

Matthew 21:1-27 – 19 January 2020

“Jesus Is The Lamb Of God”

Introduction

Jesus has had a 3 year public ministry

He had just come from Galilee down thru Perea and on His way to Jerusalem to finish His ministry

Jesus came to give 1) Compassion 2) Understanding of the Scripture 3) His life a ransom to win us back!

And now Christ comes into Jerusalem for the last week of His earthly ministry and life.

This is the culmination of His dedication to save our souls by being the Lamb of God, our substitutionary sacrifice.

John Baptist declared, “Behold the Lamb of God that takes away the sins of the world”

Today we'll look at 4 aspects of the Lamb of God

#1 – The Presentation of the Prophesied Lamb (Vs 1-11)

Read Vs 1-5

1. Prearrangement to borrow the animals.
2. “Hath need of them” - not b/c He’s weary but to show Himself as the humble Lamb of God
3. Jesus here intentionally fulfills prophecy
 - a. To come presenting Himself as their King
 - b. But presenting Himself as a lowly Lamb

Read Vs 6-9

1. Vs 8 – spread garments and branches showed dignity and respect to a person of honor.
2. Others waved palm branches showing victory
3. Vs 9 – Hosanna
 - a. This is full recognition of the Messiah King
 - b. Hosanna – *save now!* – Albert Israel

Read Vs 10-11

1. “Who is this?” – Yes, this IS the question!
 - a. The Psalmist asked, “Who is this King of Glory
 - i. Read Psm 24:8a, then Read Prov 30:4b, then Read Plm 24:8b
 - b. He’s about to go into battle, for your very soul as He goes to the cross as a Lamb!
 - c. Upon his trial before Pilate, the only true words that Pilate will say is, “Behold the Man”
2. Jesus is the prophesied Lamb of God
 - a. The 7 Jewish Feast are all fulfilled in Christ’s 1st or 2nd Coming. (4 Spring, 3 Fall)
 - b. Lev 23 – They all commemorate that past and have fulfillment in the future.
 - c. Turn to Exo 12:1-6 – Get the lamb on 10th day, examine for 4 days until the 14th day.
3. When John portrays heaven in Revelation, we see Jesus presented as the conquering Lamb.

#2 – The Priority of the Priceless Lamb (Vs 12-17)

Read Vs 12-13

1. Moneychangers called the people's sacrifices blemished so they could sell them 'better' ones.
2. He drove them out at beginning of ministry and now again at the end. Why so important?
 - a. Turn to Isa 56:1-8
 - i. Temple was for ALL people to gather and have communion directly w/ God.
 - b. Turn to Jer 7:3-11
 - i. Temple was being used for people to commune w/ their own passions and gods.
 - c. They were stealing from true worshippers of God to serve their own lusts and gods.
3. The focus should be on God & His Christ Lamb.

Read Vs 14-17

1. Jesus used to restrain the people from declaring that He's the Christ. (Read John 2:4)
2. Now, being examined for 4 days, He embraced it

#3 – The Patience of the Powerful Lamb (Vs 18-22)

Read Vs 18-22

1. Vs 21 – Jesus answers how He did this – by faith
 - a. He keeps telling them – ‘faith is the victory’
 - b. Matt 6 – worrying about clothes and food
 - c. Matt 8 – Crossing the stormy sea
 - d. Matt 9 – It heals the sick
 - e. Matt 14 – Peter walking on water
2. But let’s examine why He did this: The fig tree is intended to help us understand timing
 - a. Fig tree is used to help us know more of the timing of the 2nd coming
 - i. Read Matt 24:32-33 (Para in Luk 21:29)
 - ii. The fruit coming right after the leaves
 - b. Fig tree shows us God’s patience w/ Israel
 - i. Turn to Luke 13:6-9
 - ii. He has power to destroy it but has great love
 - c. This is there time but they didn’t know it
 - i. Turn to Luk 19:41-44

#4 – The Proof of the Perfect Lamb (Vs 23-27)

Read Vs 23

1. He has presented Himself as Messiah, kicked out the moneychangers and healed the people and they want to know why.
 - a. What is His guiding principle?
 - b. Who does He take orders from?
2. God Himself and His eternal Word is the only true source of authority and power.
 - a. Men think they have power & authority
 - i. Turn John 19:9-13
 - b. The Jews relied on men (past Rabbis teachers) to be their authority, it ought not be.
 - i. Read Matt 7:28-29
 - c. Many denominations and traditions today.
 - i. What authority would a Methodist hang their hat on if they lived before J. Wesley
 - ii. What authority would the Lutheran church hang their hat on if they lived before Luther

- iii. What authority would the Presbyterian church hang their hat on if they lived before John Knox
- iv. What authority would someone in Calvary Chapel hang their hat on if they lived before Chuck Smith
- v. *Take guidance from them only to the extent that they follow God and His Word.*

3. Jesus will be examined (as a Lamb for 4 days), but He will show them that they don't have the authority to be His examiner.

Read Vs 24-25a

- 1. This question has the same answer as the authority of Jesus.
- 2. So, instead of Jesus declaring the truth of who He is, He wants them to proclaim what they already know in their conscience!
- 3. In witnessing: Get others to talk more than you just proclaiming. Draw out their conscience!

Read Vs 25b-27

1. They were living based on politics or the popular opinion instead of on the truth.
2. They knew the answer but couldn't bring themselves to saying it b/c their position as priests and elders was more important than letting the truth lead you were it may.
3. So they begin to question Jesus to find a flaw in His teaching.
 - a. They can't find flaw in His teaching and He actually throw that questions back on them.
 - b. He will continually prove that
 - i. He's from God
 - ii. His teachings are consistent with what God has always promised.

Conclusion –

We've seen 4 aspects of the Lamb of God

1. The Presentation of the Prophesied Lamb
 - a. Jesus is the long-awaited Messiah
 - b. Come to wash away our sins
2. The Priority of the Priceless Lamb
 - a. Jesus is the center of God's plan of redemption from the beginning of time
3. The Patience of the Powerful Lamb
 - a. There was always a set day that Jesus was to come and fulfill His role as sacrifice
 - b. There's set time for the 2nd Coming as well.
 - i. The Lord is patience, not willing that any should perish.
 - ii. But when the day comes, that's the end
4. The Proof of the Perfect Lamb
 - a. Jesus proved over & over His perfection

Jesus Christ was willing to endure the shameful life of being our sacrificial lamb to win us back to Himself!

One day, we will all stand before Him to worship Him for His great sacrifice on our behalf.

Read Rev 5:6-8