



MESSAGE/SERIES:

Series: Biblical Beginnings

Message: "GOD WILL PROVIDE"

Text: Genesis 22:1-19

DATE: October 25, 2020

SCRIPTURE FOR THIS WEEK:

(These verses will help you understand themes within as you read our core text as scripture proves scripture)

Genesis 22:1-19, 1 Peter 1:6-7, 14-16, Matthew 7:21 (Not everyone who calls Lord Lord), **Romans 8:32**, 1 Samuel 15:20-22, Psalm 50:23, 1 Peter 1:7 (Testing proves faith), **Isaiah 53:4-6, 10** (Jesus the Substitutionary Lamb), James 2:14-26 (the proof of true faith works), Galatians 3:7-9 (The Gospel was preached to Abraham on this mount), James 1:2-4, **Hebrews 11:17-19**, **John 8:56**, Romans 6:5, Luke 14:26

OPENING SCRIPTURE:

22 After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." ² He said, "Take 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." ³ So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. ⁴ On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar. ⁵ Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over there and worship and come again to you." ⁶ And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together. ⁷ And Isaac said to his father Abraham, "My father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" ⁸ Abraham said, "God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So they went both of them together.

9 When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. 10 Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. 11 But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." 12 He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me."

13 And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. 14 So Abraham called the name of that place, "**the LORD will provide**"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided."

15 And the angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven 16 and said, "By myself I have sworn, declares the LORD, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, 17 I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies, 18 and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice." 19 So Abraham returned to his young men, and they arose and went together to Beersheba. And Abraham lived at Beersheba."

BACKGROUND & OTHER STUDY HELPS:

[THREE DAY JOURNEY] Ironically this event takes three days. Jesus arose in three days paying the payment for the sins of all who would believe. This is a foreshadowing of the ultimate son and the promised seed that would establish the new Israel and God's own special people forever and He would die as a sacrifice for us.

[v6 "Lad"] Ages from Infancy to Adolescence, and in some translations it would encompass even older possibly to young adult ages.

[TESTING] God causes his people to pass through certain experiences, so that he may see, and prove to them, that their faith in him is genuine. Believers sometimes doubt God and test him, to see if he is true to his word, but this is forbidden in Scripture.

[v11 "the Angel of the Lord"]- In Exodus 3:2 the same title is given to the Lord Himself as he approaches Moses in a burning bush. This occurrence where the Angel of the Lord stops Abraham is also none other than the Lord as well. Pre-incarnate Jesus stops the sacrifice of Isaac ironically pointing to Calvary where He would give up His life for Isaac and ours. Jesus was saying I will go in His place.

[v14 “*yhwy yir'eh*”] JEHOVAH-JIREH- A reference to the place where God had provided “Yahweh will see”. God saw Abraham’s faith and responded by providing a ram.

[FOUR TESTS OF ABRAHAM’S FAITH]

1. *Genesis 12:1-3- Separate Himself from his homeland and his people*
2. *Genesis 13- Separate Himself from Lot*
3. *Genesis 17-21- Separate from His plans with Ishmael*
4. *Genesis 22:1-19- Separate his love for his son from His love for His God*

[HUMAN SACRIFICE IN SCRIPTURE] Leviticus 18:21, Deuteronomy 12:31- God prohibited men to sacrifice other humans as it would bring shame to the name of God. Man is created in the image of God and therefore to sacrifice/kill another human was a strong sin against God himself. Only God is the rightful giver and taker of life (Jesus & every human that has ever lived)

[v22] “...**your only child**” Since Isaac is not Abraham’s only son (he had Ishmael by Hagar earlier; 16:11–16), the Hebrew text here is referring to value, not a number. **Isaac is Abraham’s special son**—through him, the covenant promises with God will be passed on (17:21).

John D. Barry et al., *Faithlife Study Bible* (Bellingham, WA: Lexham Press, 2012, 2016), Ge 22:2.

[MOUNT MORIAH] **Moriah** means chosen by God. “Moriah This term occurs only here and in 2 Chr 3:1, where it is described as a mountain. Second Chronicles 3:1 notes that Mount Moriah is where Yahweh appeared to David on the threshing floor of Ornan (Araunah) the Jebusite—and in turn, **where Solomon built the temple.**”

John D. Barry et al., *Faithlife Study Bible* (Bellingham, WA: Lexham Press, 2012, 2016), Ge 22:2.

