

December 8, 2022

The Lord wants you to experience real and abundant life:

John 1:29 *The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look, the Lamb of God, Who takes away the sin of the world!"* (NIV)

There is perhaps no greater statement in all of God's word than these words spoken by John the Baptist of whom Jesus said in **Mt. 11:11** *Truly I tell you, among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist.* (NIV)

Now why is the statement of John so powerful? Because in this proclamation, John has spoken the entirety of the gospel. Jesus did not come into this world to just live thirty-three and a half years. He didn't just come to perform miracles, heal the sick, cast out demons, give sight to the blind, or even raise some from the dead. He came to take away the sin of the world! **Rev. 13:8b** *the Lamb Who was slain from the creation of the world.* (NIV) He is the Lamb of God!

Now I must interject this right now. Jesus did not, let me repeat, did not come to be the Lamb of God that would pay for the sins of some of the world or the select of the world. He paid for every sin ever committed by every person. John the Baptist proclaimed it. The Apostle John also proclaimed it in **1 John 2:2** *He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.* (NIV) Some people want to feel special thinking that somehow God must have loved them more than others and chose them to be saved. That is not true! Jesus atoned for every sin of every person so that anyone, Jew or Gentile, intellectual or simpleton, believer or atheist, anyone could call upon Him to be saved. That is what God's unconditional love is all about. **John 3:16** *For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.* (NIV) This is what we celebrate at Christmas. He was born to die to rise again to crush the power of Satan's sin! He is King eternal, come so that we can have life and have it to the full.

Dear LORD, thank You for taking on human flesh and offering up Yourself for our sins. There is no greater love than this. In Jesus Name, Amen