

## When God Fell Silent

### **The Silent Lamb**

#### **Acts 8:32**

*32 Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: 'Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter; and like a lamb silent before its shearer; so he does not open his mouth.*

#### **Isaiah 53:7**

*7 He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter; and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth.*

### **Mary Had The Little Lamb**

Mary had the little Lamb, who lived before His birth; Self-existent Son of God, from Heaven He came to Earth. (**Micah 5:2**) Mary had the little Lamb; see Him in yonder stall, Virgin-born Son of God, to save man from the Fall. (**Isaiah 7:14**) Mary had the little Lamb, obedient Son of God; Everywhere the Father led, His feet were sure to trod. (**John 6:38**) Mary had the little Lamb, crucified on the tree, The rejected Son of God, He died to set men free. (**1 Peter 1:18**) Mary had the little Lamb, men placed Him in the grave, Thinking they were done with Him; to death He was no slave! (**Matthew 28:6**) Mary had the little Lamb, ascended now is He; All work on Earth is ended, our Advocate to be. (**Hebrews 4:14-16**) Mary had the little Lamb, mystery to behold! From the Lamb of Calvary, a Lion will unfold. (**Revelation 5: 5, 6**) When the Day Star comes again, of this be very sure: It won't be Lamb-like silence, but with the Lion's roar. (**Psalms 2:12; Revelation 19:11-16**)

This Lamb became our Sacrifice Lamb. The unblemished Son of God. Whom despite the failures and disobedient nature of humanity, became all that we could ever want to be and gave everything we could never have given. He became the Silent lamb of God, not choosing to engage in dialog to avoid the passion and the crucifixion. Instead He embraced it so He could one day embrace you and I in the New Jerusalem. This is His story, this is His message, this is His testimony.

#### **Mark 14:53-65**

*53 They took Jesus to the high priest; and all the chief priests, the elders, and the scribes were assembled.*

*54 Peter had followed him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest; and he was sitting with the guards, warming himself at the fire.*

*55 Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for testimony against Jesus to put him to death; but they found none.*

*56 For many gave false testimony against him, and their testimony did not agree.*

*57 Some stood up and gave false testimony against him, saying,*

*58 'We heard him say, "I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and in three days I will build another, not made with hands." '*

*59 But even on this point their testimony did not agree.*

*60 Then the high priest stood up before them and asked Jesus, 'Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?'*

*61 But he was silent and did not answer. Again the high priest asked him, 'Are you the Messiah,\* the Son of the Blessed One?'*

*62 Jesus said, 'I am; and "you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of the Power", and "coming with the clouds of heaven." '*

*63 Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, 'Why do we still need witnesses?'*

*64 You have heard his blasphemy! What is your decision?' All of them condemned him as deserving death.*

65Some began to spit on him, to blindfold him, and to strike him, saying to him, 'Prophecy!' The guards also took him over and beat him.

## Matthew 26:62-68

62The high priest stood up and said, 'Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?'

63But **Jesus was silent**. Then the high priest said to him, 'I put you under oath before the living God, tell us if you are the Messiah, \*the Son of God.'

64Jesus said to him, '**You have said so**. But I tell you, From now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven.'

65Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, 'He has blasphemed! Why do we still need witnesses? You have now heard his blasphemy.

66What is your verdict?' They answered, 'He deserves death.'

67Then they spat in his face and struck him; and some slapped him,

68saying, 'Prophecy to us, you Messiah!\* Who is it that struck you?'

### Peoples New Testament Notes.

62, 63. **Answerest thou nothing?** Under the false charges Jesus maintained an impressive **silence**.

"As a sheep before the shearers is dumb, so he opened not his mouth." **I adjure thee, etc.** This was the formula for an oath. The High Priest, contrary to the principle of law which forbids that a prisoner shall be compelled to self incriminate, called on Jesus to be a witness against himself. To answer yes, or no, to such a question, was to answer under oath.

64. **Thou hast said.** That is, thou hast said the truth in thy question. The Lord only breaks the **silence** to affirm his divinity under oath. It insured his death at their hands, for he was immediately condemned for the declaration. "At the very crisis of his history, when denial would have saved his life, he asserts his claim to the Divine Sonship and to a Godlike power.

The Accusers couldn't come up with enough evidence to convict Him. There was conflicting testimony, and false witnesses made fabricated statements. None of which alone could convince any of his judges of any guiltiness. However, pressed with an oath and using their own statement as fact. Jesus breaks his **Silence** and validates the fact that He is the Chosen One of Israel. His denial could have saved His life as we have seen from the commentator's notes. Nevertheless, Jesus didn't take the easy way out and was going to stand for the truth, yield His Body for our Redemption and make a stand for something far greater than His own personal well being.

We too need to make a stand for something greater than ourselves. Avoiding denying Him through our words and testimony, instead presenting a God inspired witness of His Character and Grace that radiates for now and eternity. Being Living Epistles read of all that leads the hearts of men and woman everywhere into the Kingdom of God. Guarding are hearts and minds. Then making sure that what proceeds out of our mouth and lives is Life and not Death.

## Matthew 12:36,37

36I tell you, on the day of judgment you will have to **give an account** for every careless word you utter;  
37**for by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.**'

He came for a purpose, and we are His Creation destined for good works. Yes, we are to become the salt of the earth, that when people taste of the words and works of our lives are convinced of the fact of their need for our Lord in their personal lives.

## Matthew 5:13

*13 'You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.*

**He Has Set Before Us Life**

## Deuteronomy 30:15-19

*15 See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity.*

*16 If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God\* that I am commanding you today, by loving the Lord your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess.*

*17 But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them,*

*18 I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess.*

*19 I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live.*

### Four Points of Interest

1. He has set before you or placed a table before you. What you choose to eat and become is up to you.
2. Obeying His Word is Key in receiving the Blessings of His Covenant.
3. His Promise is you'll live and be prospered and God's Blessing will be upon you to possess what He has for you.
4. Choose life and blessings. Rather than the Devil's portion of curses and death.