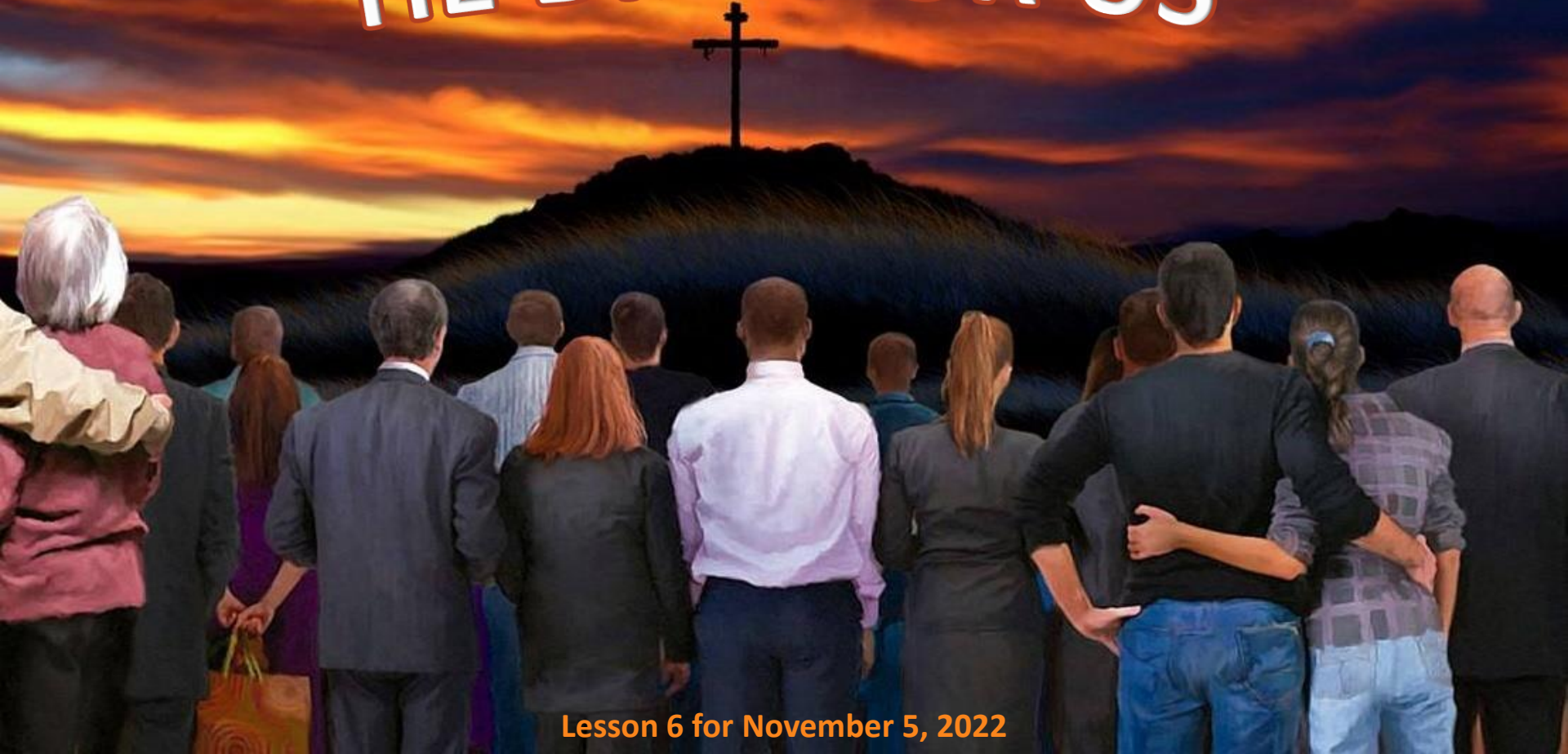


HE DIED FOR US

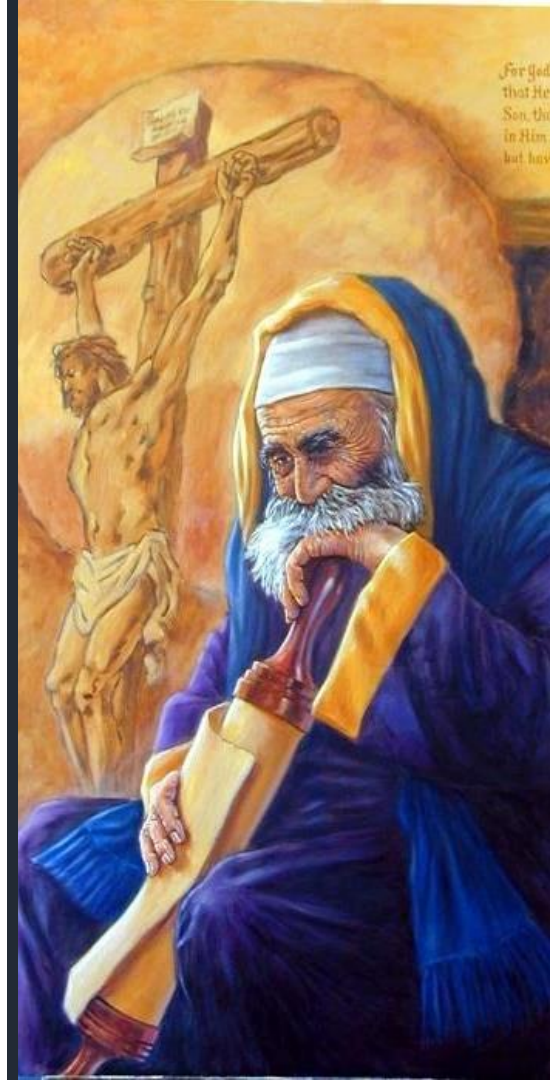


Lesson 6 for November 5, 2022



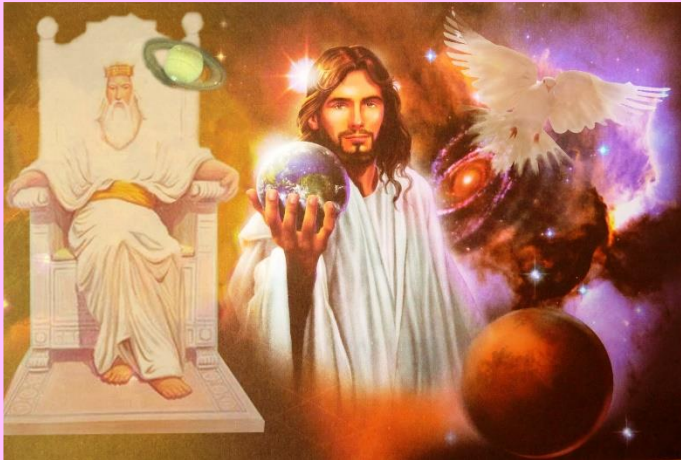
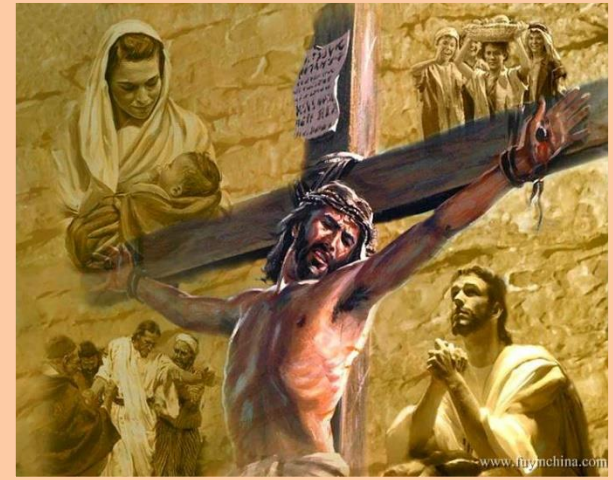
**“And as Moses
lifted up the
serpent in the
wilderness, even
so must the Son
of Man be lifted
up, that whoever
believes in Him
should not perish
but have eternal
life.”**

John 3:14, 15



Jesus Christ came to redeem humankind, to reveal the true loving character of God, to overcome Satan, to prove that Adam could've lived a life without sin... Why else did Jesus come?

The sacrifice of Jesus as “the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world” (Jn. 1:29) means more than just His death at the cross. Its meaning was told long before His short years of ministry.



