

## December 5: Isaac, son of Abraham



Isaac was born when Abraham was 100 years old as God had foretold. Isaac was the only son that Sarah and Abraham had together. Abraham loved Isaac very much, and Isaac was his only heir. God decided to test Abraham to see if he loved God more than anyone or anything else. God told Abraham to go to a mountain and to sacrifice his beloved son Isaac. Abraham obeyed God. He took Isaac to the mountain, built an altar, tied up Isaac, and put him on the altar. He drew his knife to kill him, but at that very moment an angel of God stopped him. The angel told him to sacrifice a ram instead that was stuck in some branches nearby. Abraham obeyed God. He put God first before everything else, and God blessed him and his descendants.



"Isaac embraces his father Abraham after the Binding of Isaac", early 1900s Bible illustration



**Genesis 22:1-12.** <sup>1</sup>After these things, God tested Abraham, and said to him, "Abraham!" He said, "Here I am."

<sup>2</sup>He said, "Now take your son, your only son, Isaac, whom you love, and go into the land of Moriah. Offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains which I will tell you of."

<sup>3</sup>Abraham rose early in the morning, and saddled his donkey; and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son. He split the wood for the burnt offering, and rose up, and went to the place of which God had told him. <sup>4</sup>On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes, and saw the place far off. <sup>5</sup>Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey. The boy and I will go over there. We will worship, and come back to you." <sup>6</sup>Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. He took in his hand the fire and the knife. They both went together. <sup>7</sup>Isaac spoke to Abraham his father, and said, "My father?"

He said, "Here I am, my son."

He said, "Here is the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?"

<sup>8</sup>Abraham said, "God will provide himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So they both went together. <sup>9</sup>They came to the place which God had told him of. Abraham built the altar there, and laid the wood in order, bound Isaac his son, and laid him on the altar, on the wood. <sup>10</sup>Abraham stretched out his hand, and took the knife to kill his son.

<sup>11</sup>Yahweh's angel called to him out of the sky, and said, "Abraham, Abraham!"

He said, "Here I am."

<sup>12</sup>He said, "Don't lay your hand on the boy 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."