

Had I not fallen,
I would not have arisen.
Had I not been subject
to darkness, I could not
have seen the light.

-Midrash



"Must I sacrifice family for career?"



"Wait for it."

SHEE-ROO LA YA-WEHH,
KEE, GA-OL, GA-AH
SOUS, WA- RO- KA-- VO
RA MA, YA YAM

Amen.



The Akadah: The Binding of Isaac

MIDRASH



We believe that Scripture is a dynamic vehicle of the Holy Spirit, and so its language invites imaginative speculation, differences of opinion, and ultimately, insight and transformation.



Written Tradition



Tenach

Torah **Neviim** **Ketuvim**
(Teaching) (Prophets) (Writings)

↓
613 Mitzot
(Commandments)
Mitzvah
(single commandment)

Oral Tradition

Talmud

Mishnah **Gemara**
Collection of oral laws in 6 divisions Aramaic commentary on Mishnah showing its scriptural bases

What Moses delivered amidst the thunder and lightening of Sinai was not a final product but rather the beginning of a conversation between God and the people of Israel. Revelation did not end with Moses but began with him.

Sandy Eisenberg, God's Echo: Exploring Scripture with Midrash.





sacrifice d'Isaac



A God who asks man what this story appears to ask is not the true God – but rather, a God whom Man fashions in Man's own image. Man often believes that God wants him to sacrifice his children to an imagined demand. But then this is not GOD who is cruel, but man.

It is man who all too frequently is prepared to immolate his offspring to satisfy his own concept of duty and who will restrain his compassion before his own sense of righteousness. (Midrash 20)

The Parable of the Old Man and the Young
Wilfred Owen - 1893-1918

So Abram rose, and clave the wood, and went,
And took the fire with him, and a knife.
And as they sojourned both of them together,
Isaac the first-born spake and said, My Father,
Behold the preparations, fire and iron,
But where the lamb for this burnt-offering?
Then Abram bound the youth with belts and straps,
and builded parapets and trenches there,
And stretchèd forth the knife to slay his son.
When lo! an angel called him out of heaven,
Saying, Lay not thy hand upon the lad,
Neither do anything to him. Behold,
A ram, caught in a thicket by its horns;
Offer the Ram of Pride instead of him.
But the old man would not so, but slew his son,
And half the seed of Europe, one by one.



נש לזם

Assignment for next Sunday, February 23:
Exodus 1-5,
Exodus 15:21 (In Hebrew!)

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Exodus 1-5,
Exodus 15:21 (In Hebrew!)



AFTER 39 YEARS AND 11 MONTHS OF STUBBORNLY
WANDERING THE DESERT, MOSES' WIFE DECIDES
TO ASK FOR DIRECTIONS TO THE PROMISED LAND.