



TODAY'S MESSAGE:

Jesus in the Old Testament: Abraham and Isaac

Bob Schwahn | Lead Pastor | July 14, 2024



Luke 24:27 (NIV)

And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.

Luke 24:44 (NIV)

He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms."

John 5:39-40 (NIV)

You study the Scriptures diligently because you think that in them you have eternal life. These are the very Scriptures that testify about me, yet you refuse to come to me to have life.

Hebrews 12:5-6 (NIV)

And have you completely forgotten this word of encouragement that addresses you as a father addresses his son? It says,

*"My son, do not make light of the Lord's discipline,
and do not lose heart when he rebukes you,
because the Lord disciplines the one he loves,
and he chastens everyone he accepts as his son."*

Genesis 22:1-14 (NIV)

Some time later God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!"

"Here I am," he replied.

Then God said, "Take your son, your only son, whom you love—Isaac—and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on a mountain I will show you." Early the next morning Abraham got up and loaded his donkey. He took with him two of his servants and his son Isaac. When he had cut enough wood for the burnt offering, he set out for the place God had told him about. On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance. He said to his servants, "Stay here with the donkey while I and the boy go over there. We will worship and then we will come back to you."

Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and placed it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. As the two of them went on together, Isaac spoke up and said to his father Abraham,

"Father?"

"Yes, my son?" Abraham replied.

"The fire and wood are here," Isaac said, "but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?"

Abraham answered, "God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son." And the two of them went on together.

When they reached the place God had told him about, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. He bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then he reached out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. But the angel of the LORD called out to him from heaven, "Abraham! Abraham!"

"Here I am," he replied.

"Do not lay a hand on the boy," he said. "Do not do anything to him. Now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld from me your son, your only son."

Abraham looked up and there in a thicket he saw a ram caught by its horns. He went over and took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called that place The LORD Will Provide. And to this day it is said, "On the mountain of the LORD it will be provided."

Genesis 22:2 (NIV)

Then God said, "Take your son, your only son, whom you love—Isaac—and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on a mountain I will show you."

Hebrews 11:17-19 (NIV)

By faith Abraham, when God tested him, offered Isaac as a sacrifice. He who had **embraced the promises** was about to sacrifice his one and only son, even though God had said to him, "It is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned." **Abraham reasoned** that God could even raise the dead, and so in a manner of speaking he did receive Isaac back from death.

Genesis 22:7-8 (NIV)

Isaac spoke up and said to his father Abraham, "Father?"

"Yes, my son?" Abraham replied.

"The fire and wood are here," Isaac said, "but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?"

Abraham answered, "**God himself will provide the lamb** for the burnt offering, my son." And the two of them went on together.

Romans 8:32 (NIV)

He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?

Genesis 22:12 (NIV)

"Do not lay a hand on the boy," he said. "Do not do anything to him. Now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld from me your son, your only son."

Reflection Questions:

- 1) Read John 5:39,46 – In what ways does the Old Testament point to Jesus? What are some examples that you can think of? How can this reality change the way we read and understand the Old Testament?
- 2) Read Hebrews 12:5-6 – Why is it comforting to know that God tests and disciplines out of His love? What difference does this make in the midst of testing?
- 3) God tests us to show us where we are at and to grow us to become more like His Son. How have you experienced testing in your life? How did you respond? What did this reveal to you about yourself? How did it help you grow? Explain.
- 4) What could be an "Isaac" in your life? What in your life, if you lost it, would make life seem unbearable? What are you fearful of losing? What has become the center of life?
- 5) Read Genesis 22:1-14 – What from this story grabs your attention? What questions does it raise for you? What do you learn about God? What do you learn about yourself? How does this story connect to your life?
- 6) What connections to Jesus do you see in this story? How does this story point to Jesus and the cross?
- 7) Obedience to God is **ALWAYS** in our best interest. Agree or Disagree?
- 8) When have you found obedience difficult? How can this reveal "Isaac's" (idols) in our life?
- 9) Read Romans 8:32 – How can this perspective give us courage to obey even when obedience seems difficult?



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