# THE WHOLE COUNSEL OF GOD

A Journey Through the Old Testament

Romans 15:4 For everything that was written in the past was written for our instruction, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures, we might have hope.

# Cringe-worthy

- 1 Some time later God tested Abraham and said to him, "Abraham!"
- "Here I am," he answered.
- 2 "Take your son," God said, "your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah.
- Offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains, which I will show you."

Genesis 22 3 So Abraham got up early the next morning, saddled his donkey, and took along two of his servants and his son Isaac.

#### Hebrews 11

- 17 By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac on the altar.
- He who had received the promises was ready to offer his one and only son,
- 18 even though God had said to him, "Through Isaac your offspring will be reckoned."
- 19 He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back.

- 3 So Abraham got up early the next morning, saddled his donkey, and took along two of his servants and his son Isaac.
- He split wood for a burnt offering and set out for the place God had designated.
- 4 On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance.
- 5 "Stay here with the donkey," Abraham told his servants. "The boy and I will go over there to worship, and then we will return to you."

- 6 Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and placed it on his son Isaac.
- He himself carried the fire and the sacrificial knife, and the two of them walked on together.
- 7 Then Isaac said to his father Abraham, "My father!"
- "Here I am, my son," he replied.
- "The fire and the wood are here," said Isaac, "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 walked on together.
- 9 When they arrived at the place God had designated, Abraham built the altar there and arranged the wood.
- He bound his son Isaac and placed him on the altar, atop the wood.
- 10 Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son.

- 11 Just then, 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 or do anything to him," said the Angel, "for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your only son from Me."

- 13 Then Abraham looked up and saw behind him a ram in a thicket, caught by its horns. So he went and took the ram and offered it as a burnt offering in place of his son.
- 14 And Abraham called that place The LORD Will Provide.
- So to this day it is said, "On the mountain of the LORD it will be provided."

15 And the Angel of the LORD called to Abraham from heaven a second time, 16 saying, "By Myself I have sworn, declares the LORD, that because you have done this and have not withheld your only son,

- 17 I will surely bless you, and I will multiply your descendants like the stars in the sky and the sand on the seashore.
- Your descendants will possess the gates of their enemies.
- 18 And through your offspring all nations of the earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice."

GOD'S TEST
GOD'S PROVISION
GOD'S TONE
GOD'S LOVE

# GOD'S TEST:

#### GOD TESTED ABRAHAM'S FAITH

"Will your trust me when I ask you to do something that goes against:

... all of your desires?"

... all of your logic?"

... your perception of my plan?"

... your perception of my way?"

#### James 2

- 18 But someone will say, "You have faith and I have deeds." Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by my deeds.
- 20 O foolish man, do you want evidence that faith without deeds is worthless?
- 21 Was not our father Abraham justified by what he did when he offered his son Isaac on the altar?

#### James 2

- 22 You see that his faith was working with his actions, and his faith was perfected by what he did.
- 23 And the Scripture was fulfilled that says, "Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness," and he was called a friend of God.
- 24 As you can see, a man is justified by his deeds and not by faith alone.

# GOD'S TEST:

# GOD TESTED ABRAHAM'S FAITH GOD TESTED ABRAHAM'S DEVOTION

Genesis 22

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"for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your only son from Me."

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# GOD TESTED ABRAHAM'S FAITH GOD TESTED ABRAHAM'S DEVOTION

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"for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your only son from Me."

#### Exodus 20

- 3 You shall have no other gods before Me. 4 You shall not make for yourself an idol of any kind, or an image of anything in the heavens above, on the earth beneath, or in the waters below.
- 5 You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God,

# GOD'S PROVISION:

#### GOD PROVIDED THE PERFECT SACRIFICE

- Genesis 22:7 Then Isaac said to his father Abraham, "My father!"
- "Here I am, my son," he replied.
- "The fire and the wood are here," said Isaac, "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 walked on together.

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# GOD'S PROVISION:

#### GOD PROVIDED THE PERFECT SACRIFICE

Sacrifice – an innocent substitute in my place for my sin

Propitiation – to appease and turn away the wrath of the Father

Reconciliation – to make peace between God and men

Redemption – to be a ransom payment to redeem us from slavery

Conquest – to ultimately destroy sin, death and the Devil

#### GOD'S PROVISION:

#### GOD PROVIDED THE PERFECT SACRIFICE

Propitiation – to appease and turn away the wrath of the Father

# GOD'S TONE:

# GOD SET THE TONE FOR OUR DEVOTION TO HIM

Hebrews 12

2 Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

# GOD'S TONE:

# GOD SET THE TONE FOR OUR DEVOTION TO HIM

- 3 Consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.
- 4 In your struggle against sin, you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood.

# GOD'S LOVE: GOD'S LOVE HELD NOTHING BACK

Romans 8:31 What then shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? 32 He who did not spare His own Son but gave Him up for us all, how will He not also, along with Him, freely give us all things?

#### 1 John 3

16 By this we know what love is: Jesus laid down His life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers.

17 If anyone with earthly possessions sees his brother in need, but withholds his compassion from him, how can the love of God abide in him?

#### 2 Corinthians 5

- 14 For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that One died for all, therefore all died.
- 15 And He died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves, but for Him who died for them and was raised again.

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