OUTLINE:

I. (v1-2) The TEST of a FATHER

- A. (v1a) “After these things **God tested Abraham** and said to him, “Abraham!”
 1. This was not the first time Abraham’s faith had been tested
 - a) *Genesis 12:1-3- Separate Himself from his homeland and his people*
 - b) *Genesis 13- Separate Himself from Lot*
 - c) *Genesis 17-21- Separate from His plans with Ishmael*

d) *Genesis 22:1-19- Separate his love for his son from His love for His God*

B. (v2) “Take 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.”

1. *Take your Son...Whom you love*

a) Only son of promise (as he had another son in Ishmael)

(1) Further illustrates that Ishmael was not the son of promise

(2) All of the promises of God hinge upon Isaac

(3) Abraham loved Isaac so much because he was the realization of God’s love to him

(4) It appears that God is the one whose character is being tested here (Is He a Promise keeper)

C. (v2b) on one of the mountains I shall tell you...

1. *Abraham had to trust God in the journey as God only gave him enough to follow in the moment (we often want all of the details before we will obey)*

II. (v1b,3-)The TESTIMONY of a FATHER & SON

A. (v1b) “**Here I am**”-

1. *Abraham knew God’s voice and answered Him quickly*

a) How many times are we too busy to hear God’s voice

b) How many times are we too far from Him and His word to know His voice when we hear it as it is faint

c) Abraham’s quick answer demonstrates a close walk with God

B. (v3) “So **Abraham rose early in the morning**, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And **he cut the wood for the burnt offering** and **arose and went to the place of which God had told him.**”

1. *Abraham testifies to God’s trustworthiness when he arose quickly*

a) Abraham did not delay in His actions (didn’t just talk a good game/ he believed and acted)= showing wisdom & understanding

(1) Abraham’s Submissive Quick movement was

(a) In Spite of natural affection for Isaac

(b) Over worldly reason

(c) Over his own desires

2. *Abraham prepared to do all that God asked (the faithful prepare for success)*

- a) Prepared the beast for the journey
- b) Prepared the help to go with him in order to accomplish the task
- c) Cut & Gathered the wood
- d) He was sure that Isaac was ready to go without hesitation

(1) Abraham had no intentions of doing anything other than exactly what God said

C. (v4) “On the third day **Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place** from afar.”

1. *Abraham still did not turn back or make alternate plans*

D. (v5) “Then Abraham said to his young men, “**Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over there and worship and come again to you.**”

1. *No one else could go on the last leg of this journey of sacrifice*

- a) They may have tried and stopped Abraham from obeying
- b) This was an intimate time at the Altar of sacrifice for a Father and Son
- c) It was an intimate place of worship of their God for Abraham and Isaac

(1) Abraham had witnessed the greatness of God

(2) Isaac had been told of God greatness and His plan for Isaac (Isaac was not ignorant to sacrifice and all that it entailed)

E. (v5) Abraham seems to know that God had not lied to Him and must have interpreted this that God would raise Isaac from the dead

1. **Hebrews 11:17-19** ¹⁷ *By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son, ¹⁸ of whom it was said, “Through Isaac shall your offspring be named.” ¹⁹ He **considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead**, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back.*

2. *Abraham knew God was going to accomplish His will in His life and in Isaac’s life somehow.*

F. (v6) “Abraham **took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son**. And **he took in his hand the fire and the knife**. So they went both of them together.”

1. *Isaac carrying his own cross of burden (not knowing the full gravity of its weight)*
2. *Abraham carried the instrument of God’s judgment (a sacrifice was the object of God’s wrath)*
3. *Yet they both carried the load to do God’s will (act of worship & obedience)*

G. (v7) “And Isaac said to his father Abraham, “My father!” And he said, “Here I am, my son.” He said, “Behold, the fire and the wood, **but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?**”

1. *The realization sets in for Isaac that there would be no lambs on Mount Moriah (only wild beast)*
2. *When we do not understand we are to ask our heavenly Father who knows (it’s ok to question God as long as we know He is holy and able)*
3. *Isaac knows that everything else that is needed had been provided and cared for so why would his father forget the most important part*

H. (v8) “Abraham said, “**God will provide for Himself the lamb for a burnt offering**, my son.” So they went both of them together. “

1. *“Elohim”- God who is all-knowing and all-powerful and the only true God can and will provide for Himself a lamb*
2. *Abraham believed that God who had promised and was worthy of the sacrifice would provide*
3. *Abraham knew that he and Isaac had no other choice but just trust God as Abraham had a reverence for God*
4. *So Isaac trusted Abraham and what he knew to this point about God and continued on in faith (a growing faith for Isaac with each step)*
 - a) Do parents today earn and display a faith that leads our children this way?

