

Remember the Lamb – Dave Hayman 6-14-26 – Bible Study Helps

Title: Remember the Lamb

Sermon Summary: This sermon traces the prophetic thread of the Lamb throughout Scripture, from Genesis to Revelation, demonstrating how God predetermined Christ's sacrifice before the foundation of the world. The message emphasizes that despite living in difficult times (the Laodicean church age), Christians can maintain hope by remembering what the Lamb accomplished through His shed blood. The sermon encourages believers to trust in God's plan during trials, share the gospel boldly, and live with eternal perspective, knowing that Christ's sacrifice provides complete redemption that cannot be earned through works or tradition.

Key Points:

- God established the sacrifice of the Lamb from the very beginning, starting with Adam and Eve's covering in the Garden of Eden
- The Passover lamb in Exodus foreshadowed Christ's sacrifice, with the blood on the doorposts forming a cross
- John the Baptist identified Jesus as "the Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world"
- Christ was predestined to be the sacrificial Lamb before the foundation of the earth
- The resurrection proves Christ's victory and guarantees our eternal hope
- Grace is the free, unmerited love and favor of God that we didn't deserve
- Hell was created for the devil and his angels, not for mankind
- Christians must not let fear or worldly cares keep them from sharing the gospel
- Hope in the Lamb enables believers to endure suffering and trials with faith
- We are redeemed not by corruptible things like silver and gold, but by the precious blood of Christ

Scripture Reference:

- 1 Peter 1:18-21 (primary passage)
- Genesis 3:21 (first sacrifice covering Adam and Eve)
- Genesis 4:4-5 (Abel's acceptable sacrifice)
- Genesis 22:4-13 (Abraham and Isaac, the ram caught in thorns)
- Exodus 12:4-14 (Passover lamb instructions)
- John 1:29, 36 (John identifies Jesus as the Lamb of God)
- John 19:16-20 (Jesus' crucifixion)

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- John 20:1-17 (Jesus' resurrection)
- Revelation 22:13 (Jesus as Alpha and Omega)
- Psalm 42:11 (hope in God)
- Isaiah 40:31 (those who wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength)
- Matthew 25:33-34, 41 (separation of sheep and goats, hell prepared for the devil)

Stories:

- Adam and Eve's sin and God's provision of lamb skins as covering (first sacrifice)
- Cain and Abel's offerings, with Abel's lamb sacrifice being acceptable to God
- Abraham's willingness to sacrifice Isaac, with God providing a ram caught in thorns as a substitute
- The Passover in Egypt, with lamb's blood on doorposts protecting the Israelites from death
- Job's trials and unwavering faith despite losing everything and suffering physical affliction
- Joseph's journey from the pit to slavery to prison to second-in-command of Egypt, never losing faith
- Jessica's battle with cancer and her faithful witness to doctors and nurses during treatment
- Leland's stroke recovery and the miraculous provision for specialized therapy in Florida
- The eagle rising above the storm on widespread wings, illustrating how believers should rise above trials by drawing closer to God

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Discipleship Questions

How does recognizing that God planned the sacrifice of the Lamb before the foundation of the world change your understanding of His love and intentionality toward humanity?

In what ways do the Old Testament lamb sacrifices, from Adam and Eve to the Passover, help you better appreciate what Jesus accomplished on the cross?

Job maintained his faith despite losing everything, and Joseph trusted God through betrayal and imprisonment. What can their examples teach us about maintaining hope during our own trials?

The sermon mentions that many Jews missed recognizing Jesus as the Lamb of God despite all the prophetic signs. What spiritual blind spots might prevent us today from fully seeing and responding to Jesus?

How does understanding that hell was created for the devil and his angels, not for humanity, impact your urgency to share the gospel with others?

The sermon asks what is interfering with your hope in the Lamb today. What honest answer would you give to that question, and what steps could you take to remove those obstacles?

