

chapters

- 1 Created in *His Image*
- 2 Creation of Adam & Eve
- ✦ 3 FALL in the Garden
- 6-7 Noah & Great Flood
- 8 Ark LANDS
- 9-10 Rainbow Covenant
- 11 Tower of Babel & Terah to Harran
- 12-14 Abram Rescues Lot
- 15-19 Abram to Abraham –
Covenant of Circumcision

GENESIS

3-3-24

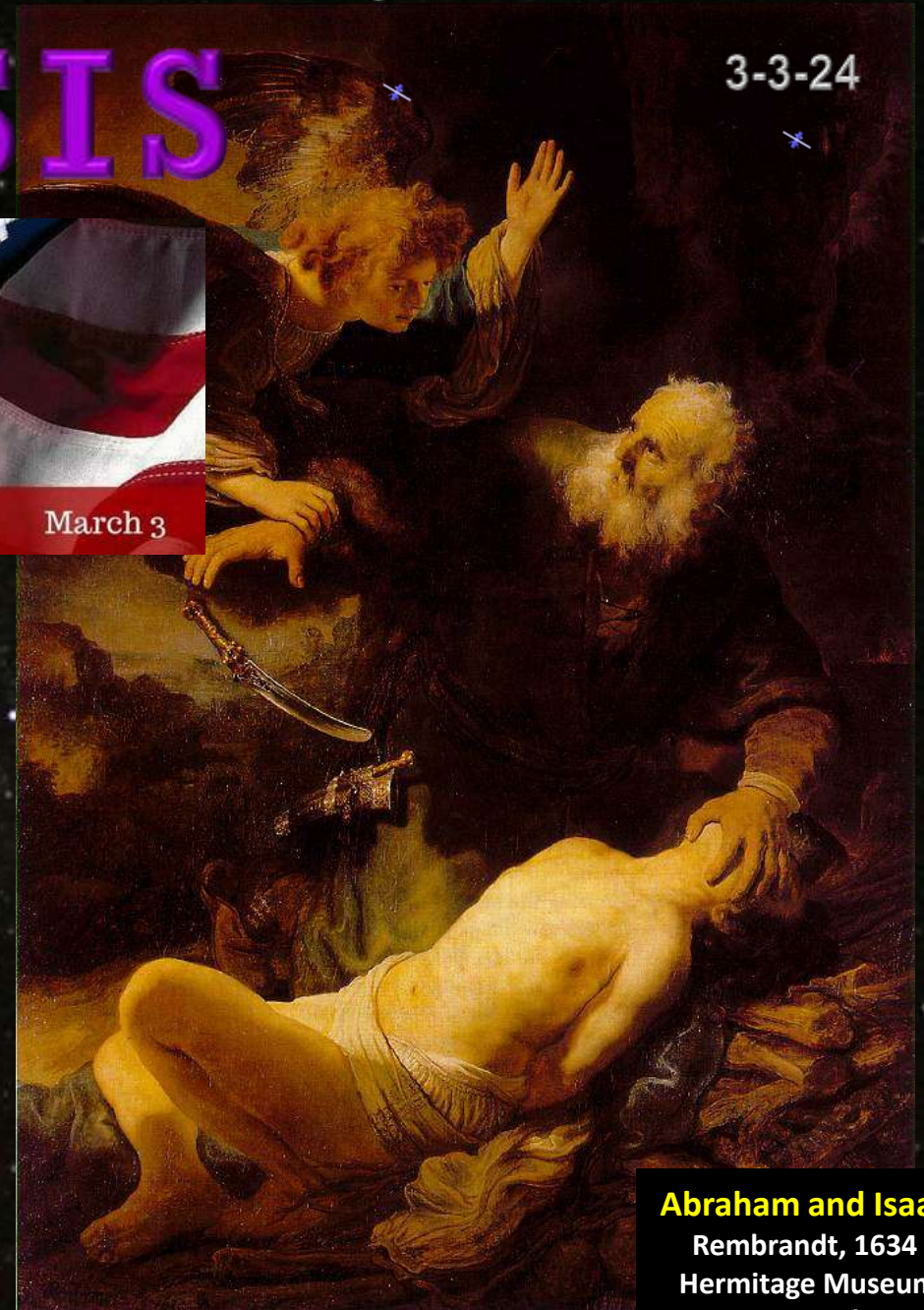


20-23 Abraham's Faith Proved with Isaac

The Call of Duty

Gen 22:12 "Do not lay a hand on the boy," the angel said. "Do not do anything to him. Now I know that you fear God,

BECAUSE you have NOT withheld from me your son, your only son."



Abraham and Isaac
Rembrandt, 1634
Hermitage Museum
Saint Petersburg

Call of Duty is a popular video game ...
1st based on WWII ... with a host of offshoots
- 2023 had a revenue of \$35+ million ...