I. (v9) “When they came to the place of which God had told him, **Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar**, on top of the wood.”

1. *Abraham did not slack in any part of the task and still shows no sign of turning back*

2. *Abraham wanted to please God more than he wanted to save his son from death and pain*
 - a) How many parents today can say they love God enough to put Him first over their children?
 3. *Isaac could have gotten away once he realized that he was the sacrifice but he trusted his father and knew enough about the promise to trust God as well*
- J. (v10) "Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son."
1. *Abraham would have slain Isaac who he loved if not for God's intervention*

III. The TRIBUTE of GRACE

- A. (v11-12) "But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven and said, 'Abraham, Abraham!' And he said, 'Here I am.'" ¹²He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now, I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me."
1. *The Angel of the Lord- The intervention of God causes Abraham to stop and pay attention*
 2. *God stopped the test and gave Abraham a passing grade (once the test produces godly character and glorifies God and not man it will cease)*
 - a) Faith comes from above and when it is tested God and His character always shine through
 - (1) Here we see a merciful God as sparing Abraham from great and justified loss as both Abraham and Isaac are sinners and He is a just God
 3. *Abraham glorified God by giving God His son for His purposes*
 - a) When we dedicate our children we are committing them to the Lord and His purposes and determining to point them to Him in how we raise them
 4. *Abraham had shown a godly fear and this fear (reverence) was part of the purpose of the test*
 5. *Godly fear (reverence) only comes through testing*
 6. *The godly fear Abraham displayed was for all of us to see and for God to be glorified in the pages of His word*

B. (v13) “Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, **behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns**. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son.”

1. *God was gracious and provided for himself a sacrifice*
2. *Foreshadowing that God Himself would have to provide Himself- the Lamb was slain on Calvary*
 - a) God was giving us the story of Jesus in advance here and Isaac was not that perfect sacrifice- Only God would be able to offer this sacrifice
 - b) Jesus would become the substitutionary sacrifice for all who would believe and even Isaac

C. (v14) “So **Abraham called the name of that place, “The Lord will provide”**”; as it is said to this day, “On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided.”

1. *This would be a special place where God provided a sacrifice for Abraham and Isaac*
2. *This would be the eventual site of the temple King Solomon built (where all sacrifices would be made for Israel)*
3. *The place where death was delayed for man would become the dwelling place of God in the old testament*
 - a) Pointing past the Old Testament Jerusalem would be the place Jesus died for all sins (At Mount Calvary)
 - b) God intervened for His people in their time of need (picture of Jesus)

D. (v15-19) Abraham’s obedience and worship **provoked God to restate His promise and blessings begin to flow** from that promise from this moment forward

1. *The earth would be blessed because Abraham obeyed God’s voice*
 - a) Our obedience affects our family and friends around us
2. *Although God’s will is guaranteed to be fulfilled our responses to the responsibility placed on man by God will also be rewarded*
 - a) Worship and obedience provokes presence and blessings

*"The Emphasis in this story is not on SACRIFICE or OFFERING,
but on receiving the most ABUNDANT GRACE OF GOD"*

-Donald Grey Barnhouse

Meditation Moment:

1. How does the story of Abraham and Isaac reflect perfectly the love of God for those who will believe?
2. How does the story represent God's absolute justice?
3. How does Isaac reflect Jesus' attitude found in Philippians 2?
4. In what ways did Abraham's faith shine the most?

-----Message from Pastor Michael-----

Church,

The story of a father's love is found all through this passage. Abraham loved Isaac well before he was ever born. Abraham loved God and trusted him more than all the deepest Love God had given him for Isaac and still yet this story points to an even greater love God has for those who will believe in His only Son. Abraham is a type of God the Father and Isaac is a type of Jesus Christ and we are all beneficiaries of this great love that calls out to us in our time of need. God did provide for himself a lamb. Have you surrendered to this great love of God?

Love in Christ,

Pastor Michael

