

John 1:29-34



Passage: ²⁹ The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! ³⁰ This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me.' ³¹ I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel." ³² And John bore witness: "I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. ³³ I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' ³⁴ And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God."	
Notable People: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• John the Baptist – cousin of Jesus (son of Zechariah and Elizabeth, sister of Mary mother of Jesus), baptized for the repentance of sins.• Lamb of God – Only John the Baptist uses this term in the New Testament, likely thinking of the Passover lamb.	Notable Places: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bethany – village on the eastern slope of the Mt. of Olives and is about a mile and a half east of Jerusalem. It was the home of Mary & Martha and their brother Lazarus (John 11:1).
Cross References: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• NT Use of the OT: Isaiah 53:7 (Lamb of God), Isaiah 42:1 (Chosen One), Genesis 22:8, Revelation 5:6• Shared Figurative Language: Matthew 3:16, Luke 3:22, 1 Peter 1:19, 1 John 3:5• Key Word Usage: 1 John 2:2, 4:14	
Key Words: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lamb (ἄμνος, amnos) v.29 – lamb, sacrificial lamb• Take Away (ἀίρω, airo) v.29 – take away, take up, remove• Sin (ἁμαρτία, hamartia) v. 29 – sin, failure, fault, error• World (κόσμος, cosmos) v. 29 – the world, in context, humanity in general	Notable Language: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lamb as Jesus – "Lamb of God" v. 29• Dove as Holy Spirit – "the Spirit descend... like a dove"
Notable Context: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chosen One – A person who is chosen or set apart for a specific task or purpose, or because they are highly favored by another person or deity.• Indwelling Spirit – The concept of a spiritual being that resides in a person or thing (think of idols) and could have some influence over that person or thing.	Before: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Beginning of John's Gospel account (1:1-18)• John the Baptist's First Witness (1:19-28) After: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The First Disciplines of Jesus (1:35-51)<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Andrew and Peter follows Jesus (1:35-42)○ Nathanael/Bartholomew and Philip follows Jesus• The Wedding at Cana (2:1-12)
	Main Idea: <p>John the Baptist, Jesus' cousin and a figure in Christian tradition, has declared that he is not the Messiah or the promised prophet. Instead, he has proclaimed himself as a forerunner of the Messiah. When he saw Jesus, John declared that Jesus was the Old Testament lamb of God whose sacrifice would atone for all of humanity's sins. This claim was further validated when God's Holy Spirit descended upon Jesus during his baptism. This signified that Jesus was indeed the Messiah - one appointed to baptize people with the Holy Spirit and save His people from their sins. John's understanding of Christ's role highlights his great insight into Scripture and his faithfulness in preparing for Christ's coming. It also symbolizes how God revealed Himself to humans through His Son - an act that proves His love and grace towards mankind. The baptism of Jesus by John solidifies his importance as a messenger of God and as an important figure in Christianity who helped pave the way for the Messiah.</p>