

Think of the irony that people violently trample each other for discounts on the same day that they celebrate being thankful for what they already have.

The Christmas Crazy has now even invaded Thanksgiving Day.

Certainly this has nothing to do with the celebration of the birth of Jesus.

We can all easily say, "Look what the world has come to," but the message of Christmas is "Look WHO has come to the world."

Isaiah 9:6 - For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

- **The birth of Jesus was the defining event of human history.**
- **To think the God of the universe would grow inside the womb of His created woman is staggering.**
- **Why did this have to happen?**

Romans 5:12,15 –

12 When Adam sinned, sin entered the entire human race. Adam's sin brought death, so death spread to everyone, for everyone sinned.

15 And what a difference between our sin and God's generous gift of forgiveness. For this one man, Adam, brought death to many through his sin. But this other man, Jesus Christ, brought forgiveness to many through God's bountiful gift.

- **The sin of Adam needed to be redeemed.**

Genesis 3:15 - And I will put enmity or hatred between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed; ***he shall bruise your head or remove your authority, and you shall bruise his heel.***

- **The Father needed "legal" access into the earth realm to remove Satan's authority over man.**
- **He did so through a covenant with Abraham.**

Types and Shadows of the Life of Abraham

1. Abraham left his father to go to a land of promise

Genesis 12:1-3 –

1 Then the LORD told Abram, "Leave your country, your relatives, and your father's house, and go to the land that I will show you.

2 I will cause you to become the father of a great nation. I will bless you and make you famous, and I will make you a blessing to others.

3 I will bless those who bless you and curse those who curse you. ***All the families of the earth will be blessed through you.***"

Philippians 2:5-8 –

5 Your attitude should be the same that Christ Jesus had.

6 Though he was God, he did not demand and cling to his rights as God.
7 He made himself nothing; he took the humble position of a slave and appeared in human form.

2. Miraculous Birth

Genesis 17:17-20 –

17 Then Abraham bowed down to the ground, but he laughed to himself in disbelief. "How could I become a father at the age of one hundred?" he wondered. "Besides, Sarah is ninety; how could she have a baby?"

18 And Abraham said to God, "Yes, may Ishmael enjoy your special blessing!"

19 But God replied, "Sarah, your wife, will bear you a son. You will name him Isaac, and I will confirm my everlasting covenant with him and his descendants.

Isaiah 7:14 - Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son and shall call his name Immanuel (meaning God with us)

3. The Sacrifice of a Promised and Resurrected Son

Genesis 22:1-2 - Now it came to pass after these things that God tested Abraham, and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." 2 Then He said, "Take now 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."

- **The same mountain range where mount Calvary is located**
- **4,000 years later God would offer His own son in this very same location.**

Genesis 22:3-5 –

3 So Abraham rose early in the morning and saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son; and he split the wood for the burnt offering, and arose and went to the place of which God had told him.

4 Then on the third day Abraham lifted his eyes and saw the place afar off.

5 And Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the lad and I will go yonder and worship, and ***we will come back to you.***"

Hebrews 11:17-19 –

17 By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises offered up his only begotten son,

18 of whom it was said, "In Isaac your seed shall be called,"

19 concluding that ***God was able to raise him up, even from the dead***, from which he also received him raised in a figurative sense.

Genesis 22:6 - So Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on ***Isaac, his son's, shoulder***; and he took the fire in his hand, and a knife, and the two of them went together.

- **Abraham lays the wood on the shoulder of Isaac, as Jesus would have the cross laid upon his shoulder.**

Genesis 22:7-8 –

7 But Isaac spoke to Abraham his father and said, "My father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." Then he said, "Look, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?"

8 And Abraham said, "My son, **God will provide for Himself the lamb** for a burnt offering." So the two of them went together.

John 3:16 - For God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son so that anyone who believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

Genesis 22:9-14 –

9 Then they came to the place of which God had told him. And Abraham built an altar there and placed the wood in order; and he bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, upon the wood.

10 And Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. 11 But the Angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" So he said, "Here I am."

12 And He said, "Do not lay your hand on the lad, or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me."

13 Then Abraham lifted his eyes and looked, and there behind him was a ram caught in a thicket by its horns. So Abraham went and took the ram, and offered it up for a burnt offering instead of his son.

14 And Abraham called the name of the place, The-LORD-Will-Provide; as it is said to this day, "In the Mount of the LORD it shall be provided."

Because God's Covenant Partner Abraham was willing to offer his son as a sacrifice to God, God now had "Legal Access" to offer His Son for the sins of the world.

What will you do with the sacrifice of Jesus?