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The Price of the Lamb

As believers, Jesus is everything to us. He is the reason we are able to be born again. He is the King of kings and Lord of lords. He is the mighty Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Alpha and the Omega, the Almighty and Immanuel. There are many more incredible names and definitions of Jesus in the scripture, but there is one which was the first and most essential for us to know Him as.

John the Baptist said it in John 1:29, *“The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!”* This name was so meaningful to John that he felt it needed to be shared with his disciples. Not the names of great authority but the simplest of all, Lamb.

In our Christian culture, we have a basic understanding of Jesus as our Savior; however, the more we learn about the price He paid for us, the more we will fall in love with Him. He was determined to rescue us at a tremendous cost of His own. This type of love is irresistible. He refused to give up on us; even in our pride and arrogance, He chased us and gave His all for us.

In the greatest battle of all time of good versus evil, God sent in a little lamb to defeat the prince of darkness. The Lamb symbolizes the innocence and purity of all creatures. He laid His life down as the Lamb of God so that our sins and the punishment could be placed upon Him. God didn't strike the devil with a billion angels in great warfare to win you to salvation, but instead, He sent one perfect, pure, and innocent Lamb to be slaughtered in your place. You were not captured by power but bought with the great price of the blood of the Lamb of God.

Romans 6:4-5 helps us to see the importance of the Lamb. *“Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection.”* In our first birth, we were born into a species of darkness and death called the human race, and God's plan was to lead us into a new birth of salvation. Jesus didn't only die for us, but He also came to our place of death.

There was no other way. This was the only way, and the cost was the price of the blood of the very Lamb of God. He had to come to our place of darkness first, then He was resurrected from death to life, and this was how He led us into salvation. If the world could only see a glimpse of His great sacrifice and love towards them, they would run into His arms. Our salvation was a birth into a new family, a family of light and life.

With His incredible sacrifice, Jesus made a way for His Father to become our Father. What a fantastic salvation He planned for us, to be born into His family, the children of God. I

think it will take an eternity to come close to understanding the actual cost that was paid for our opportunity to be born again. I actually see the modern church taking salvation so lightly that many believers think their reward is to escape hell. Many consider their response to the price that He paid is to be thankful that they are going into heaven. The response should be that my life is no longer my own because of this great price paid for me. My very existence should now be in the hands of my Father and not my desires anymore.

The key to helping self-centered Christianity is showing them the cost God was willing to pay for their salvation. It says in 1 Peter 1:18-21, *“knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot. He indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you who through Him believe in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.”*

There is a call from the Spirit to the church, asking us to stop waiting until heaven comes. The Spirit is challenging us to start today by laying our lives down at the feet of Jesus at this very moment. He is not asking for more of our lives but is asking for all of our life. This is not to be a grievous task but a glorious walk of faith while we still have time on this earth. Will we do it? Will you do it? Will you say to your Heavenly Father that you see the heavy cost paid to save you and are willing to yield up every dream and purpose into His hands?

The early church understood this and lived their lives in obedience to His will even unto death. It is time for His modern church to find the same path of service. It is the cry of the Spirit for us to rise up in these last days and to walk as God intended. We have a glorious season ahead of us, a season of great fruit and great power.

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