

A Provision of Love

Description

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Genesis 22:1-19

Traditionally, Genesis 22 is interpreted as the Lord's test of Abraham's faith. Was Abraham willing to give everything to God—even his promised son? We certainly learn a lot about Abraham through this test. However, there is another way to understand the story.

Abraham came from and lived in a culture in which it wasn't uncommon for people to offer up their firstborn sons to pagan gods in order to show their devotion or ensure some benefit for the community. Perhaps Abraham believed that this God was no different from the other gods and blindly obeyed. However, maybe Abraham knew that this God was different and always believed "God himself [would] provide the lamb" (v. 8). In the end, we learn this God is indeed different from pagan gods.

God was able to reveal to Abraham that His true nature was love. He provided the lamb for Abraham, and He provided Jesus, the Lamb of God, for all of humanity. God indeed loves His creation!

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