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Jehovah-Jireh

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ARTICLE TWENTY-NINE: JIREH, THE FIRST OF NINE COMPOUND NAMES OF JEHOVAH

- Meaning of Jireh: *“The Lord will provide.”*
- Biblical record: *“Now it came to pass after these things that God tested Abraham, and said to him, ‘Abraham!’ And he said, ‘Here I am.’ 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’” (Gen. 22:1, 2, NKJV).*

We can only imagine the utter shock those words must have been to Abraham. What? Take my only son (from Sarah), the long-awaited seed of the Covenant and kill him? How can this be?

But Abraham, the father of the faith, prepared to do what God had commanded. The following dialogue took place as both father and son were climbing the slopes of Mt. Moriah:

Isaac: Father, we have a slight problem.

Abraham: What is it, my son?

Isaac: Well, you said we are going to offer up a burnt offering upon the mountain. So, here is the torch of fire, and the wood, but where is the lamb?

Abraham: My son, God will provide Himself a lamb for a burnt offering.

But then, a totally unexpected event took place:

“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. And Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. But the Angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, ‘Abraham, Abraham!’ So he said, ‘Here I am.’ 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.’ 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. 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’” (Gen. 22:9-14, NKJV).

Actually, Abraham’s words to Isaac can be thought of in two ways:

- *Historically*, “God will Himself provide a lamb.” This is what then took place on Mt. Moriah.
- *Theologically*, “God will provide Himself a Lamb.” This is what would later take place on Mt. Calvary.

“The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, ‘Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!’” (John 1:29, ESV).

“And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on his right and one on his left” (Luke 23:33, ESV).

Question: What is your most pressing need at this very moment? Direction? Reassurance and comfort? Forgiveness? Salvation? Physical or financial struggle? Whatever it might be, the services of Jehovah-Jireh are still ready and available!

“Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by being anxious can pass a single hour to his span of life? And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? Therefore do not be anxious, saying, What shall we eat? Or What shall we drink? Or What shall we wear? For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble” (Matt. 6:25-34, ESV).

“And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work” (2 Cor. 9:8, ESV).

“And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus” (Phil. 4:19, ESV).