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A just weight
and balance

are the
LORD'S:

Thus saith the Lord...

- Today we come to the most beautiful word picture in the New Testament:

- *The Lamb of God.*
(John 1:29)

- What was in John's mind when he used that title?
- There are at least four pictures which John presents.

- **# 1** John was thinking of the **Passover Lamb**.
- The story of the Passover was that it was the blood of the slain lamb which protected the houses of the Israelites on the night when they left Egypt (**Exodus 12:11-13**).

- On that night when the Angel of Death **slew the first-born** of the Egyptians,
- The Israelites were to **smear their doorposts** **with the blood of the slain lamb,** and the angel, seeing it, would pass over that house.

- Imagine the agony of the people who had **no Passover Lamb.**
 - What was it like to wake up and discover that **your first born** had died during the night.

- And you rush next door and their first-born is dead also.
- And the next...
- And the next...
- And the next.

- **What agony.**
- Not a headache.
- No 24 hour virus.
- But a heart ache
that lasted a life time.
- This is what people fail to think about.
- Even Pharaoh was not exempt.

- The *blood* of the lamb was sufficient to save from death,
 - But the people had to *feed* on the lamb to get strength for their journey.
- (**Exodus 12:8**)

- Salvation is **just the beginning.**
- We must **feed** on Christ if we are to have the strength to follow Him.
- **1 Peter 2:2**

As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:

- *“Study to shew thyself approved”*
(**2 Timothy 2:15**)

- It took **faith** to be delivered that night!
- The Egyptians thought all these things were foolishness.
- **1 Corinthians 3:20**
The Lord knows the thoughts of the wise, that they are vain.

- **God's Word had spoken**
and that was enough
for Moses and his people.
 - Keep in mind
that the people were
saved by the blood
and
assured by the Word
(**Exodus 12:12**).

• Exodus 12:12

For I will pass through the land of Egypt this night, and will smite all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I am the LORD.

- The **lamb** had died for the firstborn **of Israel.**
- Now the firstborn would **belong to God.**
(**Exodus 13:2**)
 - The Jews were a **“purchased people”**
- Just as we are God’s purchased people
 - ***“For you are bought with a price: therefore glorify in your body, and in your spirit, which are God’s.”***
(**1 Corinthians 6:18-20**).

- **# 2** **John was the son of a priest.**
- He knew all the ritual of the Temple **and its sacrifices.**
- Every **morning** and every **evening** a lamb was sacrificed in the Temple for the sins of the people (**Exo 29:38-42**).
- **I good times and bad times** they never omitted to offer the lamb
 - **Until in A.D. 70** the Temple was destroyed.

- # 3 John is reminded of the picture both
Jeremiah and Isaiah painted.

- Jeremiah writes:

"But I was like a gentle lamb led to the slaughter"
(Jeremiah 11:19).

- And Isaiah has the picture of the one
who was brought

"like a lamb to the slaughter"
(Isaiah 53:7).

- This seemingly
meekest lamb
would redeem his people.

- **# 4 There is a fourth picture**
which would be very familiar to the Jews, although very strange to us.
- Between the Old and New Testaments there were the days of the great **struggles of the Maccabees.**
 - In those days the lamb,
and especially **the horned lamb,**
was the symbol of **a great conqueror.**

- ***Then Abraham raised his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him a ram caught in the thicket by his horns;***
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and Abraham went and took the ram and offered him up for a burnt offering in the place of his son.
(Genesis 22:13)

- We know that Jesus came as the ***Lamb of God*** who would take away the sins of the world (**John 1:29**).
- We also know that Jesus was our ***Passover Lamb***, sacrificed for us (**1 Corinthians 5:7**).

- So why didn't
God
provide Abraham
a lamb
rather than
a ram?



- The ram is used in the O.T. to represent power and force.
 - It is used 98 time in 87 verses.
 - I don't want to over stress its use in representing Jesus.
- However, there are some interesting thoughts n scripture.

- Jesus
is portrayed
in scripture as the
“Lamb of God”

(John 1:29)

and

“The Lion of the tribe of Judah”.

