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BEHOLD THE LAMB

John the Baptist had been preaching repentance and baptizing all who repented. We read in John 1:29 (NKJV), ***“The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, ‘Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!’”*** Jesus was chosen to be God’s sacrificial Passover Lamb slain from the foundation of the world. It was prophesied in Genesis 3:15 that he would come and overcome Satan, the serpent.

When God delivered Israel from 400 years of bondage in Egypt, each family was to kill (sacrifice) a lamb. The blood of the lamb would be applied to the doorpost of their home. They would then roast the lamb and eat it at sundown. The blood on the doorpost saved them from death when the Lord passed over.

From that time onward, God established, through Moses, a law that lambs would be sacrificed for the cleansing from sin. Throughout the days of the tabernacle and the temple, unblemished lambs were used in this sacrifice. It has been estimated that as many as two or three thousand lambs were sacrificed annually. On certain days of sacrifice there were from seven to fourteen lambs sacrificed at once.

These lambs were specially raised and chosen to be used in temple sacrifices. How was this done? Where were they kept and raised? Who took care of them?

Tomorrow we shall examine those questions.