

JESUS, LAMB OF GOD

JOHN 1:19-50

In John chapter 1 in the Bible, John the Baptist called a particular person a lamb.

John the Baptist spoke to great crowds of people along the banks of the Jordan River. He told the people to tell God they were sorry for their sins. His talks were so good people began to ask if John was the long expected Saviour. At last, the Jewish leaders in Jerusalem sent several priests down to John to find out the truth. "Who are you?" They asked John. "Are you the Christ who God has sent to be our Saviour?" "No," John said. "I am not the Christ." "Then who are you" asked the priests. "We have been sent to find out." "I am just a voice crying out in the wilderness" John said. "God has sent me to prepare the way of the Lord. There is one who will come after me who is mightier than I. He is so much greater than I am that I am not good enough to stoop down and untie his shoes."

One day John saw Jesus himself coming among the people. John knew Jesus was the Christ. So he said "See, this is the Lamb of God which takes away the sin of the world. This is the person I told you about when I said after me there comes someone who is greater than I am. I myself did not know who it would be but God said to me I will send my spirit upon him in the form of a dove and the Holy Spirit will remain with him. That is the one who is my son. Now I have seen this. I have told you that this Jesus is the Son of God."

When the people went home that night they could talk only of the strange things that had happened that day. Those who had been longing and praying for the Saviour to come were filled with joy.

Why did John call Jesus the Lamb of God? It's because God taught the Israelite people to use a lamb as a way of showing God they were sorry for their sins. When the lamb was killed, it meant the people knew that they deserved to die because they did not do what God told them was right. Then God would forgive them when they gave the lamb sacrifice. When Jesus died on the cross, he was like that lamb because he died for our sins as God's sacrifice for us. God says that if we believe this, he will forgive us. That is how Jesus saves us. Aren't you glad that God sent Jesus Christ to be your lamb, your Saviour? Love Him today and read John Chapter 1 beginning with verse 19 in your Bible.