➞ **The Lamb of God:**

- ▶ Prepared
- ▶ Announced
- ▶ Sacrificed

➞ **The meaning of His sacrifice:**

- ▶ He died for me
- ▶ The power of the cross

THE LAMB OF GOD

PREPARED

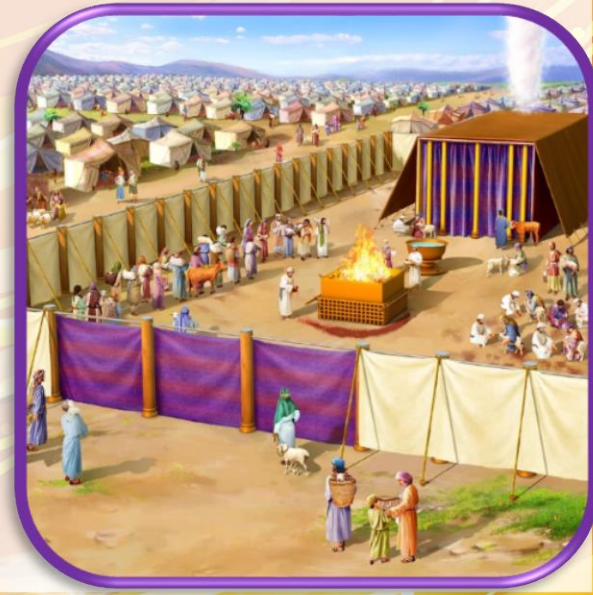
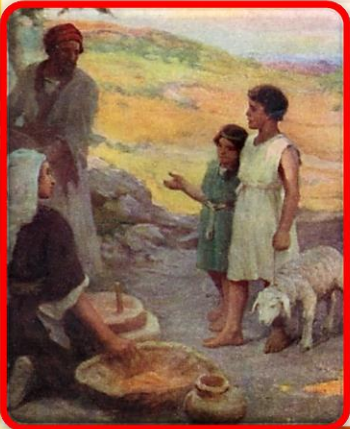
“He indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you.” (1 Peter 1:20)



Jesus is introduced as sacrificed or slain “from the foundation of the world” (Rev. 13:8). This doesn’t mean that Jesus died when the world was created. As Peter explained, Jesus was “foreordained” to offer Himself as a sacrifice in case humans sinned (1P. 1:20).

The lamb in the Passover was separated on the 10th day to be sacrificed on the 14th day. Jesus was prepared since the beginning for the moment of His sacrifice.

Thanks to that preparation, God could show how salvation was going to work through the sacrifice system. This way people could find hope and salvation even before Jesus was sacrificed at the cross.



ANNOUNCED

"They will scourge Him and kill Him. And the third day He will rise again." (Luke 18:33)

Jesus announced His death at the cross for the first time during His private conversation with Nicodemus (Jn. 3:14-15).

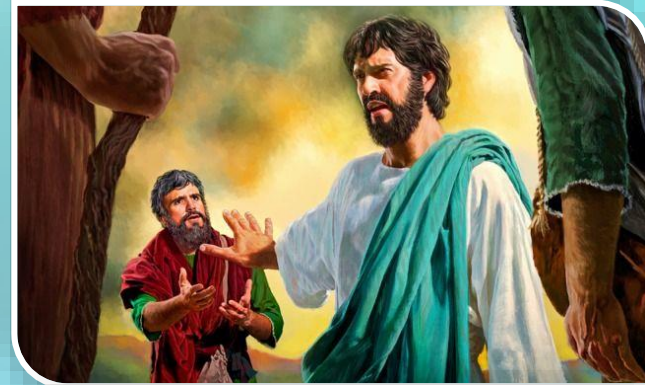
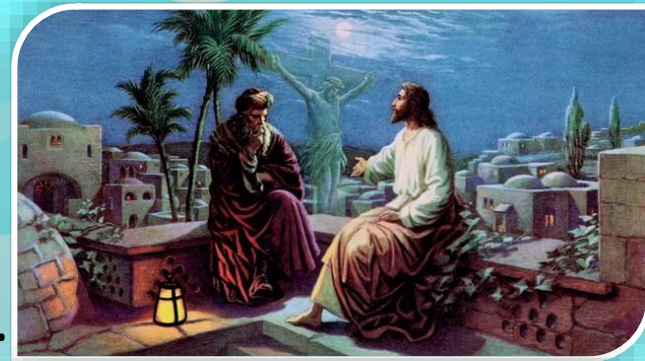
During His last year of ministry, He told His disciples three times that He had to die:

In Caesarea Philippi. Peter wanted Jesus to avoid it (Mt. 16:21-23)

Passing through Galilee. The disciples were afraid of asking Him about it (Mr. 9:30-32)

Near Jerusalem, where "this saying was hidden from them" (Lk. 18:31-34)

Jesus' death went against their idea of a triumphant Messiah. They couldn't understand what Jesus was announcing, that He had to die to save humankind.