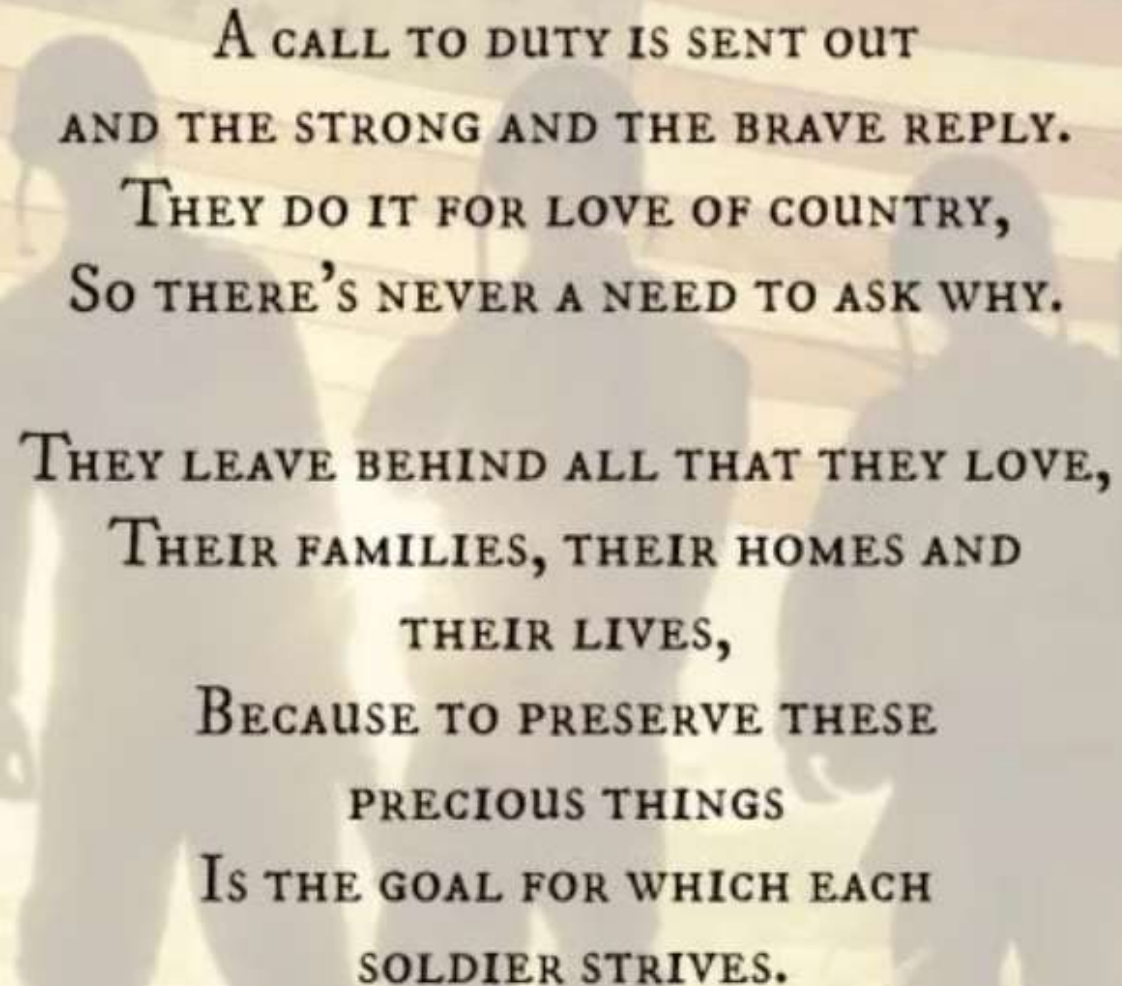


H. Norman Schwarzkopf once said:
"It doesn't take a hero to order men
into battle. It takes a hero to be one of
those men who goes into battle."

Kelly Roper wrote a nice short poem:
"The Call To Duty" [Call To Duty-Kelly Roper](#)

DUTY – what is it?

- ✓ Obligation of the Heart
- ✓ Pull of Honor ~ Tug of Payback
- ✓ Thing You've **GOT** to Do

The background of the poem is a sepia-toned photograph showing the silhouettes of several soldiers in a trench, looking forward. The text is overlaid on this image.

A CALL TO DUTY IS SENT OUT
AND THE STRONG AND THE BRAVE REPLY.
THEY DO IT FOR LOVE OF COUNTRY,
SO THERE'S NEVER A NEED TO ASK WHY.

THEY LEAVE BEHIND ALL THAT THEY LOVE,
THEIR FAMILIES, THEIR HOMES AND
THEIR LIVES,
BECAUSE TO PRESERVE THESE
PRECIOUS THINGS
IS THE GOAL FOR WHICH EACH
SOLDIER STRIVES.



Abraham felt the Call of Duty to God

Sacrifice of Isaac

Basilica of San Vitale, A.D. 547

artist unknown

Gen: 22:1 **Some time later** — *after treaty with Abimelech*
God tested-proved Abraham.

God said to him, “Abraham!”

“Here I am,” he replied.

Thus far in Genesis ...

If we have seen ANYTHING from Abram – Abraham

We have seen his

Call of Duty



Abraham and Isaac
Rembrandt, 1634

Gen 11 - **Abram's 1st 75 Silent Years** ✦

Gen 12 - **Abram w Sarai & Lot to new Home, Egypt, & back**

Gen 13 - **Abram & Lot Separate – to Abram, All the land you see—yours**

Gen 14 - **Abram beats 4 Kings, Rescues Lot, Gives Back—Measure of a Man**

Gen 15 - **Abram's Star Pre-Covenant 4 & Firepot Confirmation** ✦

Gen 16 - **Abram w Hagar, Sarai Bitter, Son Ishmael**

Gen 17 - **Abram, 100, Sarai 90 - Covenant of Circumcision > Abram to Abraham**
“for I have made you a father of many nations”

Gen 18 - **3 Angels to Abraham - Sarah Laughs - Abraham Pleads for Lot in Sodom**

Gen 19 - **2 Angels to Sodom – Sodom & Gomorrah Destroyed**

Gen 20 - **Abraham Moves to Negev - Sarah sister again - Abimelech returns Sarah**

Gen 21 - **Birth of Isaac, Banish Hagar & Ishmael, Treaty at Beersheba w Abimelech**

Gen 22 - **Abraham's Faith Tested – Sacrifice Isaac – God Saves**

Gen 23 - **Death of Sarah 127 – Abraham Buys Cave of Machpelah Near Mamre**

Recall Abraham's Measure of a Man & read Gen 23 on how respected he was

We will focus on Gen 22 – Abraham's sacrifice ...

Gen: 22:1 **Some time later** — *after treaty with Abimelech*
God tested-proved Abraham.

God said to him, “Abraham!”

“Here I am,” he replied.

On this very verse, Charles H. Spurgeon said in 1891,
We clearly understand that God ... [*did not tempt*]

**“Let no man say when he is tempted,
I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted
with evil, neither tempteth he any man.” ...**

**The Revised Version renders the words,
“God did prove Abraham” ...**

**Of course, we shall not ALL attain to the same stature Abraham reached,
neither shall we all be tried by the same tests ...
but every one of us shall be tested,**



Abraham and Isaac
Rembrandt, 1634

Gen: 22:1 He said to him, “**Abraham!**”

“**Here I am,**” he replied.

On this very verse, Charles H. Spurgeon said in 1891,
but every one of us shall be tested, like Abraham,
if indeed we are believers in God.

