

May 4, 2020

The Names of Love - Part 4 - Jehovah Jireh

Abraham looked up and there in a thicket he saw a ram caught by its horns. He went over and took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called that place The Lord Will Provide. And to this day it is said, "On the mountain of the Lord it will be provided." (Genesis 22:13-14)

The Name of God in this passage is Jehovah Jireh - God Who is our Provider; literally the Hebrew word Jireh means, the One Who sees the situation beforehand and is able to provide for your needs.

First, God told Abraham to go to the mountain (Mount Moriah) and offer up his only son as the sacrifice - vv. 1-3. Verse 1 says God tested Abraham. The word test means to put through the stress and make sure it is strong, i.e. the testing of metal. We are never too old to be tested and when God gave this command, Abraham obeyed without hesitation. He didn't question God or seek someone else's advice, but instead, he prepared himself for worship. Wow! Did you get that? I wonder how many times I've heard the voice of God speak to my spirit and I have wondered if I heard correctly and seek the counsel of others. Then it strikes me - if I heard this coming from God, why would I need anyone else's input. When God speaks it is "yes, and Amen." Abraham prepared for worship! Why? Because He knew that God would provide. And how did he know this? Because God had made a covenant with him and God never breaks His promises; Never!

Then, he professes his faith to his son and to his servants - vv. 4-8. He tells his servants to stay at the foot of the mountain and tells them that we will worship and that we will return. He speaks words of faith to Isaac as his son questions him about the lamb for the burnt offering. And Abraham answers him in v. 8 - "God Himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son." Using the word jireh, he exclaims that God has seen the need before it even exists and that because He has seen the need, He also knows how to meet the need before we even have them! What need do you have? God already knows what you need. Mt. 6:7-8 "And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask Him. Lastly, Abraham builds the altar, bound up his son and pulled out the knife to slay him there on the altar. And yet, God's timing is always perfect. He stops Abraham and provides a sacrifice there in the thicket of the mountain - vv. 13-14.

Now, here is the amazing and profound picture that is painted for us. About 1800 years later, on the very same mountain, Jehovah Jireh, our Provider, offers up His sacrifice, as John the Baptist had proclaimed to the masses, "Behold the Lamb of God Who takes away the sins of the whole world." 2 Cor. 5:21 "For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him." God is truly our Provider in every way. Dear Jehovah Jireh, thank You so much for seeing my need for forgiveness. Thank You for providing the sacrifice. Thank You Jesus for taking all of my sin upon Yourself, even though

You never sinned, and becoming my sacrifice; taking the penalty of my sin so that I could be made whole. I will spend eternity thanking You. In Jesus Name, Amen