

CLASS: SS1

SUBJECT: CHRISTIAN RELIGIOUS STUDIES

TOPIC: JESUS AS THE LAMB, DOOR AND THE GOOD SHEPHERD

WEEK: 2

TERM: FIRST

JESUS AS THE LAMB

(John 1:29-34)

As John the Baptist carried out his baptismal ministry, He saw Jesus coming towards him in one of the occasions and he declared before the people. Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. This is He of whom I said, after me comes a man who rank before me.

However, the day Jesus came to Him to be baptized; John used the metaphor of a lamb to describe Him. John ministered to the people about Christ and declared again publicly saying:

“This is he of whom I said, ‘after me come a man who ranks before me? I myself did not know him’; but for this I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel...”

SIGNIFICANCE OF JESUS AS THE LAMB

1. By describing Jesus as the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of world, Jesus had replaced the Jewish yearly sacrificial lamb and had become the once and for all atoning lamb.
2. Like a sacrificial lamb, Jesus laid down his life for the sins of the world.
3. He suffered and died innocently for sinners to be cleansed and saved.
4. Jesus did it willingly and in accordance with the will of God. He was eventually glorified and exalted by God.
5. With Jesus as the Lamb of God, there is no need for us to recognize another sacrifice for our sins.

JESUS AS THE DOOR AND THE GOOD SHEPHERD

(John 10:1-8)

Jesus taught the people about Himself, using a metaphor of a door and shepherd. He told them that whoever does not enter a sheep pen (where livestock are reared) by door, but enter through other ways is a thief. He who enters through the door is a shepherd whose voice his sheep know and listen to. The shepherd knows his sheep by name and they follow him.

On the other hand, the sheep cannot follow a stranger but will rather run away because they do not know his voice. Jesus went further to say, he is the gate or door and whoever enters through Him shall be saved. He who enters through Him shall find pasture for his soul. He is the good shepherd who lays down His life for His sheep.

Differences between the Good Shepherd and the Hired Shepherd.

- i. A hired shepherd has selfish intentions; the good shepherd has the intention of giving life to the flock.
- ii. A hired shepherd runs away when there is danger coming but the good shepherd lays down his life to save the flock
- iii. A hired shepherd does not care about the sheep unlike the good shepherd who takes good care of the sheep.
- iv. The good shepherd knows his sheep and they know him, but they may not know the hired shepherd.
- v. The hired shepherd stays as much as he is paid but the good shepherd does not abandon his sheep because of non-payment of his allowance or salaries.

The significance of Jesus as the Door, Lamb and Good Shepherd.

- i. By describing Jesus as the Lamb of God, it signifies Jesus as the sacrificial lamb who will die for the remission of the sins of mankind.
- ii. By saying Jesus is the Door, means Jesus is the only means or way to salvation. No one can get to God except through Him.

- iii. Being a Good shepherd who lays down His life for His sheep signifies that Jesus so loved mankind that he agreed to die so that we shall live.

Assignment

By describing Jesus as the Lamb, in what way is it significance to Christians?