Abraham was the Columbus who, by faith,
went out, discovered a better country ... a heavenly ...
track has been followed by many other voyagers.

Not without storms did he cross the sea.

WE, TOO, who venture after him on the voyage of faith,

must expect to meet with contrary winds,
and waves sweeping high.... We should NOT be astonished ...

if severe tests should be put upon us before the chapter of life is over.



Abraham and Isaac
Rembrandt, 1634

Gen: 22:1 Some time later — after treaty with Abimelech
God tested-proved Abraham.

God said to him, “Abraham!”

“Here I am,” he replied.

WE know the story ... yet, sigh & wonder & question

There is NO more shocking request in the Bible

I suspect to ANYONE ... the “order” from God is

- ✓ Oddest – Strangest – Most Painful
- ✓ Weirdest – Outer Limits – Twilight Zone
- ✓ Most Ethically Outrageous – even Insane

Furthermore, it is by GOD, still there is *little help* even saying,

- ✓ Era of 2000 B.C., sacrificing children was a Pagan VALUE
- ✓ We see that Abraham does not truly kill Isaac
- ✓ We say that God knew what HE was *going* to do



Abraham and Isaac
Rembrandt, 1634

Gen: 22:1 **Some time later** — *after treaty with Abimelech*
God tested-proved Abraham.

God said to him, “Abraham!”

“Here I am,” he replied.

From the time Abram left Harran ... at God’s Call

We see Abram obeying God on FAITH

While we might question his calling Sarai his sister

Abram is fearless in how he pursued 4 kings for Lot

After God’s promises Abram’s offspring like *STARS* ...

God seals Covenant with Abraham w Circumcision

We Find Abraham FAITHFUL ... the **Father of Faith**

Abraham’s DUTY to God ... God First ... *whatever* God SAID ...



Abraham and Isaac
Rembrandt, 1634

Duty ...

PLAY ▶

KATYUSHA

Over hill, over dale, We will hit the dusty trail,

Di atas bukit, di atas lembah,
Kami akan melewati jalan berdebu,

Gen: 22:1 He said to him, “**Abraham!**”

“**Here I am,**” he replied.

ABRAHAM – Father of Multitudes – Father of Faith

IS ALSO the source of a host of legends ...

Orientals, Christians, Muslims have stories of him

Muslims: his father Azar ... perhaps king of Damascus

Persian magi believe him to be Zoroaster

Zoroaster rivals Zebians claim the same

Several claim Abraham lived long in Egypt

- ✓ he taught the Egyptians astronomy & arithmetic
- ✓ he invented letters & the Hebrew language
- ✓ even the characters of the Syrians & Chaldeans
- ✓ he authored several books, including famous *Jezira*, or *The Creation*



Abraham and Isaac
Rembrandt, 1634

Gen: 22:2 Then God said,

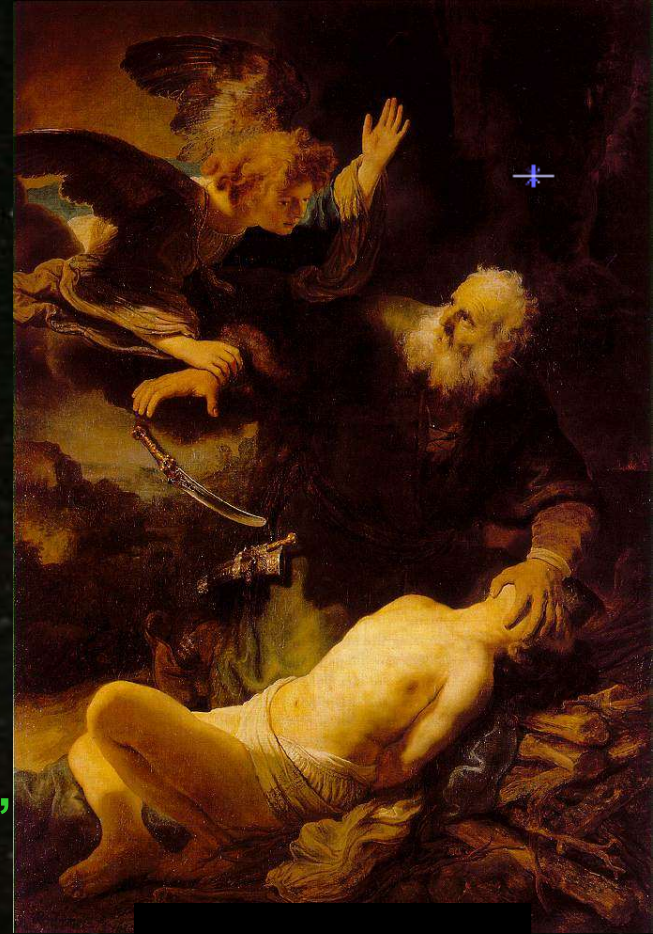
“Take your son,

your only son, whom you **LOVE—ISAAC—**
and go to the region of Moriah.

To the Jew – Abraham is a kind of Perfect Human

- ✓ "Until Abraham ... Lord was known only as the God of heaven.... to Abraham, He became the God of the earth" too
- ✓ Abraham is called "the One" (Isa. li. 2, Heb., Ezek. xxxiii.),
- ✓ Rendered the whole human family one
- ✓ Whosoever has a benign eye, a simple heart, and a humble spirit, or who is humble and pious, is a disciple of Abraham
- ✓ He who *lacks* kindness of heart is no true son of Abraham
- ✓ Man of Faith upon whom is founded the Synagogue, Church, & Mosque
- ✓ Islam—Abraham not a Jew or a Christian, but a believer in One God
- ✓ To some Jews, when God said, "Let there be light!" God had Abraham in view

Do NOT forget that Bible says Abraham **LOVED** Isaac!



