

RUSSELL SANDERS

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ABRAHAM – PART 31

THE ONLY BEGOTTEN SON, LESSON 1

In Genesis 22:1 it says that God “tempted” Abraham with a very specific instruction. It was a “test” of obedience. But we shall see that it was much more than that. It was a prophetic fore type of the offering up of Messiah.

God spoke to Abraham (Gen. 22:2) and said (NKJV), ***“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.”***

Abraham saddled up along with Isaac, two of his men servants, and firewood and set out on the three-day journey to Mount Moriah. Upon approaching the place, he left back the two men. He and Isaac ascended the mountain carrying the wood, the fire, and the knife.

He made an altar, laid the wood on it, tied up Isaac, and laid the lad upon the wood. Isaac had earlier asked his father the where-a-bouts of the sacrificial lamb. Abraham said (Genesis 22:8), ***“My son, God will provide Himself a lamb for a burnt offering.”*** Yet it had not happened, and here lies the boy on the wood with a knife in his father’s hand ready to slay him as an offering. One must wonder what ran through Isaac’s mind. The knife was already raised to strike.

Suddenly the angel of the LORD (YWHW) called out to not harm the lad. Abraham then saw a ram caught in a thicket and used that ram for the offering in place of his “only” son.

God called Isaac the “only” son because he was the only son of the promise. Ishmael, although older, was not the son or heir of the promise. Isaac qualified as Abraham’s “only begotten son” because he alone was to bring forth the line of the future Messiah, God’s “only begotten son.”

The angel of the LORD called a second time from out of heaven to Abraham and said (Gen 22:16-17) NKJV) ***“...because you have done this thing, and have not withheld your son, your only son, blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the stars of heaven...”***

Tomorrow we shall see how this lines up as a foreshadow of God’s “only begotten son”, Jesus.

Stay tuned