

No 27
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2013

TRAINING FOR GUYS



Taking Genesis in no particular order, we'll have a look at the embryonic Gospel message that appears in the first book of the Bible. This week we look at **chapter 22**.

Here we see what is called a **type** of Jesus. A character, thing or event that typifies the person or work of Jesus. It's fairly easy to see Isaac performing the role of type in this chapter.

God calls on Abraham to sacrifice his son. This was a test of faith. God had promised to give Abraham descendants that could not be numbered *through Isaac*. Surely then, this could not also be God telling Isaac to sacrifice him? Abraham knew God's voice well enough to know both, seemingly contradictory words, were really God.

In verses 1 to 4 we read that the journey to the place of sacrifice was three days long. For 3 days Abraham was considering Isaac to be as good as dead. He suffered the pain of the loss of his son, in advance, for 3 days. Jesus was dead to the Father for 3 days after crucifixion.

Yet, Abraham had faith. In v 5 he says "we will worship, we will return". He knew God had to raise Isaac from the dead if His promises were to be true.

Isaac carried the wood that was to be used in his sacrifice for part of the journey, just as Jesus carried His Cross for part of walk to Calvary.

In v8, in Hebrew, Abraham speaks in faith about what God would do in providing the lamb

Bible Study Series
We continue our series on 1 Peter chapter 4
v 12 to 19
Suffering for God's glory
Read the passage, and go to
www.tfgministries.org.uk/podcasts and join in.

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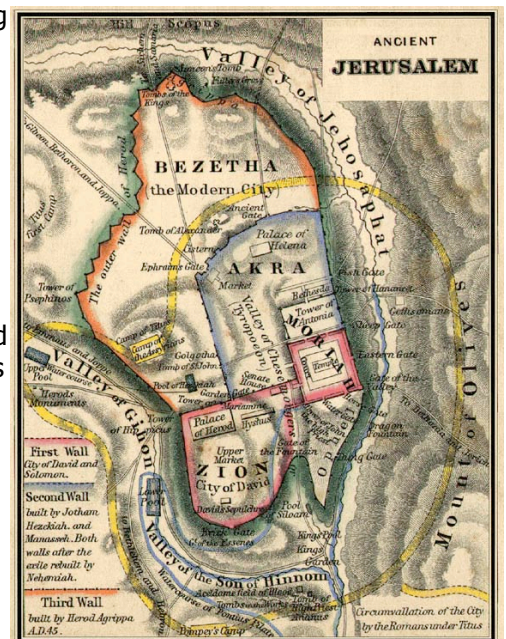
NEW SERIES: GUIDE TO THE GOSPEL IN GENESIS

for their sacrifice, and speaks prophetically too about the provision of the ultimate sacrifice in Jesus. In the NIV it says: '*God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son.*' but the King James better translates the Hebrew by saying '*My son, God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering*'. Yes, God would provide them a lamb, but He would also provide Himself as The Lamb in the fulness of time.

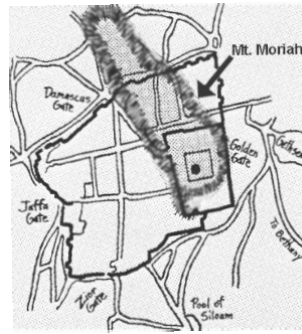
Amazingly, Isaac was a willing sacrifice. He was not a young child. Since his birth we have had the account in ch21 of his step-brother Ishmael growing and getting married, and several other events too. Isaac was strong enough to carry all the wood for the sacrifice. His father was over a hundred years old. Yet it just says "Abraham bound the boy...". Isaac let him. Jesus, too, was a willing sacrifice.

God 'raises Isaac from the dead', so to speak, by stopping Abraham and providing a ram instead. Through Isaac, the promise of God is fulfilled and through his family eventually Jesus is born.

One more thing, the place of sacrifice.



v2 says the region of Moriah. 2 Chronicles 3:1 identifies Moriah as the mountain on which the Temple was to be built - *the hills of Jerusalem*. Throughout the Old Testament the sacrifices to God were made on this hill, and in the Gospels Jesus was also sacrificed on these hillsides. In the planning of God, Isaac was either sacrificed on the spot where the later altar would be built, or possibly (probably?) on that part of the Moriah ridge which became known as Calvary.



Sketch map of Mt Moriah in Jerusalem

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