(Revelation 5:5)

- In the Old Testament we have one picture of the Ram of God.
(Genesis 22:13)
- The Lamb and the Ram are very similar in that they are both sheep.
 - Illustrating for us different aspects of the Lamb of God..

- The Ram has horns, symbolizing Christ's fighting power.
- ***“Do you think that I cannot appeal to My Father, and He will at once put at My disposal more than twelve legions of angels? (Matthew 26:53)***

• **Luke 1:67**

*And his father Zacharias
was filled with the Holy Ghost,
and prophesied, saying,*

1:68 *Blessed be the Lord God of
Israel; for he hath visited and
redeemed his people,*

- Luke 1:69

*And hath raised up
an horn of salvation*

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*for us in the house of
his servant David;*

- **1 Samuel 2:10**

**They that strive with Jehovah
shall be broken to pieces;**

- **Against them will he
thunder in heaven:**

- **Jehovah will judge
the ends of the earth;**

- **And he will give strength
unto his king,**

- **And exalt the horn of his anointed.**

- When the sacred writers speak of great strength they often use the word “horn,”

(Psa 148:14; Deu 33:17; Dan 7:7-8;21)

- The word salvation, connected here with the word “horn,”

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means that this mighty Redeemer, was able to save.

- Horns are mentioned regarding two altars in the tabernacle:
 - Exodus 37:25
Altar of incense
 - Leviticus 4:25
Altar of burnt offerings

- On each of the four corners of the altar of incense and altar of burnt offerings there were small projection called a “horn.”
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(Exodus 37:25, Leviticus 4:25)

- To this one might flee for safety when in danger, and be safe.
(1Kings 1:50; 2:28)

- In worship,
the horns of the altar
were bathed with blood
to make atonement for sin
(**Leviticus 8:15; 4:6**).
- The horns of the altar
speak of God's forgiveness.
- That part of the altar
also became
a place of refuge
for a fugitive
(**1 Kings 1:50**).

- **1 Kings 1:50**

And Adonijah feared because of Solomon, and arose, and went, and caught hold on the horns of the altar.

- The altar was a sort of asylum, or refuge, for such who had committed **any crime worthy of death;**
 - Not by divine appointment, **but by custom,**
- It being supposed that none would presume to defile with blood that which was **sacred to the Lord;**
 - Mercy was expected, where sacrifices were offered **to atone for sin.**

- The Redeemer may be called the “*horn of salvation*,”
(**Luke 1:69**)

because those who flee to him are safe.

- By laying hold of the horns the offender thereby placed himself under the protection of the saving grace of God.

- We often see the horn in Scripture as a symbol of salvation.

- Psalm 18:2 says,

“The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.”

- The salvation Jesus offers is strong, triumphant, and powerful.
- Just like the horns on the altar offered refuge and atonement, Jesus offers clemency and cleansing through His death on the cross.
- However strong our spiritual foe, *the horn of our salvation* is stronger still.

- The “horn of salvation”

- It is a *powerful horn*:

(**Romans 1:16**)

- We learn in

2 Corinthians 10:4

For the weapons

of our warfare are not carnal,

but mighty through God

to the pulling down of strong holds;

- **Worldly kingdoms**
are large,
- They have much goods,
many people, great honor,
 - But they are only
temporal kingdoms.
 - Spiritual enemies
unceasingly attack
the children of God,
 - But God has His
”horn of salvation”.

- *A horn of salvation,*
against which
no foe can stand.
- Job found his horn
in the “**dust**”
(**Job 16:15**)
- But not our Lord:
 - **Psalm 1:1**
Praise the Lord...
his horn shall be exalted with honor.
- **112:10** *The wicked shall see it, and be grieved;
he shall gnash with his teeth, and melt away:
the desire of the wicked shall perish.*

- As the adult ram is aggressive.
- Jesus is portrayed as a gentle lamb.
- However, Jesus is often pictured as aggressive in numerous scriptures.

