

The Sacrifice of Abraham

Years later, GOD spoke often with other women and men. Another one of GOD's faithful people was named Abraham. Abraham had a wife, Sarah.... and one son who he loved very much, named Isaac. GOD wanted to bless Abraham in a very special way... but he wanted to know that Abraham loved him... as much as life, or even more than his son. So GOD asked Abraham to do something so difficult it is even hard to think that GOD would ask this. Anyway, here is what happened.

One day, GOD spoke to Abraham... "Abraham, are you there?" "Yes I am, Lord. I am your servant. How can I help you?"

"Abraham, I want you to go far away from your town and your people... but take Isaac, your son with you..... there, through the valley I want you to go up the mountain I will show you.... and I want you to offer Isaac as a sacrifice". Even though this made Abraham so sad he could not talk.... why would GOD want me to kill my son? Have I done something terrible? Bad? Abraham thought all of these things, but said nothing. He did exactly what GOD said. He got up early, woke up two of his helpers and his son Isaac, saddled up the donkey that helped him with chores... and off they went. They picked up wood along the way for the fire. Nobody talked very much, just the two workers, who would whistle and sing... Isaac would sing and laugh with them. But Abraham would only look straight ahead and kept on walking. They traveled for three days when GOD quiet told Abraham to leave the men behind, with the donkey. He told Isaac to carry the wood, while he brought a lit stick and a knife to make the sacrifice and they walked on, leaving the others. We are going to worship and will be back. The wood felt pretty heavy to Isaac.... "Daddy, where are we going with this? I have the wood and you have the fire, but where is the pure lamb for the sacrifice? GOD will provide what is necessary said Abraham, trying not to cry. When they came to the right place, GOD told Abraham to stop. Abraham built an altar from stones he found laying around. On top of them he loaded the wood. He turned Isaac around, tied his hands in back of him..... and pulled him toward the altar and wood, with Isaac's back to the altar. He pulled out the sharp knife, was about to cut him when an Angel of God stopped him, "ABRAHAM!!!! Do not harm him." I know now, without a doubt, that you love GOD more than your own love for your son or your own comfortable life.

Abraham, whose head was down and hand trembled in the air dropped the knife to the ground and dared to look up, tears streaming down his face. A ram had entangled itself in a thorny thicket. Abraham untied Isaac, kissed his face, and hugged him with relief. He then picked up the knife, but it in his sash, brought the rope to bind the ram. Abraham and Isaac dragged the ram to the wood-laden altar, slung it on top and set fire to the wood and there they worshiped GOD on the mountain.