

The Road to Easter #1:
God Will Provide

Genesis 22:1-14 ¹Some time later God tested Abraham and said to him, "Abraham!" "Here I am," he answered. ²"Take your son," God said, "your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. Offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains, which I will show you." ³So Abraham got up early the next morning, saddled his donkey, and took along two of his servants and his son Isaac. He split the wood for a burnt offering and set out for the place God had designated. ⁴On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance. ⁵"Stay here with the donkey," Abraham told his servants. "The boy and I will go over there to worship, and then we will return to you." ⁶Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and placed it on his son Isaac. He himself carried the fire and the sacrificial knife, and the two of them walked on together. ⁷Then Isaac said to his father Abraham, "My father!" "Here I am, my son," he replied. "The fire and the wood are here," said Isaac, "but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?" ⁸Abraham answered, "God Himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son." And the two walked on together. ⁹When they arrived at the place God had designated, Abraham built the altar there and arranged the wood. He bound his son Isaac and placed him on the altar, atop the wood. ¹⁰Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. ¹¹Just then the angel of the LORD called out to him from heaven, "Abraham, Abraham!" "Here I am," he replied. ¹²"Do not lay a hand on the boy or do anything to him," said the angel, "for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your only son from me." ¹³Then Abraham looked up and saw behind him a ram in a thicket, caught by its horns. So he went and took the ram and offered it as a burnt offering in place of his son. ¹⁴And Abraham called that place The LORD Will Provide. So to this day it is said, "On the mountain of the LORD it will be provided." (BSB)

I. Here are the details of this passage.

- A.** Abraham was **tested by God**. V.1 Abraham had finally received the blessings, but he took the hard way through Ishmael and even tried to make one of his servants his heir. God needed to settle the issue of Abraham trusting Him. He tests His people to show whether we love Him or the **presents** that He gives us.
- B.** The promise of an heir was through **Isaac**. Without Isaac Abraham has no **heir** since he has already sent Ishmael away. V. 2
- C.** Isaac was probably a **young man**. Many believe that he was somewhere between 18-20. Abraham was well over 100 years old. He would be no match for Isaac. His life would have to be **willingly** given. The wood was put on his back, and he carried it up the hill to be sacrificed.
- D.** He was given the **free gift** of a sacrifice. V. 13
- E.** He received a time of great **bonding** with his son. V. 8, 13
- F.** Abraham received a **prophecy** about what was to come. V. 2, 14 Moriah means: ordained/considered by Yahweh. Moriah is likely to be the hilly area above

Jerusalem. The highest peak is a place called Golgotha: the place of the Skull. Almost 2,000 years later another Son took a similar path.

II. Here are some thoughts of application.

- A.** Parents allow your children to share in your faith **journeys**.
- B.** It is essential that our relationship to God not take **second place** to family. The most special gifts that God gives us become **idols** when we do that.
- C.** Children, don't **dismiss** your parents faith. **Learn** their faith stories.
- D.** Parents, be the **spiritual** leaders in your home.
- E.** Don't let anything else become the **theme** of Easter but Jesus.