

“God Will Supply the Lamb”

Morning Session, 29 August 2026

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This session will be a biblical theological study of the lamb as a prefigure of Christ’s substitutionary sacrificial role through a detailed walk through the text of Genesis 22:1-19 and allusions to it in the New Testament. This will be preceded by a short look at how fundamentals of biblical theology work as a unifying narrative of redemption through Jesus Christ in the Bible as a whole.

Outline and Notes:

I. *Prolegomena*

A. Definitions of Biblical Theology

1. “To sum up, biblical theology may be defined as **theological interpretation of Scripture in and for the church**. It proceeds with **historical and literary sensitivity** and seeks to analyze and synthesize the Bible’s **teaching about God and his relations to the world on its own terms**, maintaining sight of **the Bible’s overarching narrative and Christocentric focus**.” Brian Rosner (*New Dictionary of Biblical Theology* p. 10)

2. *Progressive Revelation*

3. Symbol:

Type:

Anti-type:

Theme:

Motif:

Allusion:

Echo:

- B. *Protoevangelium* (“the first gospel presentation”): Genesis 3:15: I will put enmity between you and the woman,
and between your offspring and her offspring;
he shall bruise your head,
and you shall bruise his heel.”

II. The Background...Animal Sacrifice

- A. Genesis 3:7, 21 (*covering*)

- B. Genesis 4:1-7 (*acceptable and unacceptable sacrifices*)

III. The Text: Genesis 22:1-19

Chiastic Structure:

A: *Dialogue*: God and Abraham (The word of *Elohim*) (vv. 1-2)

B: *Actions*: Abraham's Walk (vv. 3-6)

C: CENTRAL AXIS: *Dialogue*: The Lamb and God's Provision (vv. 7-8)

B1: *Actions*: Abraham's Walk (vv. 9-10)

A1: *Dialogue*: God and Abraham (The word of *YHWH*) (vv. 11-19)¹

A. Genesis 22:1-2: "*your only son...whom you love...*"

1. Matthew 3:17 (*cf.* Mark 1:11, Luke 3:22, 2Peter 1:17): "And a voice from heaven said, 'this is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.'" (CSV)
2. Matthew 17:5 (*cf.* Mark 9:7): "While he was still speaking suddenly a bright cloud covered them, and a voice from the cloud said, 'This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well-pleased. Listen to him!'" (CSV)
3. John 3:16: "For God loved the world in this way: He gave his one and only Son so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life." (CSV)
4. Luke 20:13 (*cf.* Mark 12:6): "Then the owner of the vineyard said, 'What shall I do? I will send my beloved son. Perhaps they will respect him.'" (CSV)

B. Genesis 22:3-6: "*On the third day...*"

1. Exodus 3:18; 5:1-3; 8:27, Jonah 1:17, Hosea 6:2

¹ (adapted from Radday, 1964, and Doukhan, 1993)

2. 1Corinthians 15:4 (?): "...that he was buried, that he was raised on the **third day** *according to the Scriptures...*" (ESV)

3. "the wood"

C. Genesis 22:7-8: "...*where is the Lamb?*" "*God will provide for himself the lamb...*"

1. "My father," "my son"

2. Trust and willing submission

D. Genesis 22:9-14 "...*you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me...*"

1. The "binding" of Isaac (*Aqedah* in Hebrew tradition)

2. The substitute: A "ram" for a "lamb"?

E. Genesis 22:15-19: The *coda*

1. "...because you have **done this...**" James 2:21

2. Romans 8:32: “He who did not **spare his own Son** but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?”

3. The Abrahamic covenant renewed

F. The story continues...

IV. Christ Prefigured in Genesis 22

V. Further development of the Lamb

A. The Lamb Typified: Exodus 12:1-13

B. The Lamb Signified: Exodus 25-40, Leviticus 8-9

C. The Lamb Personified: Isaiah 53

D. The Lamb Crucified: Gospels

E. The Lamb Glorified: Epistles

F. The Lamb Deified: Revelation

Genesis 22

English Standard Version

The Sacrifice of Isaac

22 After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” ² He said, “Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you.” ³ So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. ⁴ On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar. ⁵ Then Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy^[a] will go over there and worship and come again to you.” ⁶ And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together. ⁷ And Isaac said to his father Abraham, “My father!” And he said, “Here I am, my son.” He said, “Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?” ⁸ Abraham said, “God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son.” So they went both of them together.

⁹ When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. ¹⁰ Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. ¹¹ But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven and said, “Abraham, Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” ¹² He said, “Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me.” ¹³ And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. ¹⁴ So Abraham called the name of that place, “The Lord will provide”; as it is said to this day, “On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided.”

¹⁵ And the angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven ¹⁶ and said, “By myself I have sworn, declares the Lord, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, ¹⁷ I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies, ¹⁸ and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice.” ¹⁹ So Abraham returned to his young men, and they arose and went together to Beersheba. And Abraham lived at Beersheba.