Abraham and Isaac

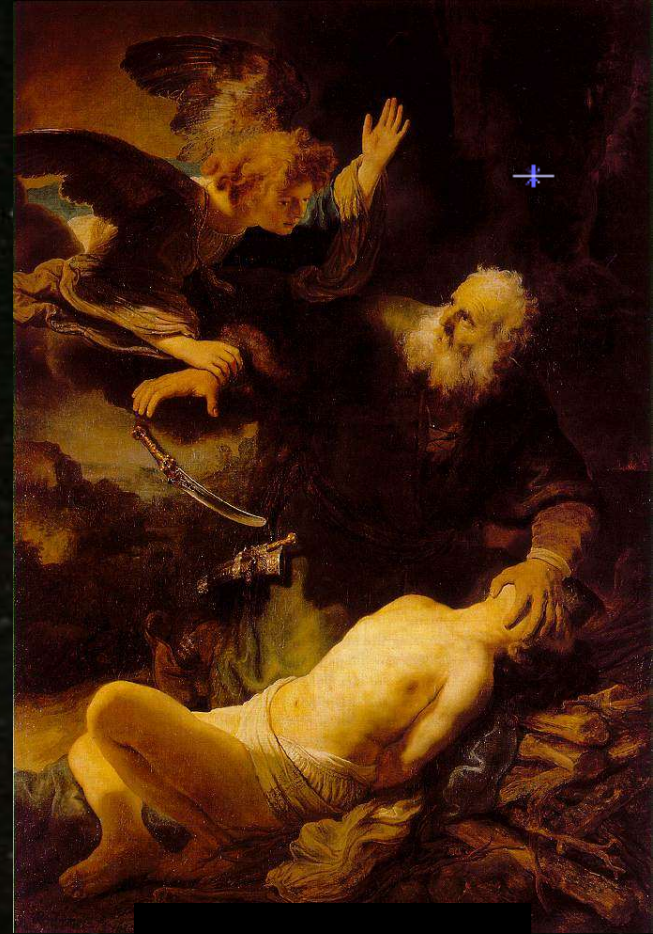
Rembrandt, 1634

Gen: 22:2 Then God said,
“Take your son,
your only son, whom you **LOVE—ISAAC—**
and go to the region of Moriah.

SACRIFICE him there as a burnt offering
on a mountain I will show you.”

Region of Moriah is around today's

Jerusalem



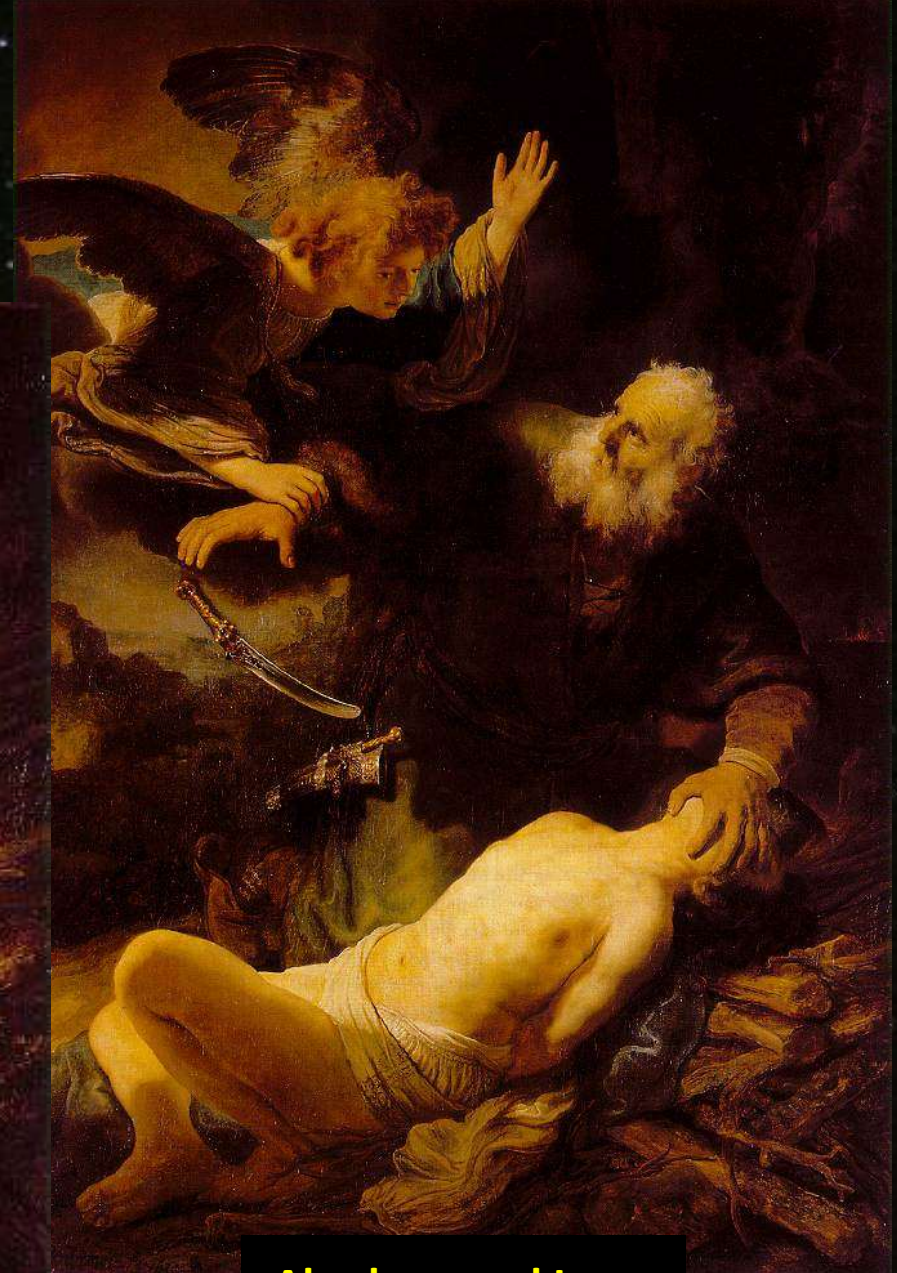
Abraham and Isaac
Rembrandt, 1634



God Command Abraham to Sacrifice Isaac
by Domenichino (1581–1641)

