

# “God Will Provide for Himself a Lamb”

“After these things...” After making three great promises to Abraham and miraculously providing a son when Abraham was 100 years old, “God \_\_\_\_\_ Abraham” (Gen 22:1).

“Take your \_\_\_\_\_, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and \_\_\_\_\_ him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you.” (Gen 22:2)

After a three-day journey, “Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar” (22:4). Notice especially the language in **Genesis 22:5-8**:

Then Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over there and worship and come \_\_\_\_\_ to you.” And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together. And Isaac said to his father Abraham, “My father!” And he said, “Here I am, my son.” He said, “Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?” Abraham said, “\_\_\_\_\_ will \_\_\_\_\_ for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son.”

God *did* in fact provide a sacrifice in the place of Abraham’s son.

Two thousand years later, God’s own Son approached the city of Jerusalem—a city built on the same range of mountains—as the true King (Matt 21:4-5). But he came, not as a conquering war hero or emperor looking to be served. He came as the **sacrifice** provided by God.

“Behold, the \_\_\_\_\_ of God, who takes away the sin of the world!” (John 1:29)

God provided the Lamb, for Abraham and for us all.



## For Class & Family Discussion:

- ▶ When you hear, “God tested Abraham,” what goes through your mind? Why would God “test” anyone?
- ▶ James picks up the idea of “testing” in James 1:12. Is there a difference between a “test” (see also 1 Peter 1:6-9) and “temptation” (James 1:13-15)?
- ▶ Let’s read the way Hebrews 11:17-19 describes this scene. What can we learn? How does verse 19 help us understand the degree of Abraham’s faith and what might have been going through his mind?
- ▶ What do we need to understand from the Bible’s consistent depiction of Jesus as “the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world”?
- ▶ What difference did it make whether Jesus came into Jerusalem in Matthew 21 to serve or to be served?
- ▶ What does Hebrews 9:11-14 add to our understanding of Jesus’ sacrifice for us?

