



Prequel to Victory

Genesis 22:1-14 (NIV)

Some time later God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!" "Here I am," he replied. ² 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." ³ 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. ⁴ On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance. ⁵ 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." ⁶ 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, ⁷ 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?" ⁸ Abraham answered, "God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son." And the two of them went on together. ⁹ 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. ¹⁰ Then he reached out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. ¹¹ But 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," 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." ¹³ 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. ¹⁴ 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."

1. A supernatural birth. (Genesis 21:1-2)

- The supernatural birth of Isaac is a shadow of the supernatural birth of Immanuel.
- Isaac's birth was supernatural, Jesus' birth was supernatural, and your birth can be supernatural!

2. A familiar location. (Genesis 22:2a)

- Isaac was at Moriah, Jesus was at Moriah, and you were at Moriah!

3. A willing sacrifice. (Genesis 22:9)

John 10:17-18 (NIV)

The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life—only to take it up again. ¹⁸ No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again.

- Jesus stayed on the alter so we could go free.

4. A worthy substitute. (Genesis 22:13)

- We can escape situations, locations, and relationships, but we cannot escape ourselves and that is why we need a substitute!
- Recognizing Christ as our Substitute causes worship, rest, and sacrifice. (Romans 12:1)

5. A victorious ending. (1 Corinthians 15:14-20)

- Victory is a result of believing the promises of God in the midst of the most difficult challenges of life.

2 Corinthians 1:20 (NIV)

For no matter how many promises God has made, they are "Yes" in Christ. And so through him the "Amen" is spoken by us to the glory of God.