

Prequels to Calvary — Part 2

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Prequels to Calvary — a three-week study

Prequel — there is something in the Old Testament that points toward what happens later in the New Testament

1) Serpent 2) Sheep 3) Ram 4) Scapegoat

The Ram

- **Genesis 22:1-18**

And it came to pass after these things, that God did tempt Abraham, and said unto him, Abraham: and he said, Behold, here I am. And he said, Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee into the land of Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of. And Abraham rose up early in the morning, and saddled his ass, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son, and clave the wood for the burnt offering, and rose up, and went unto the place of which God had told him. Then on the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes, and saw the place afar off. And Abraham said unto his young men, Abide ye here with the ass; and I and the lad will go yonder and worship, and come again to you. And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering, and laid it upon Isaac his son; and he took the fire in his hand, and a knife; and they went both of them together. And Isaac spake unto Abraham his father, and said, My father: and he said, Here am I, my son. And he said, Behold the fire and the wood: but where is the lamb for a burnt offering? And Abraham said, My son, God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering: so they went both of them together. And they came to the place which God had told him of; and Abraham built an altar there, and laid the wood in order, and bound Isaac his son, and laid him on the altar upon the wood. And Abraham stretched forth his hand, and took the knife to slay his son. And the angel of the Lord called unto him out of heaven, and said, Abraham, Abraham: and he said, Here am I. And he said, Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou any thing unto him: for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me. And Abraham lifted up his eyes, and looked, and behold behind him a ram caught in a thicket by his horns: and Abraham went and took the ram, and offered him up for a burnt offering in the stead of his son. And Abraham called the name of that place Jehovahjireh: as it is said to this day, In the mount of the Lord it shall be seen. And the angel of the Lord called unto Abraham out of heaven the second time, And said, By myself have I sworn, saith the Lord, for because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only son: That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies; And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice.

- Genesis 22:8 - There are different translations of this prophetic saying as Abraham goes up the mountain
 - Option 1: “God supplied Himself a sacrifice.”
 - God will supply a sacrifice for Himself.

- Option 2: “God Himself will supply a sacrifice.”
 - God will do it. We don’t have to.
- Option 3: “God will supply Himself a sacrifice.”
 - God will supply *Himself* as a sacrifice.
- **Who is Isaac?**

We - the human race - are Isaac. We are all under the judgment of death. We deserve death and Hell, but God cuts us free - unbinds us and makes us heirs of His Kingdom. All because of the sacrifice that He provided for us.
- **Who is the Ram?**

Jesus is the Ram - sacrificed in our place for our sins to save us from death and Hell.

It is not possible for us to be saved without the shedding of blood.

- **Hebrews 9:22**

And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without the shedding of blood there is no remission.

The Lamb

- **Exodus 12:21-29**

Then Moses called for all the elders of Israel, and said unto them, Draw out and take you a lamb according to your families, and kill the passover. And ye shall take a bunch of hyssop, and dip it in the blood that is in the bason, and strike the lintel and the two side posts with the blood that is in the bason; and none of you shall go out at the door of his house until the morning. For the Lord will pass through to smite the Egyptians; and when he seeth the blood upon the lintel, and on the two side posts, the Lord will pass over the door, and will not suffer the destroyer to come in unto your houses to smite you. And ye shall observe this thing for an ordinance to thee and to thy sons for ever. And it shall come to pass, when ye be come to the land which the Lord will give you, according as he hath promised, that ye shall keep this service. And it shall come to pass, when your children shall say unto you, What mean ye by this service? That ye shall say, It is the sacrifice of the Lord's passover, who passed over the houses of the children of Israel in Egypt, when he smote the Egyptians, and delivered our houses. And the people bowed the head and worshipped. And the children of Israel went away, and did as the Lord had commanded Moses and Aaron, so did they. And it came to pass, that at midnight the Lord smote all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh that sat on his throne unto the firstborn of the captive that was in the dungeon; and all the firstborn of cattle.

The blood of the lamb is what caused the Angel of Death to pass over the doors - sparing the first born of those families.

- Jesus is the Lamb of God.
 - **John 1:29**

The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.

The cross is final fulfillment and revelation.

Discussion Questions

1. How would you imagine Abraham felt when God asked him to sacrifice his own son? Does he question it in the scripture?
2. In what ways are we like Isaac?
3. What are other revelations of God in the New Testament that are portrayed in the Old Testament?
4. What are other things that we look to other than the blood of Jesus to save us?
5. What's an area of your life that you need to plead the blood of Jesus over?