

The Lamb of God

John 1:19-34

by Don Falkos

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The religious leaders sent some priests and Levites from Jerusalem to Bethany – not the Bethany near Jerusalem, the other Bethany, the Bethany on the east side of the Jordan River. That's where John was baptizing. These representatives of the Jewish leadership asked John, "Who are you?"

John stated plainly, "I am not the Messiah."

"Then who are you? Are you Elijah?"

"I am not."

"Are you the Prophet?"

"No."

"Then who are you? We need an answer. Tell us about yourself."

John responded in the words of the prophet Isaiah, "I am a voice calling in the desert, 'Clear the way for the coming of the Lord!' "

Then some Pharisees asked, "If you're not the Messiah or Elijah or the Prophet, why are you baptizing people?"

"I baptize with water. But there is someone among you, someone you don't recognize, who will come after me, even though he is far greater than I am – I'm not even worthy to untie his sandals."

The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! He's the one I've been telling you about. He's the reason I came baptizing – so that he could be revealed to Israel. I didn't know he was the one until I saw the Holy Spirit coming down to him from heaven in the form of a dove. God told me that's what I would see and said, 'He will baptize with the Holy Spirit.' I've seen it, and I tell you... He is the Son of God."