



John: The Great "I AM" Gospel
John 1:29-34
From Sermon 2.19.23

Read *John 1:29-34*

Overview from Sunday's sermon: Now having both his credentials and credibility verified, John the Baptist begins his eyewitness testimony to the person and nature of Jesus. He shares a past experience/revelation from the Father, where he is told what to watch for and all that it means. The other Gospels share the actual baptism of Jesus, whereas John (the Gospel) reads as if the event already took place. In the narrative and in our mock trial, we now enter into a transition leading to Jesus Himself.

1. In the middle of his testimony regarding Jesus' eternality, sovereignty, and deity, what new title and ministry does John proclaim about Jesus? He is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

2. What role does the spotless lamb play in both Israeli and Redemptive history? At the institution of the Passover, the blood of a spotless lamb was the sign of faith = causing the death angel to Passover that house. In the Law, the spotless lamb was a means of grace, by which the repentant showed the price of sin (death) and the needed substitute sacrifice. Both of these images pointed to Christ's future death. In Revelation, it's the Lamb who overcame the world, death, and the grave. See also *Exodus 12:13*

3. List some illustrative ways Jesus is that Lamb. Various answers. Sinless = spotless. He came physically, not just spiritual or allegorical. Did not open His mouth = went to the cross voluntarily on our behalf. Was utterly drained of blood, causing His death. Was accepted by the Father as the full, final sin price for the elect. Fulfilled and dissolved the old system of animal sacrifice.
See also *1 Corinthians 5:7, Hebrews 10:1-4, & 1 Peter 1:18-19*

4. The key text read: "*the sins of the world*". We know that doesn't mean all people are in Christ and going to heaven. What does it mean? People from all over the world, in various times. Not Jews only. We'll get into Limited Atonement in chapter 3. Keep in mind, Christ's death would be sufficient to pay the sin price for all, if all were elected unto salvation.

5. Why was Jesus baptized? Sign of anointing as Samuel did with David and his coronation (*1 Samuel 16:13*). To mark/identify with the closing of His former life (30 years, caring for Mary & family, & obscurity) and start of His new ministry (public). An example to believers. It symbolizes what's to come: His atoning death (into the water) & resurrection (come up out of the water). Signifies His new co-ministry with the Holy Spirit.

6. Read *Matthew 3:13-17*. At the baptism of Jesus, who do we now add our list of expert witnesses to Jesus' divinity? John the Baptist, John the Apostle (author), God the Father, & God the Holy Spirit.