GOD WILL PROVIDE A LAMB

Genesis 22:1-14

When God commanded Abraham to sacrifice his beloved son, he was directed to a very specific location. It would be in the land of Moriah on a particular mountain (Gen. 22:2-4). "Moriah" is mentioned in only one other place in the Bible (2 Chron. 3:1).



At this very location, at "Mount Moriah," God appeared to David at the threshingfloor of Ornan the Jebusite and told him to build an altar so that he could offer burnt offerings and peace offerings (1 Chron. 21:18,26). This same location would be the site where Solomon would build the Temple, including the bronze altar of sacrifice. It was here that Isaac was to have been offered about a thousand years earlier.

As they headed for this exact spot, Isaac said, "Behold the fire and the wood: but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" Abraham gave a tactful but somewhat evasive answer. He did not say, "Sorry to break this news to you, my son, but you are the sacrificial lamb." No, instead he said, "God will provide Himself a lamb" (Gen. 22:8). At this point Abraham fully intended to sacrifice Isaac, an act which God would not allow. Abraham's statement turned out to be prophetic.

On that day, God provided a ram for a sacrifice instead of Isaac (Gen. 22:13), and in the more distant future He would provide **The Lamb of God**, God's perfect sacrifice (John 1:29). *Jehovah Jireh*—the Lord will provide! And that provision would be made in that very mount (Gen. 22:14), the location which would later be known as Jerusalem. There the Lamb of God would be slain, outside the city gates, for every member of the human race (Heb. 2:9). "Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honor, and glory and blessing" (Rev. 5:12).

~George Zeller: www.middletownbiblechurch.org

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