When facing difficult circumstances, how can we practically rise above the storm like an eagle rather than allowing ourselves to be consumed by worry and fear?

The examples of Jessica and Leland show people using their suffering as opportunities to share the gospel. How might God want to use your current challenges for His purposes?

What does it mean that we are redeemed not by our traditions or family heritage, but solely by the precious blood of Christ, and how should this truth shape our identity?

Given that we know how the story ends and that Jesus is coming back soon, how should this certainty about the future change the way we live today?

Small Group Guide: Remember the Lamb

Based on 1 Peter 1:18-21

Opening Prayer & Icebreaker (10 minutes)

Icebreaker Question: What is one family tradition or story that has been passed down through generations in your family? How has it shaped your understanding of your family's history?

Review of Main Points (5 minutes)

This sermon walked us through the biblical narrative of the Lamb—from Genesis to Revelation—showing how God has consistently pointed to Jesus Christ as the ultimate sacrifice for our sins. The message emphasized:

1. **Remember the Lamb** - God's plan of redemption through Jesus was established before the foundation of the world
 2. **Living with Hope** - How biblical figures like Job and Joseph maintained faith through trials
 3. **Our Response** - We are called to share the gospel boldly, remembering what Christ has done
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Discussion Questions

Section 1: The Lamb Throughout Scripture (20 minutes)

1. The sermon traced the lamb from Genesis through Revelation. Which of these connections was most meaningful or surprising to you? Why?
 - Adam and Eve's covering (Genesis 3:21)
 - Cain and Abel's offerings (Genesis 4)
 - Abraham and Isaac (Genesis 22)
 - The Passover lamb (Exodus 12)
 - John's declaration: "Behold the Lamb of God" (John 1:29)
2. **Read Genesis 22:7-8.** Abraham told Isaac, "God will provide himself a lamb." How does this prophetic statement deepen your understanding of God's plan for Jesus?

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3. The Passover blood on the doorposts formed a cross. What other "hidden pictures" of Jesus have you discovered in the Old Testament? How does recognizing these patterns strengthen your faith?

Section 2: Living with Hope Through Trials (25 minutes)

4. **Job's Response:**
 - o Job lost everything yet said, "The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away. Blessed be the name of the Lord" (Job 1:21). What does this teach us about worship during suffering?
 - o Have you ever experienced a time when you struggled to maintain this attitude? What helped you return to a posture of trust?
5. **Joseph's Perspective:**
 - o After being betrayed, sold into slavery, falsely accused, and imprisoned, Joseph told his brothers, "God did send me before you to preserve life" (Genesis 45:5). How did Joseph maintain hope through years of injustice?
 - o Can you identify a difficult season in your life where you later saw God's purpose? How long did it take to recognize it?
6. **Modern Examples:**
 - o The sermon shared stories of Jessica's cancer battle and Leland's stroke recovery. Both maintained faith and shared the gospel during their trials. What strikes you most about their responses?
 - o Who in your life has modeled this kind of unwavering hope? What can you learn from their example?
7. **Read Isaiah 40:31.** The sermon compared believers to eagles that rise above storms rather than hiding from them. What does it practically look like to "rise above" your current challenges by getting closer to God?

Section 3: Our Response to the Lamb (20 minutes)

8. The sermon stated: "Every door we don't go through allows another created human being to go to hell and eternal damnation." How does this statement challenge you? Does it motivate or overwhelm you? Why?
9. **Read Matthew 25:41.** Hell was prepared for the devil and his angels, not for humanity. How should this truth shape:
 - o Our urgency in sharing the gospel?
 - o Our compassion for the lost?
 - o Our prayers for those who don't know Christ?
10. The sermon asked: "What is interfering with your hope in the Lamb today? What are you afraid of? What cares of the world are distracting you and keeping you out of the fight?"
 - o Take a moment of silent reflection on these questions
 - o Would anyone be willing to share what God is bringing to mind?
11. A preacher once said, "What are you afraid of? They might kill you? To be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord." How does this eternal perspective change the way we should approach evangelism and daily living?

