

I am always taken back by John the Baptists' words in this Gospel. John knew Christ was the Messiah, but to call Him the Lamb of God, long before Christ's passion, death and resurrection to me is only possible through divine inspiration. The Holy Spirit literally pouring secret knowledge of Christ's mission here on earth into John the Baptist's soul.

Granted with John's unique role in all salvation history it should not be surprising that God share intimate knowledge of the Divine plan concerning Jesus. Let us look back into scripture to flush out the image of Christ being the Agnus Dei (Lamb of God). It begins with Abraham being willing to sacrifice his only son, and at the last moment God providing a sacrificial Lamb to be killed in Isaac's stead. Next, we see a spotless lamb slaughtered at the first Passover, the blood of the lamb being painted on the openings of the houses loyal to God, literally staved off death. We can now begin to see how amazing John's statement truly is. Before Christ was ever sacrificed for our sins, John knew how it would all go down, or at least had an inkling that far exceeded even the apostles' understanding.

If we are disciples of Christ, then sacrifice needs to be something we strive to do better at, to willing let go of something we hold dear, in order to be less attached to this passing world, and to train our hearts and minds on what truly matters.

May the Love, Peace and Grace of God be with you,

Fr. Adam