

Seeing Only Jesus

7) Isaac - The Only Begotten Son

Jesus and Isaac are the only two people in the entire Bible who are referred to as 'the only begotten son'

'By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises offered up his only begotten son'

(Heb.11:17)

'No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him'

(John 1:18)

Both Isaac and Jesus are the promised Seed

'...of whom it was said, "In Isaac your seed shall be called"'

(Heb.11:18)

'Now to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made. He does not say, "And to seeds," as of many, but as of one, "And to your Seed," who is Christ'

(Gal.3:16)

Isaac's birth was a miracle, as it was physically impossible for him to be conceived

'And the Lord said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh, saying, 'Shall I surely bear a child, since I am old?' Is anything too hard for the Lord?'

(Gen.18:13-14)

The birth of Jesus was also miraculous

'Then Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I do not know a man?"... "with God nothing will be impossible"'

(Luke 1:34&37)

'Now it came to pass after these things that God tested Abraham, and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." Then He said, "Take now your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you"'

(Gen.22:1-2)

- ✓ **Abraham, the father, was told to sacrifice Isaac his son, just as God the Father spared not His only Son, (Rom.8:32)**
- ✓ **What would have gone through Abraham's mind? i) Isn't human sacrifice what the pagan gods require, and condemned by God? ii) What would Sarah say? iii) What about the promise...the Messiah?**
- ✓ **In addition to this Abraham was to be the executioner!!**
- ✓ **Moriah = seen by God, or pointed out by God. This later became the site of the temple where the sacrifices were to be offered**

'So Abraham rose early in the morning and saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son; and he split the wood for the burnt offering, and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. Then on the third day Abraham lifted his eyes and saw the place afar off. And Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the lad and I will go yonder and worship, and we will come back to you"'

(Gen.22:3-5)

- ✓ **Isaac was considered dead by his father for 3 days. Jesus Christ was dead for three days**
- ✓ **Abraham told his two servants to remain behind while he and Isaac went on alone. They went so far, but no further**
- ✓ ***'We will come back to you...'* This was a declaration of resurrection. *'By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises offered up his only begotten son, of whom it was said, "In Isaac your seed shall be called," concluding that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead, from which he also received him in a figurative sense'* (Heb.11:17-19)**

- ✓ **Abraham told the servants that they would go and worship. How could sacrificing his son be called worship? Worship means to bow down. To bow down and submit to God's will is worship**
- ✓ **There is no record of Jesus worshipping the Father. But He bowed down to the will of the Father, *'He went a little farther and fell on His face, and prayed, saying, "O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will"'* (Matt.26:39)**
- ✓ ***'So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished!" And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit' (John 19:30)***

'So Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son; and he took the fire in his hand, and a knife, and the two of them went together. But Isaac spoke to Abraham his father and said, "My father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." Then he said, "Look, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" And Abraham said, "My son, God will provide for Himself the lamb for a burnt offering." So the two of them went together'

(Gen.22:6-8)

**Isaac carried wood for his own sacrifice, just as
Jesus bore His own wooden cross**

'Then they came to the place of which God had told him. And Abraham built an altar there and placed the wood in order; and he bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, upon the wood. And Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. But the Angel of the Lord called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" So he said, "Here I am." And He said, "Do not lay your hand on the lad, or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me." Then Abraham lifted his eyes and looked, and there behind him was a ram caught in a thicket by its horns. So Abraham went and took the ram, and offered it up for a burnt offering instead of his son'

(Gen.22:9-14)

- ✓ **When he arrived at the place, he built an altar and bound Isaac to it**
- ✓ **Isaac was probably 20-25, yet he did not resist. He was willing to be obedient to his father unto death, just as Jesus was, (Phil.2:5-8). *'...he was led as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so He opened not His mouth'* (Isa.53:7)**
- ✓ **Isaac asked, 'Where is the offering?' Abraham replied, 'God will provide for Himself the lamb'**
- ✓ **Yet it was a ram caught in a thicket that was provided**

**How do you feel about God asking Abraham
to offer up his own son?**

- ✓ **The outrage we feel at this helps us to understand the outrageous love of God!**
- ✓ **This is the most dramatic picture of Christ on the Cross because it is the only time that God ever required a human sacrifice (in type)**
- ✓ ***'In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins' (1 John 4:10)***
- ✓ **This is the first mention of 'love' in the Bible. The source of all love is that of the Father's love for the Son**

The first mention of love in synoptics also emphasizes the source of love – The Father's love for the Son:

'And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased"' (Matt.3:17)

'Then a voice came from heaven, "You are My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased"' (Mk.1:11)

'And the Holy Spirit descended in bodily form like a dove upon Him, and a voice came from heaven which said, "You are My beloved Son; in You I am well pleased"' (Lk.3:22)

□ 3 times He shouts His love from heaven for Jesus – then, in John’s gospel, He tells us His love for us is so great that He was willing to sacrifice the One He loved so much for us

‘For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life’
(John 3:16)

‘And I have declared to them Your name, and will declare it, that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them’
(Jn.17:26)

***Abraham called the name of the place,
The-Lord-Will-Provide; as it is said to this
day, "In the Mount of the Lord it shall be
provided"
(Gen.22:14)***

✓ **Not only would the LORD choose the place, but it would be referred to as Jehovah-Jireh, the place where the LORD would provide**

✓ **The hills of Jerusalem were all a part of the land of Moriah, including Golgotha. Mount Moriah was the site where the Jewish temple was built and sacrifices were offered, pointing to Jesus' death**

✓ **If God has provided, then we know that it is adequate**