Key Takeaways

Choose 2-3 to emphasize based on your group's needs:

1. **God's redemption plan was established before creation** - We were never an afterthought; God prepared the way of salvation before the foundation of the world.
 2. **The entire Bible points to Jesus** - From Genesis to Revelation, God consistently reveals Christ as the spotless Lamb who takes away sin.
 3. **Hope in the Lamb sustains us through trials** - Job, Joseph, and modern believers demonstrate that faith in God's plan enables us to endure suffering with purpose.
 4. **Grace is unmerited favor** - We received what we didn't deserve through Christ's sacrifice, not through our own works or family traditions.
 5. **We have an urgent assignment** - Living in the last days should motivate us to share the gospel boldly, not sit on our "blessed assurance."
 6. **Hell was never God's plan for humanity** - This should increase our compassion and urgency for the lost.
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Practical Applications

This Week's Challenge (Choose one or create your own):

Option 1: Daily Lamb Remembrance

- Each morning this week, read one of the "Lamb passages" from the sermon (Genesis 3:21; 4:4; 22:7-8; Exodus 12:5-13; John 1:29; Revelation 22:13)
- Journal or pray about how this passage deepens your gratitude for Christ's sacrifice
- Share one insight with the group next week

Option 2: Rise Above Like the Eagle

- Identify one current "storm" in your life (challenge, worry, difficulty)
- Instead of just enduring it, intentionally "rise above" by:
 - Spending extra time in prayer about this specific issue
 - Asking God to show you His purpose in allowing this trial
 - Looking for opportunities to share hope with others going through similar struggles
- Report back to the group: How did this shift in perspective change your experience?

Option 3: Share the Lamb

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- Like Jessica sharing the gospel during chemotherapy, identify one "divine appointment" God has placed in your life this week
- Pray for courage and opportunity to share what Christ has done for you
- It could be a neighbor, coworker, family member, or even a medical professional
- Come prepared to share your experience (whether you succeeded or struggled)

Option 4: Evaluate Your Hope

- Complete a personal "hope inventory" by honestly answering:
 - What am I currently afraid of?
 - What worldly cares are distracting me from God's mission?
 - What doors of opportunity have I avoided walking through?
 - What would change if I truly believed "to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord"?
- Share your reflections with an accountability partner or the group

Option 5: Study the Lamb

- If you've never done a deep study of Old Testament sacrifices, spend time this week researching:
 - The requirements for sacrificial lambs (unblemished, firstborn, etc.)
 - How these requirements point to Jesus
 - The significance of blood in the Old Testament
- Share what you learn with the group

Memory Verse for the Week

1 Peter 1:18-19 (KJV)

"Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot."

Memorization Tip: Break it into phrases and repeat throughout the day:

- "Not redeemed with silver and gold"
- "But with the precious blood of Christ"
- "As of a lamb without blemish and without spot"

Closing Prayer Focus (10 minutes)

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Pray together for:

1. **Gratitude** - Thank God for His predetermined plan of salvation through the Lamb
2. **Those Facing Trials** - Pray for anyone in your group experiencing health challenges, financial struggles, or other difficulties—that they would have Job-like faith and Joseph-like perspective
3. **Boldness** - Ask God to remove fear and give courage to share the gospel this week
4. **The Lost** - Pray specifically for unsaved friends and family members by name
5. **Urgency** - That we would live with the reality that Christ's return is approaching and people need to hear the gospel

Prayer Method: Consider brief prayers where members briefly pray one-sentence prayers covering these topics, or divide into pairs for more intimate prayer time.

