

## Early Shadows

Where's the Lamb?

Genesis 22:1-4

December 7, 2014

### I. The Proving (Genesis 22:1-12)

- God comes to Abraham and asks him to sacrifice his one and only son Isaac.
- This request seems to put the promises of God at stake.
- Abraham considered God able to raise Isaac from the dead (Hebrews 11:17-19).
- Abraham believed and acted in obedience to God.

### II. The Provision (Genesis 22:13-14)

- God stops Abraham's sacrifice and releases Isaac.
- A Lamb is offered in Isaac's place.
- God provided a substitute for Isaac.

### III. The Picture

- "Abraham saw my day and was glad" (John 8:56).
- Substitutionary atonement is at the heart of God's redemptive plan.
- What happens when we don't have a substitute? (Exodus 12:21-30)
- Jesus was God's answer to Isaac's question: "Where is the Lamb?" (John 1:29; Hebrews 9:12)
- On Mount Moriah, Jesus would carry his own cross (John 19:17), lay himself down (John 10:18), and take the place of sinners (John 10:11, 16-18; 11:47-52; Romans 5:6-11).
- He has absorbed the wrath of God...the just and the justifier (Romans 3:26-31).
- Like Abraham, God offered his only son as a sacrifice, but there was no substitute for Jesus (Romans 3:25; 4:25; 8:32).

### IV. The Proclamation and Praise

- Revelation 5:11-13

#### Suggested Reading:

*It is Well*, by Mark Dever and Michael Lawrence

*In My Place Condemned He Stood*, by J.I. Packer and Mark Dever

*The Cross and Salvation*, by Bruce Demarest

#### Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families

##### Please read Genesis 22:1-14

1. What was one thing that stood out to you from the message this morning?
2. How had Abraham been prepared for such a test?
3. How might you have rationalized your way out of such a command?
4. Why is substitutionary atonement vital to our redemption? What does it say about the character and nature of God? Of sin?
5. In what ways was Christ our perfect substitute?
6. Can you think of other examples in the Old Testament where substitutionary atonement is pictured? (e.g., The Passover)
7. Why do you think so many people are opposed to this view of the atonement?
8. What impact does pondering something like the atonement have on your faith?