

**Spiritual Gifts Mini-Series**  
**Part 8/Conclusion: The Gift of a Son – Gen.22:1-18; Jn.3:16**

0.0 Introduction

- 0.1 Every kind of parent possesses natural instinct to protect their children
- 0.2 That's why story in Jewish tradition known as *Akedah* 'binding' shocks us
- 0.3 Yet story of Jesus' *incarnation* – 'enfleshment' on earth – is exactly that story

1.0 The Status & Standing of God's Son

- 1.1 Ways it does not apply:
  - not literal
  - not pagan
  - not generic
- 1.2 Yet voice from heaven asserts "my beloved Son..." (Matt.3:17) – meaning what?
  - special, eternal relationship within the Trinity (Jn.1:1-3)
  - equality with God the Father (*homoousios*)
  - representative of God the Father (Matt.21:37): divine mission of Messiah (Matt.26:63)
  - models for us all the personality of the Father (Matt.11:27)
- 1.3 Similarity yet distinction: Jesus was God's Son yet believers are his "sons" (Jn.1:12); Jesus references "my" Father (Jn.17) while we prayer "our" Father (Matt.6:9)

2.0 The Submission & Service of God's Son

- 2.1 Rooted in God's eternal counsel: a 'covenant of redemption' (Heb.1:3-14)
- 2.2 To carry this through, Jesus "learned submission" (Heb.5:8)
- 2.3 Parable of Vineyard: "Surely, they will respect my son" (Matt.21:37) – right?!
- 2.4 "God made him who knew no sin, to become sin on our behalf" (II Cor.5:21)

3.0 A Redemptive Analogy for God's Son

(per late Canadian missionary Don Richardson, amongst Sawi of Western New Guinea)

4.0 The Gift of a Son

- 4.1 The resurrection of Jesus: affirmation & confirmation of Sonship (Rom.1:4)
- 4.2 From Passover to Easter: great acts of redemption
- 4.3 Declared in Jn.15:13 and on Carnegie Hero Fund medals: "No greater love than this..."

*April 24 – Spring & Summer Sermon Requests Begin*  
*The Curtains of the Tabernacle & Temple – Ex.26:1-3; 27:9-11; Matt.27:50-51; Heb.10:19-25*