Sacrifice of Isaac
by Caravaggio, 1603



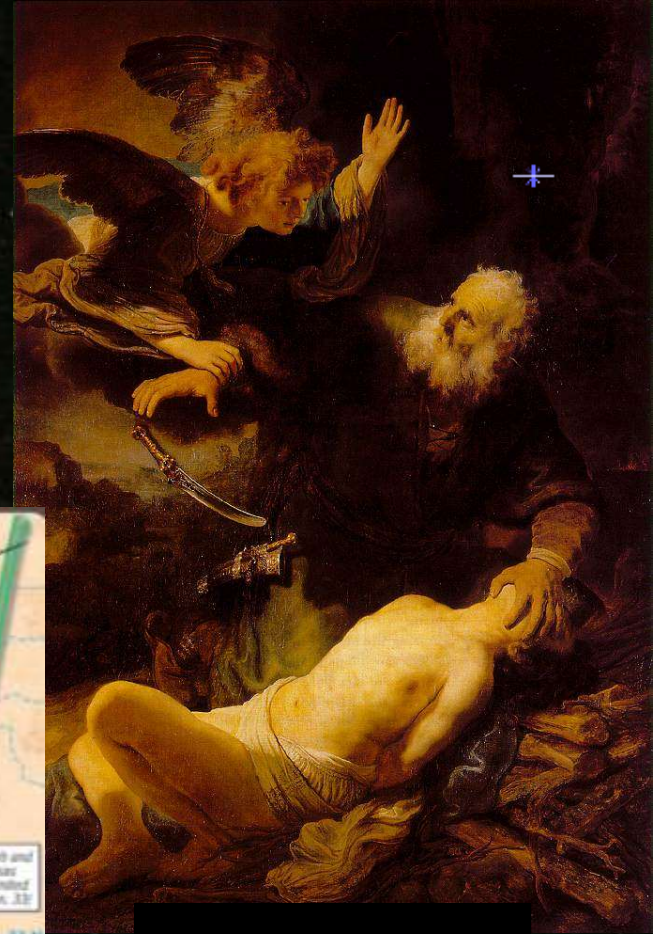


Abraham and Isaac
Rembrandt, 1634

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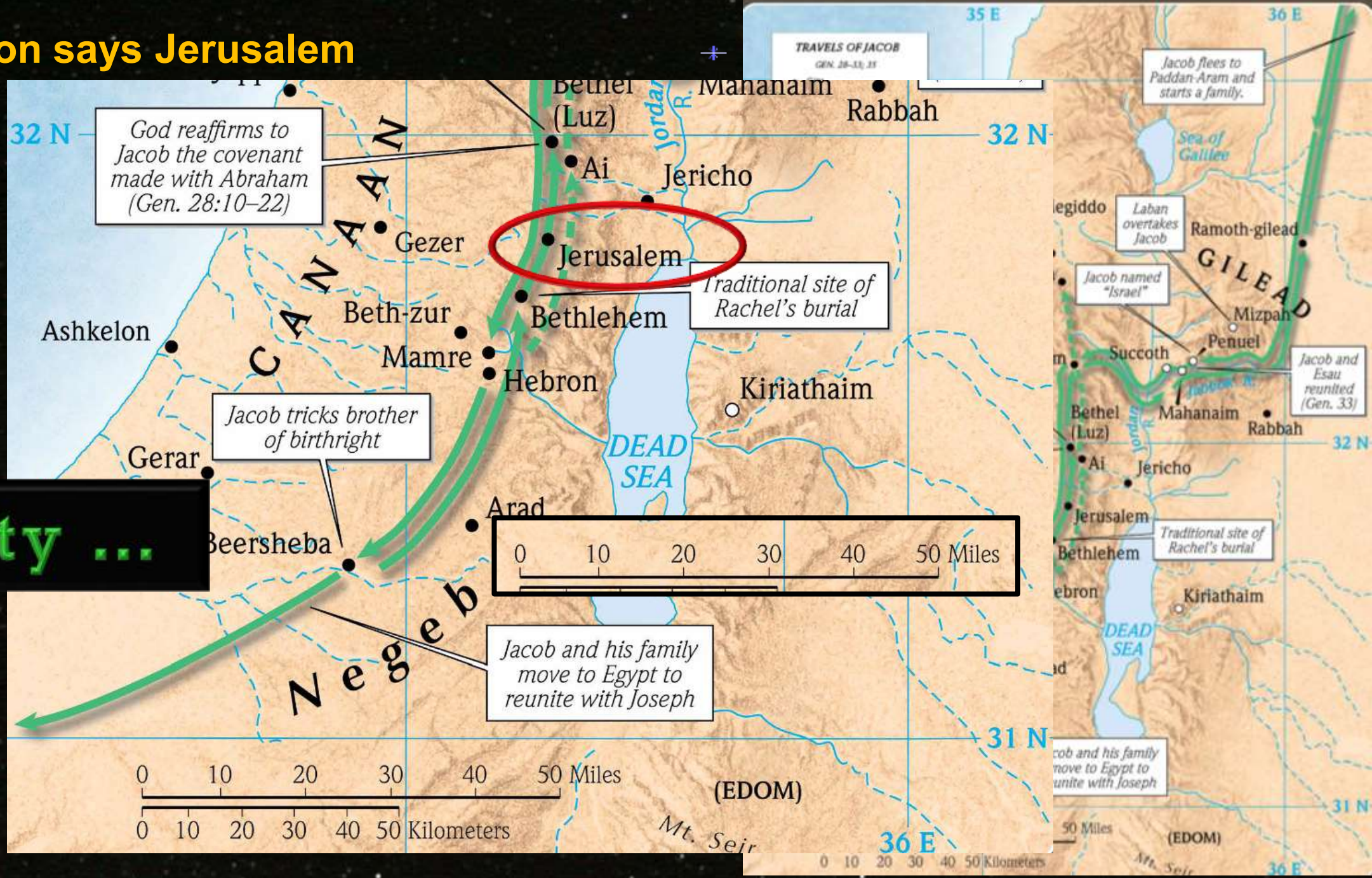
SACRIFICE him there as a burnt offering
on a mountain I will show you.”

