

Seeing Jesus in the life of Isaac

Keith Sorrels 3/2012 - semperkeith.com

These are just ten of the major similarities between the life of Isaac and the life of the Lord Jesus Christ, there are probably more.

- 1. Sons Of Promise** - First of all, both the birth of Isaac and the birth of the Lord Jesus Christ had been promised beforehand by God:

“And he said, I will certainly return unto thee according to the time of life; and, lo, Sarah thy wife shall have a son. And Sarah heard it in the tent door, which was behind him.” (Genesis 18:10)

“Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.” (Isaiah 7:14)

- 2. Announcements Were Questioned By Their Mothers** - Both Isaac and Jesus were announced beforehand by God to their mothers, both of who at first questioned how their births could be possible:

“Therefore Sarah laughed within herself, saying, After I am waxed old shall I have pleasure, my lord being old also?” (Genesis 18:12)

“Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?” (Luke 1:34)

- 3. Miraculous Births - Both Isaac and Jesus were born miraculously in ways that were seemingly impossible:**

“Now Abraham and Sarah were old and well stricken in age; and it ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women.” (Genesis 18:11)

“Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost.” (Matthew 1:18)

- 4. Born At The Appointed Time Of God - Isaac and Jesus were both born at a preset time ordered by God Himself:**

“For Sarah conceived, and bare Abraham a son in his old age, at the set time of which God had spoken to him.” (Genesis 21:2)

“But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law,” (Galatians 4:4)

- 5. Named Before Their Births By God**

Isaac and Jesus both were given their names by God before they were ever born:

“And God said, Sarah thy wife shall bear thee a son indeed; and thou shalt call his name Isaac: and I will establish my covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his seed after him.” (Genesis 17:19)

“And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.” (Matthew 1:21)

- 6. Beloved By Their Fathers** - Both Isaac and Jesus are said to have been *loved* by their Fathers:

“And he said, 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.” (Genesis 22:2)

“For the Father loveth the Son, and sheweth him all things that himself doeth: and he will shew him greater works than these, that ye may marvel.” (John 5:20)

This in itself might not seem very significant until we consider that no parent in the Bible is said to have “loved” their child before Genesis 22:2 tells us that Abraham loved Isaac. In fact, the word “love” does not even appear in the Bible at all before this verse. It is, therefore, noteworthy that we are told specifically of Abraham’s affection toward Isaac.

- 7. Obedient Unto Death** - Both Isaac and Jesus submitted to the will of their Fathers, even to the point of their own deaths:

“And they came to the place which God had told him of; and Abraham built an altar there, and laid the wood in order, and bound Isaac his son, and laid him on the altar upon the wood.” (Genesis 22:9)

“And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.” (Philippians 2:8).

- 8. Heirs Of All Things** - Both Isaac and Jesus were Heirs of all things that their Fathers possessed:

“And Abraham gave all that he had unto Isaac.” (Genesis 25:5)

“Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;” (Hebrews 1:2)

- 9. Bridegrooms Who Loved Their Brides** - Both Isaac and Jesus were presented with *brides* whom they loved:

“But thou shalt go unto my country, and to my kindred, and take a wife unto my son Isaac...And Isaac brought her into his mother’s tent, and took Rebekah, and she became his wife; and he loved her...” (Genesis 24:4)

“Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;” (Ephesians 5:25)

- 10. Both Were Made Alive From That Which Was Dead** - Isaac’s birth is an illustration of resurrection, that is, life coming from death:

“And being not weak in faith, [Abraham] considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sarah’s womb.” (Romans 4:19)

“I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.” (Revelation 1:18).