

## **Genesis 22:8 “God will provide HIMSELF a lamb for a burnt offering”**

A great prophecy concerning the deity of the Lord Jesus Christ has been destroyed in the modern versions. Abraham had been told by God: "Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee into the land of Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of." This entire historical event foreshadowed the Father offering up His Son as the lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world.

Even the type of the resurrection after three days is found here. Abraham decided in his heart that he would obey God and kill his own son. It was as good as done in Abraham's mind the night before. Then he arose early in the morning of the next day, took his son, clave the wood for the burnt offering and went unto the place of which God had told him. Then we are told in verse 4 "Then ON THE THIRD DAY Abraham lifted up his eyes, and saw the place afar off. It was on this third day that the angel of the LORD again called unto Abraham and said "Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou any thing unto him: for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me." So even the type of the resurrection after three days is fulfilled in this passage in Genesis 22. Hebrews 11:19 tells us of Abraham's "accounting that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead; from whence also he received him in a figure."

The verse that has been changed in the NKJV, NASB and NIV and alters the full significance of the spiritual type being portrayed, is Gen. 22:8. In the King James Bible we read in verses 7 and 8: "And Isaac spake unto Abraham his father, and said, My father: and he said, Here am I, my son. And he said, Behold the fire and the wood: but where is the lamb for a burnt offering? And Abraham said, My son, God WILL PROVIDE HIMSELF A LAMB for a burnt offering." God will provide HIMSELF a lamb. This is the prophetic type as we are told in verse 14 "And Abraham called the name of that place Jehovah jireh: as it is said to this day, In the mount of the LORD it shall be seen." What took place in type here with Abraham and his son would be seen at a future time. That time was when the Lord Jesus Christ, God manifest in the flesh, died on Calvary for the sins of His people.

The reading of "God will provide HIMSELF a lamb" is the reading of the 1917 JPS (Jewish Publication Society) and 1936 Hebrew Publishing Company) translations. They are not even Christians and yet they have it just as it is in the KJB. It is also the reading of the Revised Version of 1885 - "And Abraham said, God will provide himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son", the ASV of 1901 (the predecessor to the NASB), Darby, the Catholic Douay-Rheims of 1610 and the Douay version of 1950, the RSV (though later changed in the NRSV and the ESV), Webster's 1833 translation, the KJV 21st century 1994, the Third Millennium Bible 1998, and the modern Hebrew Names Version.

Also agreeing with the meaning found in the King James Bible is the 2011 Orthodox Jewish Bible, which reads: "And Avraham said, My son, G-d will provide Himself a seh (lamb) for a burnt offering: so they went both of them together." The Complete Jewish Bible of 1998 also reads the same - "God will provide HIMSELF the lamb for a burnt offering, my son".

This is also the reading found in Lamsa's translation of the Syriac Peshitta. It reads - "And

Abraham said, God will provide himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son.”

The KJB reading of God will provide HIMSELF a lamb teaches that the lamb who in the future would be sacrificed was God himself, not somebody else. Jesus Christ is God, the second person of the trinity, the creator, God manifest in the flesh. The true Bible itself is its own best commentary. In Acts 20:28 we read of Paul exhorting the elders to “feed the church of God, which HE hath purchased WITH HIS OWN BLOOD.”

See this study on Acts 20:28 and how it has been changed in many versions - <http://brandplucked.webs.com/acts2028godsblood.htm>

Back to Genesis 22:8 “God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering”

However the NKJV, ESV, Dan Wallace and company’s NET version and the NASB say: "God will provide FOR Himself a lamb" while the NIV has "God himself will provide the lamb."

Do you see the change here? No longer can you use these modern versions to prove that Christ is God by referring to Genesis 22:8. The prophecy was not fulfilled here in Genesis 22. Abraham lift up his eyes and saw behind him a ram caught in a thicket by his horns, and he offered up the ram in the stead of his son. But a ram is not a lamb. The true lamb, who is also God Himself, is the Lord Jesus Christ.

Among the conflicting Catholic versions we see the same thing occurring. The earlier Catholic Douay Rheims of 1610 reads like the KJB, as well as the 1950 Douay Version, saying: “And Abraham said: God will provide HIMSELF a victim for an holocaust, my son.” But the newer Catholic versions like the New Jerusalem Bible 1985 and the St. Joseph New American Bible of 1970 both read - “God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering.” This also is the way the Holman Standard Version of 2003 reads. Just by switching a word from one place to another the whole meaning is changed, and you can no longer prove that the true Lamb of God is the Lord Jesus Christ, who is God HIMSELF!.

The same thing is seen in the Spanish Bibles. The older Spanish Reina Valera of 1909 and 1960 read -”Y respondió Abraham: **Dios SE proveerá de cordero** para el holocausto, hijo mío. E iban juntos.” Do you see that little pronoun SE in the phrase “SE proveerá” here? This is called a reflexive verb, and it means that God will provide HIMSELF as a lamb. This is also the reading of the 2010 Reina Valera Gómez Bible.

However the newer Reina Valera of 1995 and the NIV Spanish version have changed all this. The 1995 Reina Valera now says: “Abraham respondió: —**Dios proveerá el cordero** para el holocausto, hijo mío. E iban juntos.” That little pronoun “SE” is now gone and it simply means God will provide the lamb for the burnt offering. No longer can you see the truth that it is God HIMSELF who will BE the lamb.

The same is true in the NIV Spanish edition where it says: “El cordero, hijo mío, lo proveerá Dios —le respondió Abraham.” = The lamb, my son, God will provide IT, Abraham answered him.”

The King James Bible exalts the Lord Jesus Christ to His rightful place as “GOD manifest in the flesh” - (See 1 Timothy 3:16 and compare the modern critical text versions.) And “there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.” - (See 1 John 5:7 and compare the modern critical text versions).

1 Timothy 3:16 “GOD manifest in the flesh”

<http://brandplucked.webs.com/1timothy316godorhe.htm>

1 John 5:7 “and these three are one”

<http://brandplucked.webs.com/1john57.htm>

All of grace, believing the Book,

Will Kinney

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