Region of Moriah is around
today's Jerusalem

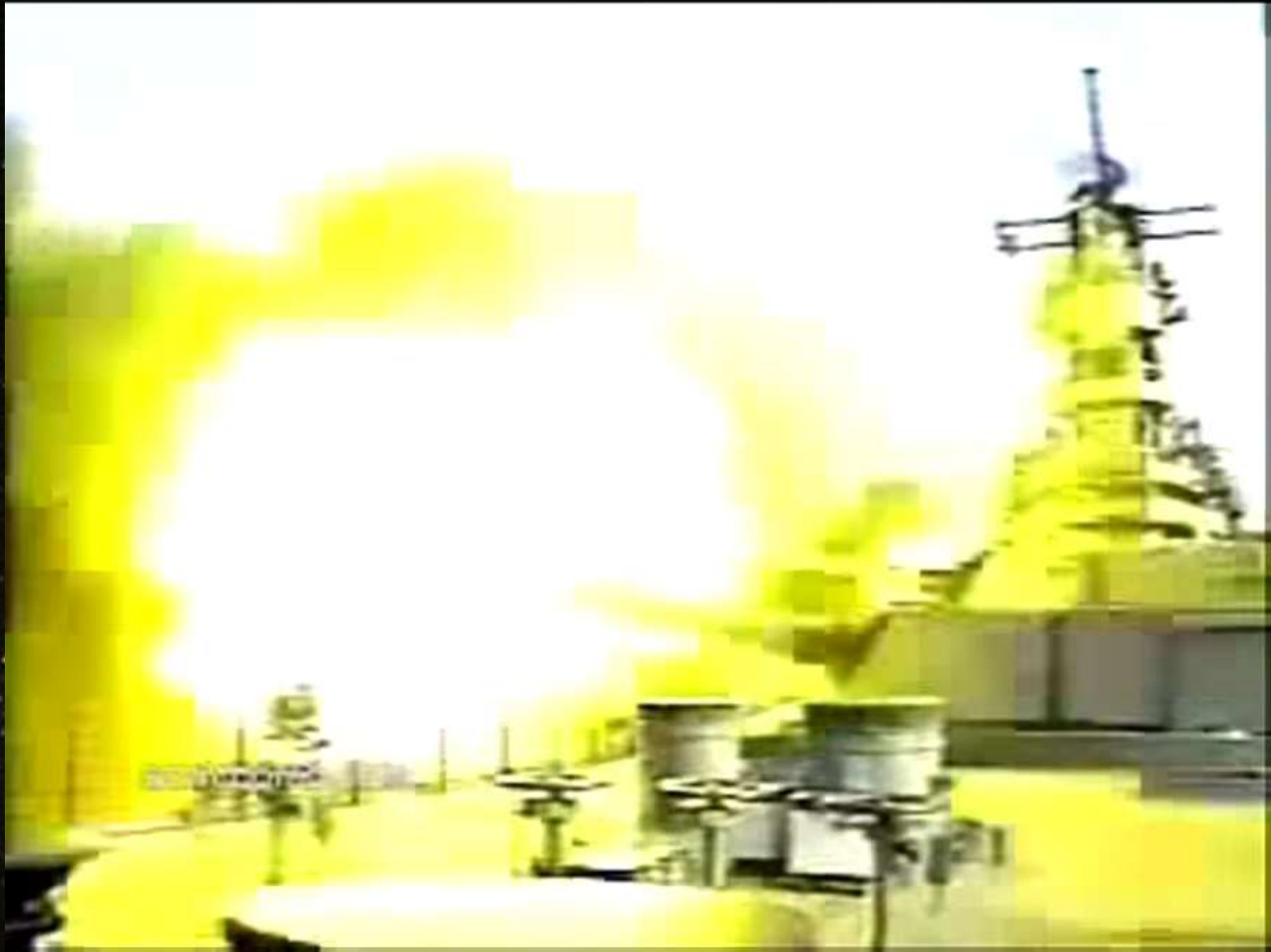


Abraham and Isaac
Rembrandt, 1634

Duty ...



Duty ...



Abraham and Isaac
Rembrandt, 1634



Gen: 22:3 Early the next morning
Abraham got up & loaded his donkey.
He took with him two of his servants and
his son Isaac.

When he had cut enough wood for the burnt offering,
he set out for the place God had told him about.

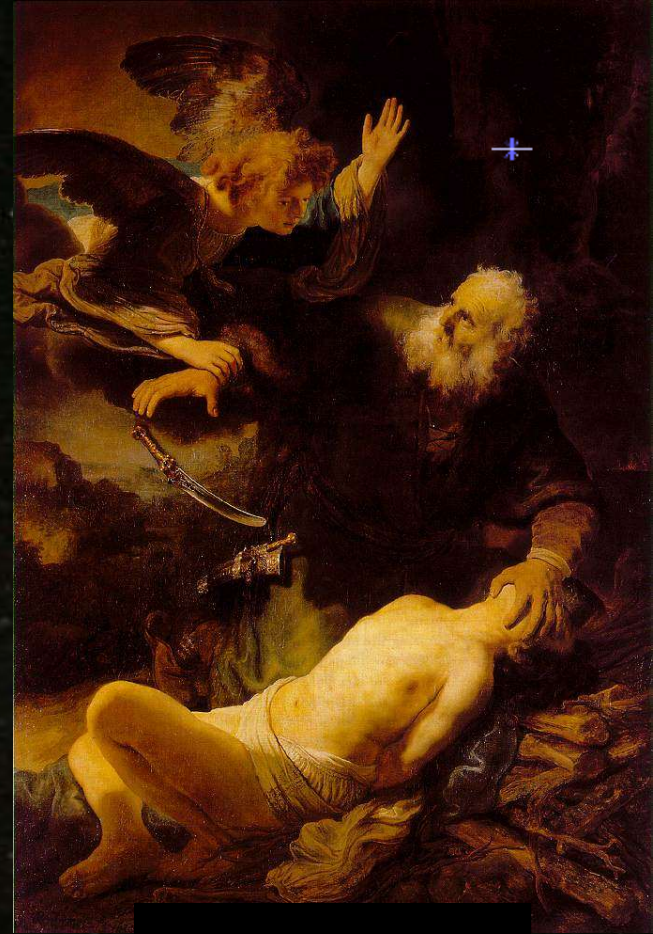
4 On the THIRD DAY Abraham looked up &
saw the place in the distance.

