

**Genesis 22:1-14**  
**Abraham's**  
**Faith and Loyalty**  
**to God is Tested!**

# Introduction

In our last message we surveyed Abraham's life as recorded in Genesis 12-20.

We asked, "What are some of the lessons we may learn from His life?"

# Introduction

- In today's message we conclude our focus on Abraham.
- In **Genesis 22** we learn how God tested Abraham's faith and loyalty.

# Questions We Should Answer

- Do I believe that God is really good?
- Do I believe that God is fully trustworthy?
- Is God all-wise? Does He never make a mistake?
- Is God really in control of all the events of my life as I seek to follow Him?

# Abraham's Test

**Genesis 22:1-2:** After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." <sup>2</sup> 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."

# Abraham's Test

- Remember who Isaac is to Abraham.
- He is the special son God graciously gave to Abraham and Sarah in their old age.
- Abraham had no idea what God was doing.
- We do!

# Abraham's Test

- Through Abraham's actions with his son Isaac, God is going to prefigure His own sacrificial giving of His beloved Son, Jesus.

# Similarities – Isaac & Jesus

- Isaac's birth was prophesied in advance.

**Genesis 18:9-10:** They said to him, "Where is Sarah your wife?" And he said, "She is in the tent." <sup>10</sup> The LORD said, "I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah your wife shall have a son." And Sarah was listening at the tent door behind him.



# Similarities – Isaac & Jesus

- Jesus' birth was prophesied in advance.

**Luke 1:31** And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus.

- Isaac's birth was a miracle.

**Genesis 18:14** Is anything too hard for the LORD? At the appointed time I will return

# Similarities – Isaac & Jesus

to you, about this time next year, and Sarah shall have a son."

- **Jesus' birth was a miracle**

**Luke 1:34** And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"

# Similarities – Isaac & Jesus

- Isaac was His Father's beloved son.

**Genesis 22:2:** "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love,

- Jesus was His Father's beloved son.

**Matthew 3:17** and behold, a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."

# Similarities – Isaac & Jesus

- Isaac was to be sacrificed at a specific place (Gen. 22:2)

**Genesis 22:2:** “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.”

- Jesus was to be sacrificed at the same place.

# Abraham's Prompt Obedience

**Genesis 22:3-6:** 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. <sup>4</sup> On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar.

# Abraham's Prompt Obedience

<sup>5</sup> 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." <sup>6</sup> 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.

# What Was in Abraham's Mind?

**Hebrews 11:17-19:** 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, <sup>18</sup> of whom it was said, "Through Isaac shall your offspring be named." <sup>19</sup> He considered that God was able even to raise

# What Was in Abraham's Mind?

him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back.

- **How did Abraham arrive at the conclusion that if God had him actually sacrifice Isaac, God would raise Isaac up from the dead?**



# Abraham Fully Trusted God!

- It was the necessary conclusion of faith based upon what God had already taught Abraham.

<sup>NLT</sup> **Romans 4:16-25** So the promise is received by faith. It is given as a free gift. And we are all certain to receive it, whether or not we live according to the

# Abraham Fully Trusted God!

law of Moses, if we have faith like Abraham's. For Abraham is the father of all who believe. <sup>17</sup> That is what the Scriptures mean when God told him, "I have made you the father of many nations." This happened because Abraham believed in the God who brings the dead back to life

# Abraham Fully Trusted God!

and who creates new things out of nothing. <sup>18</sup> Even when there was no reason for hope, Abraham kept hoping-- believing that he would become the father of many nations. For God had said to him, "That's how many descendants you will have!"

# Abraham Fully Trusted God!

<sup>19</sup> And Abraham's faith did not weaken, even though, at about 100 years of age, he figured his body was as good as dead-- and so was Sarah's womb. <sup>20</sup> Abraham never wavered in believing God's promise. In fact, his faith grew stronger, and in this he brought glory to God.

# Abraham Fully Trusted God!

<sup>21</sup> He was fully convinced that God is able to do whatever he promises. <sup>22</sup> And because of Abraham's faith, God counted him as righteous. <sup>23</sup> And when God counted him as righteous, it wasn't just for Abraham's benefit. It was recorded

# Abraham Fully Trusted God!

<sup>24</sup> for our benefit, too, assuring us that God will also count us as righteous if we believe in him, the one who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead. <sup>25</sup> He was handed over to die because of our sins, and he was raised to life to make us right with God.

# Abraham's Wisdom in Answering

**Genesis 22:7-8** 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.

# Isaac's Trust in His Father

**Genesis 22:9-10** 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.



# God's "Just-in-Time" Command

**Genesis 22:11-12:** But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." <sup>12</sup> 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."

# God's Substitute Sacrifice

**Genesis 22:13-14:** 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. <sup>14</sup> So Abraham called the name of that place, "The LORD will

# God's Substitute Sacrifice

provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided."

# Conclusion

- That day on Mt. Moriah, God showed Abraham and all future generations a picture of what He Himself would provide for all of humanity.
- God would provide His own Son, as a substitute sacrifice, so that He could rightly and justly forgive our sins.

# Conclusion

- **Galatians 3:8** And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, "In you shall all the nations be blessed."
- **John 8:56** "Your father Abraham rejoiced to see my day: and he saw it, and was glad."

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