

Jesus Christ, the Suffering Saviour - March 16, 1946

John 1:29 - "Behold the Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world."

Two weeks ago we saw that in building our lives it is ~~extremely~~ ^{supremely} vital that we take into consideration an ~~extremely~~ important factor -- the personal activity and presence of the Almighty God. Last week we observed that God has revealed Himself most clearly to the world through His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. We saw that Christians believe that this Man who was born of a Jewish mother in Palestine 1900 years ago, ~~who walked and talked on the streets of Jerusalem and in Galilee, and who was crucified at Calvary,~~ was actually God incarnate. Today we ask the question, what was the most important fact about the earthly life of the Lord? What was the outstanding purpose for which He came to earth anyway? To this question the verse with which we began our meditation this morning offers a vital clue: "Behold the Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world."

In the latter half of Matthew 16 a most remarkable incident is described. One day Jesus asked His disciples, "Whom do men say that I the Son of Man am?" They answered that some thought Him to be John the Baptist, while some said He was Elijah. Others said He was Jeremiah, or one of the prophets. Then He asked them, "Who, do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God."

This answer of Peter's pleased Jesus very much. ~~He~~ ^{He} praised him for having given it. He said that ~~upon~~ ^{such an answer} this great declaration of the fact of His deity would become the very foundation of His church, and that the gates of hell would not prevail against it.

Further on in verse 21 we read: "From that time forth began Jesus to shew unto his disciples, how that he must go unto Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised again the third