ABSENT in the Bible is how Abraham felt ...

EXCEPT that Abraham *LOVED* Isaac ...
of course, that may be all we need ...

And our hearts ... to see that ...

This was Abraham's greatest trial ... tore his heart



Abraham and Isaac
Rembrandt, 1634

On this very verse, Charles H. Spurgeon said in 1891,

It is a great thing that God takes ANY notice of us,
poor creatures that we are.

“When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers,
the sun & stars, which thou hast ordained;
what is man, that thou art mindful of him?”

We are so insignificant that it is a great wonder
that God should come to deal with us at all.

If you saw some tall archangel ...



Abraham and Isaac
Rembrandt, 1634

On this very verse, Charles H. Spurgeon said in 1891,

If you saw some tall archangel,
whose wand might make a mast for some
great man-of-war, bending down over an ant's nest ...
you might wonder at his stoop.

But this would be nothing compared with the
infinite God, the Maker of all things,
condescending to deal with us worms of the earth.

Yet he does so. We are precious in his sight;
therefore, as the goldsmith assays the metal ...
so doth God test, purify, & try us:

God sets a high value upon us,
and therefore he *proves* us.



Abraham and Isaac
Rembrandt, 1634

Gen: 22:5 He said to his servants,
“Stay here with the donkey
while I and the boy go over there.

WE will worship and then
WE will come back to you.”

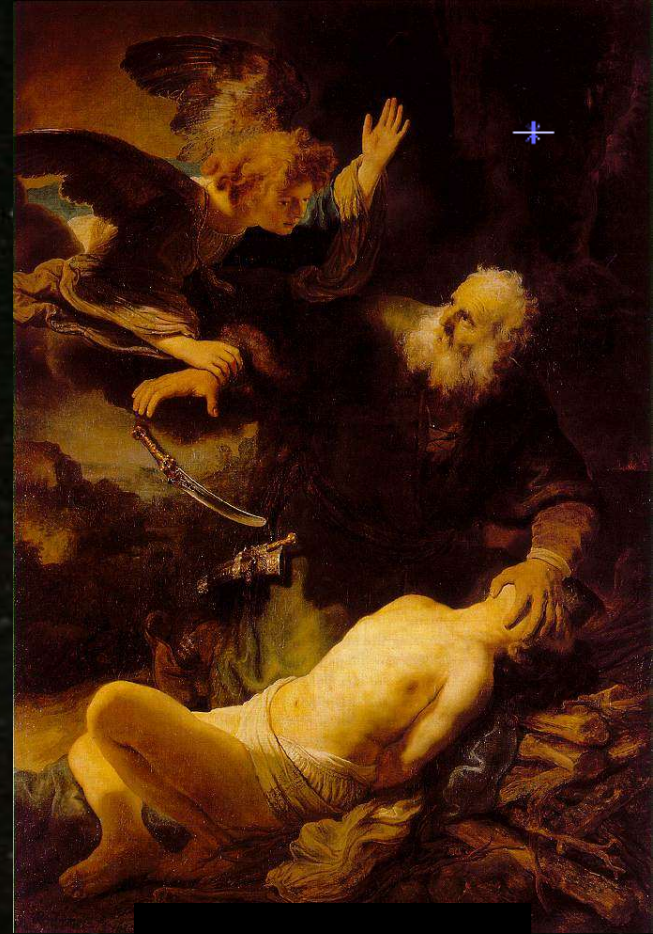
6 Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering &
placed it on his son Isaac, and
he Abraham himself carried the fire & the knife.

WE – said Abraham ...

WE – you & me cannot escape that

WE – Abraham, 100+ yrs old ... *knew* there was more ...

WE – Abraham *knew* God would keep HIS promise



Abraham and Isaac
Rembrandt, 1634

Gen: 22:7 As the two of them went on together,
Isaac spoke up & said to his father Abraham,
“**FATHER?**”

“**YES, MY SON?**” Abraham replied.

“The fire & wood are here,” Isaac said,
“but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?”

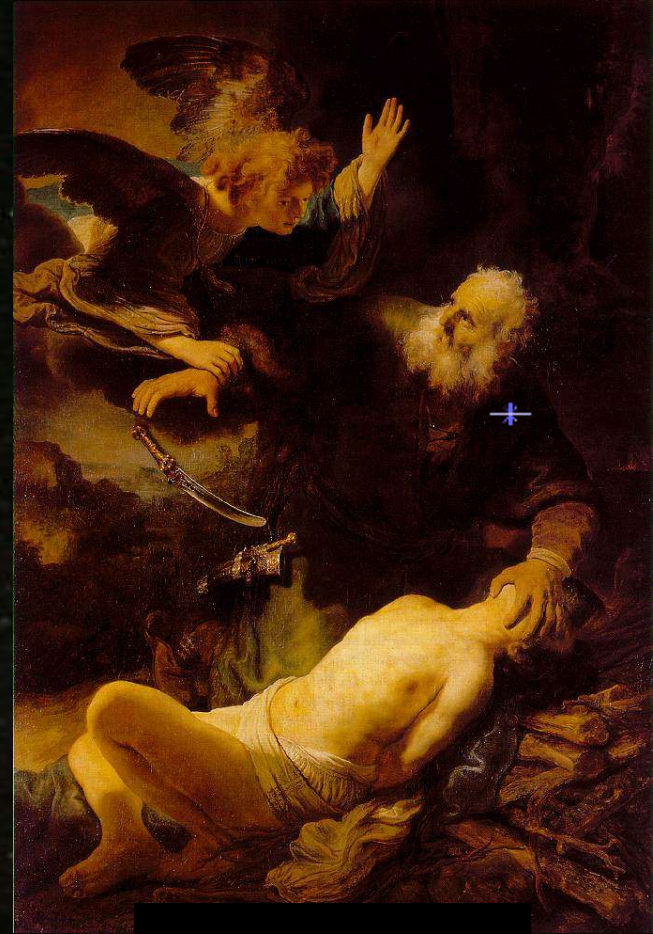
8 Abraham answered, “God himself will provide
the lamb for the burnt offering, my son.”
And the two of them went on together.