SACRIFICED

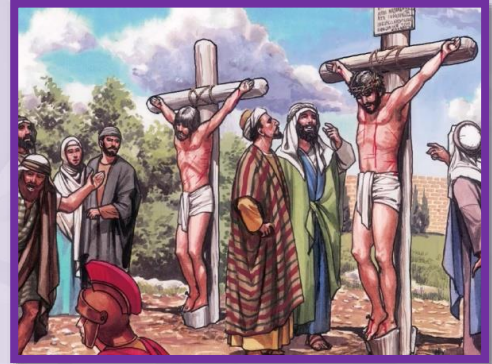
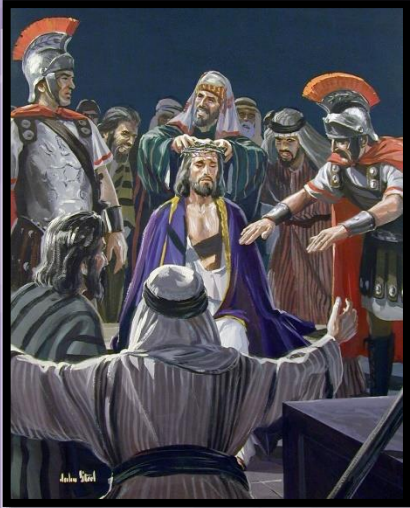
"So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, 'It is finished!' And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit." (John 19:30)

Jesus voluntarily endured humiliation and anguish in His way to the cross (Phlp. 2:8).

Satan moved those people to crucify the Savior, and to encourage Him to come down the cross and save Himself (Mt. 27:42).

Could have Jesus come down the cross and save Himself? Yes, but He knew that saving Himself would condemn all humankind. He chose to die to save even those who were unknowingly asking not to be saved.

Jesus Himself announced that evil and sin had been overcome: "It is finished."



“When Christ cried out, ‘It is finished,’ the unfallen worlds were made secure. For them the battle was fought and the victory won. Henceforth Satan had no place in the affections of the universe. The argument he had brought forward, that self-denial was impossible with God, and therefore unjustly required from His created intelligences, was forever answered. Satan's claims were forever set aside. The heavenly universe was secured in eternal allegiance [...]

Look to Calvary. Christ died for you, and what greater evidence of God's love could you ask than that which has been given in the life and death and intercession of Jesus?”

E. G. W. (The Review and Herald, 3/12/1901 and 5/5/1891)



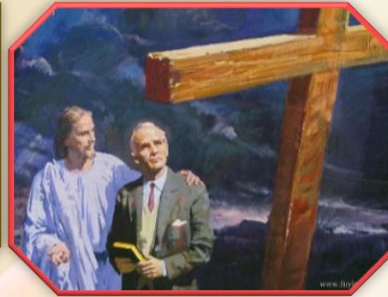
THE MEANING OF HIS SACRIFICE

HE DIED FOR ME

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." (John 3:16)

None of the millions of sacrificed animals since the fall of Adam and Eve until Nisan 14, 27 AD could take away our sin (Heb. 10:1-4).

Only the Creator could offer Himself as a substitute for sinners, thus paying the price of their sin: eternal death (Ro. 6:23).



His death was unique and unrepeatable. It can forgive any sin committed both before it and after it (Heb. 9:24-28).

It's enough to forgive my sin (Acts 10:43).



THE POWER OF THE CROSS

**"For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God."
(1 Corinthians 1:18)**

What is the power of the cross?

- ➔ **It's the ultimate revelation of God's justice against sin (Ro. 3:21-26)**
- ➔ **It's the ultimate revelation of God's love for sinners (Ro. 5:8)**
- ➔ **It's the ultimate source of power to break the chains of sin (Ro. 6:22-23)**
- ➔ **It's our only hope of eternal life (1Jn. 5:11-12)**
- ➔ **It's the only antidote for a future rebellion in the Universe (Rev. 7:13-17)**



E. G. W. (Our High Calling, February 8)

“Angelic perfection failed in heaven. Human perfection failed in Eden [...] The plan of salvation, making manifest the justice and love of God, provides an eternal safeguard against defection in unfallen worlds, as well as among those who shall be redeemed by the blood of the Lamb. Our only hope is perfect trust in the blood of Him who can save to the uttermost all that come unto God by Him. The death of Christ on the cross of Calvary is our only hope in this world, and it will be our theme in the world to come.”