- Revelation 5:6

*And I beheld, and, lo,
in the midst of the throne
and of the four beasts,
and in the midst of the elders,
stood a Lamb
as it had been slain,
• having seven horns...*

- 1 Samuel 2:10

*They that strive with Jehovah
shall be broken to pieces;*

*Against them will he
thunder in heaven:*

*Jehovah will judge
the ends of the earth;*

*And he will give strength
unto his king,*

And exalt the horn of his anointed. ⁴⁴

• 1 Kings 22:11

And Zedekiah ...

made him horns of iron,

and said,

Thus saith Jehovah,

With these shalt thou push

the Syrians,

until they be consumed.

- Jesus alludes to His
”*Horn of salvation*”

in

- **Matthew 28:18**

All authority

*has been given unto me
in heaven and on earth.*

- We now
turn our attention
back to the
“*Lamb of God*”.

- Let us notice six things that make the “Lamb of God” angry.
 - The Bible says,
“be angry and do not sin,”
and during Jesus’ sinless life
He expressed righteous indignation
at crucial moments
to teach His us all
eternal lessons.

- **The Lamb**
becomes
The Ram.

- Here are
six heart issues
that incite His anger.

- Hypocrisy
- Matthew 7:5

Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of your own eye; and then shalt you see clearly to cast out the mote out of your brother's eye.

- It is extremely easy to weed our neighbors garden, while our own is overrun with weeds.

- Greed

- Matthew 21:12

And Jesus went into the temple of God, and cast out all them that sold and bought in the temple, and overthrew the tables of the money changers, and the seats of them that sold doves,

21:13 *And said unto them,*

It is written,

My house shall be called

the house of prayer;

but you have made it

a den of thieves.

- **Lukewarm Living**

- **Revelation 3:14**

**And unto the angel of the church
of the Laodiceans write;**

**3:15 I know your works,
that you are neither cold nor hot:
I would you were cold or hot.**

**3:16 So then because
thou art lukewarm,
and neither cold nor hot,
I will spew you out of my mouth.**

- **Hard Heartedness**

- **Mark 3:4**

And he saith unto them,

Is it lawful to do good

on the sabbath days,

or to do evil?

to save life, or to kill?

But they held their peace.

3:5 *And when he had
looked round about on them*

with anger,

being grieved for the

hardness of their hearts,

- Arrogance
- Matthew 23:2

*The scribes and the Pharisees
sit in Moses' seat:*

23:3 *All therefore whatsoever they bid you observe, that observe and do; but do not after their works: for they say, and do not.*

23:4 *For they bind heavy burdens and grievous to be borne, and lay them on men's shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with one of their fingers.*

Psalm 75:4

I said unto the
arrogant,
Deal not arrogantly;
And to the
wicked,
Lift not up the
horn:
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- **Spiritual Pride**

- **Luke 18:9**

And he spake this parable unto certain which trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others:

18:10 Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican.

18:11 The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men *are*, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican.

18:12 I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess.

- Spiritual Pride

- Luke 18:13

And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as *his* eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner.

18:14 I tell you, this man went down to his house justified *rather* than the other: for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.

- **The lamb**

strange as it may sound to us
stood for the conquering
champion of God.

- This is no picture of
gentle and helpless weakness,

- But rather a picture of
majesty and **power.**

- There is sheer wonder
in the phrase,
the Lamb of God.
- It haunted the writer of
the Revelation letter.
- Twenty-nine times
he used it.
- It is one of scriptures
most precious titles.

- One word

sums up:

- the love,
- the sacrifice,
- the suffering,
- the power.

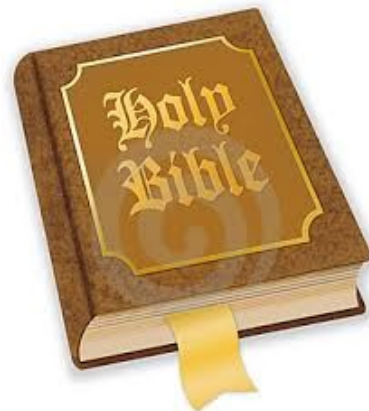
• *Behold,
the Lamb of God,
who takes away
the sin of the world.
(John 1:29)*

- **Think on these things**
- **Philippians 4:8**

**The doors of the church
are open.**

**The Spirit and the Bride
Say
“Come”.**

Revelation 22:17



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