Oh my ... you know ...

DUTY Called ... Abraham ANSWERED ...

We do NOT see Abraham's heart ... yet

We see Abraham's alacrity, his quickness, his *determination*



Abraham and Isaac
Rembrandt, 1634

His Duty ...



Isaac and Isaac
Johann Heinrich Brandt, 1634

Gen: 22:9 When they reached the place God had told him about, Abraham built an altar ... arranged the wood. He bound his son Isaac AND laid him on the altar, on top of the wood.

Duty ...

DUTY can be tough to do



Abraham and Isaac
Rembrandt, 1634

Gen: 22:10 Then he reached out his hand & took the knife to slay his son.

Oh my ... I imagine Abraham NUMB ...

11 But the angel of the Lord called out to him from heaven,

“Abraham! Abraham!”

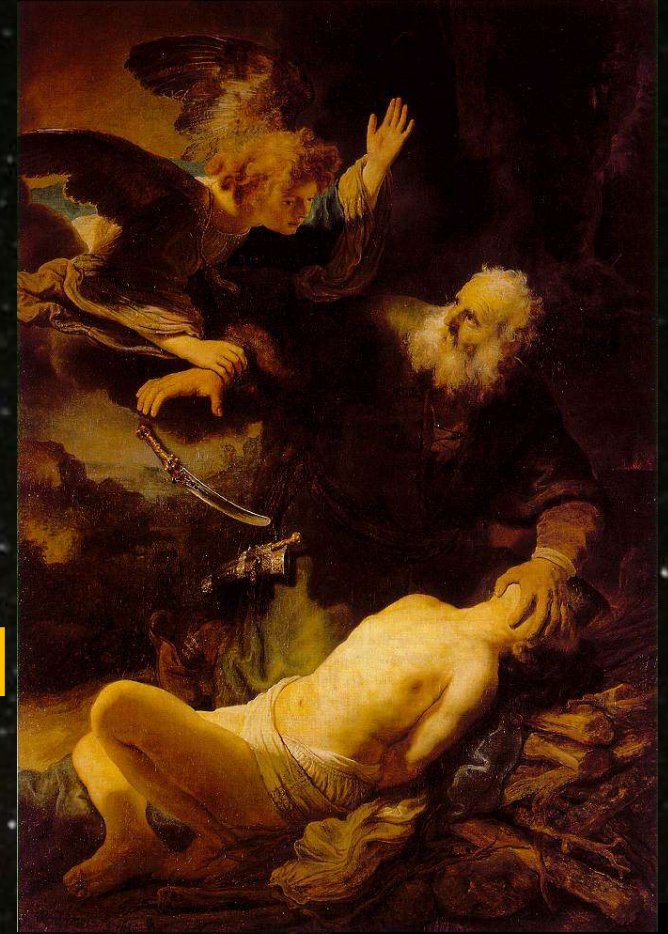
“Here I am,” he replied

12 “Do not lay a hand on the boy,” the angel said.
“Do not do anything to him.

Now I know that you fear God,

because you have NOT

withheld from me your son, your only son.”



Abraham and Isaac
Rembrandt, 1634

Gen: 22:13 Abraham looked up &
there in a thicket he saw a ram
caught by its horns.

He went over & took the ram & sacrificed it
as a burnt offering instead of his son.

14 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.”**

Abraham met his

Call of DUTY



Abraham and Isaac
Rembrandt, 1634

Duty ...



JR VIDEOS

MARINES' HYMN



saac
34

On this very verse, Charles H. Spurgeon said in 1891,
My last thought is most precious.
Since the believer is thus prepared by grace ...
Lord's call, as Abraham did, when he said,
“**Here am I,**” he will be kept ready to the end.
My great desire is, that you & I should be ready
for *anything* that the Lord wills ...
so if Christ should come at cock-crowing, or ...
at midday, or midnight, we should be ready....
if we should lose our dearest friend,
our choicest treasure,
our health — anything or everything —
yet still we should each one say ...



Abraham and Isaac
Rembrandt, 1634

Gen: 22:15-16 Angel of the Lord
called to Abraham from heaven a 2nd time
“I swear by myself, declares the Lord,
that because you have done this &
have not withheld your son, your only son,

17 I will surely bless you & make your descendants
as numerous as the stars in the sky &
as the sand on the seashore.

Your descendants will take possession of the
cities of their enemies,

18 thru your offspring
ALL nations on earth will be blessed,
because you have obeyed me.”

19 Then Abraham returned to his servants, and they set off
together for Beersheba. And Abraham stayed in Beersheba.



Abraham and Isaac
Rembrandt, 1634

On this very verse, Charles H. Spurgeon said in 1891,
yet still we should each one say,

“Lord, I never made any bargain with thee.
I never had *anything* reserved from thee.

If it is thy will, it is my will.

If thou sayest it, so be it;

for who am I, and what is thy servant, that

I should dare to dispute with the infinite wisdom
of **INFALLIBLE LOVE?**”

Happy is the man who can say, “Here am I.”

The Lord put you into that frame of mind;
and then it shall be said of you....



Abraham and Isaac
Rembrandt, 1634

Duty ...

PLAY ▶

KATYUSHA

Over hill, over dale, We will hit the dusty trail,

Di atas bukit, di atas lembah,
Kami akan melewati jalan berdebu,

On this very verse, Charles H. Spurgeon said in 1891,
then it shall be said of **YOU**,

“He shall not be afraid of evil tidings:
his heart is fixed, trusting in the Lord.”

You shall go merrily through life & joyfully to death,
you shall rise triumphantly in the glad morning,
for **when** God shall call you,
then you **will** EACH ONE answer,

“Here am I; for thou didst call me.”

“From beds of dust & silent clay,” we shall arise
with songs ... to the resurrection trumpet,
and so shall we be for ever with the Lord.

Our Duty ... is to follow that **“Still Small Voice”** ... as best WE CAN

When God calls us, we like Abraham, need to say **Here I am!**





National Anthem Day

www.NationalDayCalendar.com

March 3



Here I am!



Abraham and Isaac
Rembrandt, 1634