DAY 2

# A Son is Given

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

# A Son is Given

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2025

Day 2

♬ **Recommended Hymn:** *Come Thou Long Expected Jesus*

## Read

**Genesis 22:1–3a, 9–18**

Some time later God tested Abraham; he called to him, "Abraham!"

And Abraham answered, "Yes, here I am!"

"Take your son," God said, "your only son, Isaac, whom you love so much, and go to the land of Moriah. There on a mountain that I will show you, offer him as a sacrifice to me."

Early the next morning Abraham cut some wood for the sacrifice, loaded his donkey, and took Isaac and two servants with him.

... When they came to the place that God had told him about, Abraham built an altar and arranged the wood on it. He tied up his son and placed him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then he picked up the knife to kill him.

But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven, "Abraham, Abraham!"

He answered, "Yes, here I am."

"Don't hurt the boy or do anything to him," he said. "Now I know that you honor and obey God, because you have not kept back your only son from him."

Abraham looked around and saw a ram caught in a bush by its horns. He went and got it and offered it as a burnt offering instead of his son. Abraham named that place "The LORD Provides." And even today people say, "On the LORD's mountain he provides."

The angel of the LORD called to Abraham from heaven a second time, "I make a vow by my own name—the LORD is speaking—that I will richly bless you. Because you did this and did not keep back your only son from me, I promise that I will give you as many descendants as there are stars in the sky or grains of sand along the seashore. Your descendants will conquer their enemies. All the nations will ask me to bless them as I have blessed your descendants—all because you obeyed my command."



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**John 3:16–21**

For God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not die but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to be its judge, but to be its savior.

Those who believe in the Son are not judged; but those who do not believe have already been judged, because they have not believed in God's only Son. This is how the judgment works: the light has come into the world, but people love the darkness rather than the light, because their deeds are evil. Those who do evil things hate the light and will not come to the light, because they do not want their evil deeds to be shown up. But those who do what is true come to the light, in order that the light may show that what they did was in obedience to God.

## Reflect

In Genesis 22, we see a father willing to give up his beloved son. The story of Abraham and Isaac foreshadows the heart of Christmas—the moment when God would send his only Son to be a sacrifice for us.

Abraham's faith was tested in a way few of us could imagine. Yet at the last moment, God provided a ram as a substitute, sparing Isaac's life. Generations later, God would not spare his own Son. On the cross, Jesus was our substitute. He became sin so that we could become righteousness (**2 Corinthians 5:21**).

When John writes that "God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son" (**John 3:16**), he is revealing the fulfillment of what began on Mount Moriah. God's love is not abstract. It's sacrificial. He entered our darkness to bring light, exchanging our death for his life.

As you reflect today, consider the magnitude of that love. The same God who provided for Abraham has provided salvation for you through Jesus, the true Son given for the world.

## Dig Deeper

- Read **Romans 8:32**. Reflect on what it means that God held nothing back in saving you—not even his Son. How does this verse expand your view of the Christmas story and what it means for your life today?
- Think of a time when God provided for you in an unexpected way. How does that remind you of his faithfulness?



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## Pray

*Heavenly Father, thank you for the incredible gift of your Son, Jesus. Thank you for showing us through Abraham's story that you are a God who provides and that you have provided all we need through Christ. Help me to rest in your love and remember that you gave everything so that I could be restored to you. Fill me with gratitude today as I worship you, my Provider and Redeemer. In Jesus's name I pray, Amen.*



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