

### **ON THE THIRD DAY** (Genesis 22:4)

On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance. And Abraham said to his servants, Settle down and stay here with the donkey, and I and the young man will go yonder and worship and come again to you (verse 4).

As Abraham and his son, Isaac reached the place for the sacrifice, he asked the question, “My father, here are the fire and the wood, but where is the Lamb for the burnt sacrifice? Abraham said, my son, God Himself will provide a lamb for the burnt offering”. We have here in the life of Isaac also submission, after he struggled to know where was the lamb for the sacrifice and allowing his father to bound him on the altar.

*On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance* – the place where on the third day he would sacrifice his son, as God had asked him to do. And on the third day God was going to express salvation for the world through him. On the third day, I believe, when Abraham looked up, he saw not only the place for the sacrifice of his son, but he saw also the Son of God being sacrificed as the “Lamb of God” for the sins of the whole world.

In the life of Isaac, we see it figuratively of the nation of Israel being restored on the third day (Hosea 6:2). They will call on the name of the Lord and will be saved; they will look up and see the One they crucified, and repent with mourning (Zech.12). When Abraham looked up, he saw the salvation for his son – the nation that would come from him. And in that faith, which shielded him from fear, he said, “stay here with the donkey, and I and the young man will go yonder and worship and come again to you. He believed the provision before it came to him, “that God Himself will provide a lamb for the burnt offering”.

About one thousand years later, King David was faced with the judgment of God for having counted his army. In I Chronicles 21:18, we read, Then the angel of the Lord commanded Gad to say to David that he should go up and set up an altar to the Lord in the threshing floor of Ornan the Jebusite, the same mount ranges, where Abraham was called to sacrifice his son many years later. In that place, David called on the Lord, and the Lord answered him by fire from heaven upon

the altar of burnt offering (verse 25). When David saw that the Lord had answered him at the threshing floor of Ornan the Jebusite, he sacrificed there (verse 28). And there he was atoned for his sin. David said, "Here shall be the house of the Lord, and here shall be the altar of the burnt offering for Israel".

Four thousand years later, from the time God called Abraham to sacrifice his son on those mount ranges, He had His Son, Jesus, sacrificed to atone for our sins in those mount ranges, outside the City (Jerusalem). He was the Lamb Abraham had prophesied about, when he said, "God will provide Himself a lamb for the burnt offering". On the third day after His death, Jesus was raised from the dead. Salvation was offered to the world four thousand years later, when He took the place of Isaac as the Lamb of God, Who would take the sins of the world.

John the Baptist pointed to his disciples, by saying, "Look! There is the Lamb of God, Who takes away the sins of the world (John 1:29)! In the chapter 53 and verses seven and eight, Isaiah prophesied, "He was submissive and opened not His mouth, like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and a sheep before her shearers is dumb, He opened not His mouth; by oppression and judgment He was taken away ". What Abraham saw when he looked up, he saw with the eyes of faith. God's covenant with him stood firmly in his mind, in spite of the circumstance he was facing.

Looking up, we too can perceive with the eyes of faith the promise of our redemption, which was accomplished through Jesus. "IT IS FINISHED". We can then say, "God will provide" therefore "all is well" in the darkness of the moment.

### **THINK ABOUT IT!**

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