

Bible Study: St. John's – West Bend

October 20/21, 2021

Pastor Jeff Hesse



...for it is the blood that makes atonement by the life. (Lv. 17:11b)

Discipleship Stories/Opening Prayer

Opening Conversation:

- What does the word “sacrifice” mean to you?
- What does “sacrifice” have to do with “*Re-Sharing in Christ*”?
 - Extreme cost?
 - Is it a transaction? What does the lamb or goat get?
 - What is shared by the people to the One who sacrifices?
 - Who gives and who takes? Why – what’s the problem?
 - Do you sacrifice? Does your sacrifice save you? Is it still valuable... why?
 - **What is shared by man? God? PANEL →**

Read: Exodus 12:1-14 (*Sharing a Holy Meal in God's Promise*)

- What jumps out at you when you hear or read this text?
- Do you see the “household” language here? But, who’s Passover Feast is it? Why – what was God up to here?
- What’s your place in this amazing event?

Read: John 1:29-39 (*God Shares His Lamb, His Son... with Purpose*)

- Who shows up and what title is given to Him by the preacher?
- What Sacrament is connected with this event?
- What invitation do you see at the end of this reading? Who invites? Who follows? Is there sacrifice in following? Blessing?

Read: Revelation 5:1-14 (*Our Share in the Lamb's Heavenly Reign*)

- What’s going on here... what is John seeing?
- What is a key phrase in the “new song”? See the sacrifice?
- *“Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, who’s _____ set us free to be people of God...”* (LSB p. 155)

Final Reflections

- How do you SHARE in the blood of the Lamb?
- What is the importance of *“We Resolve to Re-Share the Lamb of God?”*

What does “Sharing” really mean? Sacrifice...

Repulsed by the Old Testament sacrifice of animals, many people close their eyes to the truths in these portions of Scripture. They understand that the Old Testament points to the promised Savior of the New Testament, but the bloody stories of a warlike God offend some.

However, the old covenant embodies the discipline, divine nature, and dramatic revelation of a loving, trustworthy Lord. The Old Testament reveals:

- 1) *The depth of humankind's depravity.*
- 2) *The seriousness of people's sins.*
- 3) *The extent of God's wrath.*
- 4) *The depth of God's love.*
- 5) *The need for a redeeming Savior.*

Moses understood these issues. He told the Israelites that to cover human sin, blood must be shed. The power of the blood must accompany any approach to the Father. And as the blood of the old covenant spilled onto the altar and was sprinkled on the people, God revealed His redeeming grace and the forgiving power of His mercy.

(Lutheran Study Bible, Large Print ESV – p. 136)

Closing Prayer