Preparation for Next Week

- Read the next sermon passage (if announced)
 - Follow through on your chosen practical application
 - Be prepared to share one testimony of how God worked in your life this week
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Leader Notes

Sensitive Topics:

- Some may be currently facing trials similar to Job or the modern examples shared
- Create space for emotional responses without forcing sharing
- Have tissues available
- Be prepared to pray individually with anyone struggling

Time Management:

- This guide contains more material than most groups can cover in one session
- Select questions most relevant to your group's current needs
- Don't feel pressured to cover everything
- Quality discussion is better than rushing through all questions

For Groups with Unbelievers Present:

- Question 10 creates natural opportunity for gospel presentation
- Be sensitive to those who may not yet have called on Christ
- Consider ending with clear explanation of how to be saved

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- Offer to talk privately with anyone who has questions

Follow-Up:

- Check in mid-week with group members about their practical applications
- Celebrate testimonies of gospel-sharing opportunities
- Encourage those who struggled or felt they failed

"Remember: We know how the story ends, and we know who wins. No matter how discouraged you get, pull out Revelation and read the end."

5-Day Devotional: Remembering the Lamb

Day 1: The First Sacrifice

Reading: Genesis 3:1-24

Devotional: Before sin entered the world, God already had a plan. When Adam and Eve fell, God didn't abandon them—He covered their shame with coats of skins, requiring the first sacrifice of a lamb. This wasn't just clothing; it was a picture of what was to come. From the very beginning, God showed us that sin requires bloodshed, but He would provide the sacrifice. Today, reflect on how God has covered your shame and sin. Are you trying to cover yourself with fig leaves of good works, or have you accepted the covering God provides through Christ? The Lamb was slain before the foundation of the world for you.

Day 2: God Will Provide

Reading: Genesis 22:1-19

Devotional: Abraham's faith astounds us. He told his servants, "We will come back"—even while preparing to sacrifice Isaac. He believed God would provide, and God did. A ram caught in thorns replaced Isaac on that altar at the very place where, centuries later, Jesus would hang with thorns on His head. Abraham's declaration, "God will provide Himself a lamb," echoes through eternity. What impossible situation are you facing today? God sees it. He's already made provision. Your role is to trust and obey, even when you cannot see the outcome. The same God who provided for Abraham has provided the ultimate Lamb for you.

Day 3: The Blood on the Doorposts

Reading: Exodus 12:1-14

Devotional: The Passover lamb's blood formed a cross on the doorposts—a shadow of Calvary. When God saw the blood, He passed over. Not their good works, not their heritage, not their promises—only the blood saved them. The lamb had to be without blemish, inspected for four days, then sacrificed at the appointed time. Jesus, our Passover Lamb, lived a sinless life, was examined by authorities, and died at the exact moment of Passover. Are you trusting in the blood, or are you hoping your good deeds will save you? Only the blood of the Lamb covers sin. Have you applied it to your life?

Day 4: Rising Above the Storm

Reading: Isaiah 40:25-31

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Devotional: Eagles don't hide from storms—they use them to rise higher, soaring above the turbulence into calmer skies. When you wait on the Lord, He renews your strength. Waiting doesn't mean passive sitting; it means actively trusting while the storm rages. Job lost everything but never lost faith. Joseph endured the pit, slavery, and prison but kept hoping in God. What storm are you facing? Instead of being overwhelmed, spread your wings of faith and let God lift you above it. The same power that raised Christ from the dead is available to you. Mount up with wings as eagles—get closer to your Creator above the chaos.

Day 5: Living with Hope in the Last Days

Reading: 1 Peter 1:13-25

Devotional: We weren't redeemed with silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, the Lamb without blemish. This wasn't an afterthought—you were chosen before the foundation of the world. That truth should revolutionize how you live today. We're living in Laodicea, in the last days, but we know how the story ends. We win. So what are you afraid of? To be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord. Every door you don't walk through leaves someone headed to hell. Let the hope you have in the Lamb compel you to share Him boldly. Remember the Lamb, live in His hope, and share His gospel.