess. 4:13-18) we will enter into the

place Christ has prepared for us to be wedded to Him. The Church will be escorted back to Glory to be forever married to the Lord Jesus Christ.

Friend, do you have an invitation to the wedding? If you have put your faith and trust in the Lamb, the Lord Jesus Christ, who died in your place and rose again, then you have an invitation to this wedding. I can almost hear the wedding bells as I look ahead in faith to this wonderful and glorious day – the Marriage of the Lamb!

“Don’t you hear the bells now ringing?  
Don’t you hear the angels singing?  
'Tis the glory hallelujah Jubilee.  
In that far off sweet forever,  
Just beyond the shining river,  
When they ring the golden bells for you and me.”

Are you prepared for this wedding day? Are you ready to place your faith in the Lamb of God, Jesus Christ, so you can go to Heaven when you die? Do you want to live with Christ in Heaven and enjoy the presence of the Lamb forever? If so, you can place your faith and trust in what Jesus Christ has done for you to save you from hell and give you the free gift eternal life in Heaven. As the Lamb, He died in your place, taking upon Himself the penalty of sin, the wrath of God, the curse of hell, so you could go free and never experience God’s judgment. He died to set you free.

Will you take a step of faith and trust only Christ, the Lamb, to be your personal Savior from hell?

Galatians 3:26

“For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.”

When a person expresses faith in Christ they are putting all of their confidence in Christ’s death and resurrection to save them forever. Of course, faith in Christ is a personal choice.

Revelation 22:17

“And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.”

The invitation to “come” and “take” is another way of expressing simple faith in Christ to be your Savior. However, the words “come” and “take” involve freedom of choice. Will you come to faith in Christ today? Are you ready to trust Him only to be your Savior from hell? Jesus is the Lamb who died for you and who will save you today. Will you come to Him today and express faith in His provision of salvation?

Make this your prayer today and express personal faith in the Lamb:

“Just as I am, without one plea,  
but that thy blood was shed for me,  
and that thou bidst me come to thee,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.”