

22:1-2

Now it came to pass after these things that God tested Abraham, and said to him, “Abraham!”

And he said, “Here I am.” ² **Then He said, “Take now your son,** This has already happened to him concerning another son (21:12). ^b**your only son Isaac,** is 36 years old in the next chapter when his mother dies, but if there is only 10 years between the chapters then he is 26. Maybe it’s 15 years? Well, he’s 21 year old here. **whom you love,** and **whom** has no children to receive the promise (21:12).

and go ^d**to the land of Moriah,** 2 Chronicles 3:1 shows us this is where Solomon builds his temple. They were in Beersheeba in the last chapter. This is 50 miles away and that is direct mileage. There are plenty of mountains. **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** just as he did in 21:14 after troubling news concerning his other son.

and saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son; and he split the wood for the burnt offering, and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. ⁴**Then on the third day Abraham lifted his eyes and saw the place afar off.** ⁵**And Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey; the** ¹**lad** can easily be 20 years old since perspective places this against a 125 year old father. Also, we see this regarding Benjamin in Genesis 43, that he was in his 30’s and called a **lad**. With his mother dying in Isaac’s 37th year in the next chapter, we could say that Isaac is either a toddler [unlikely if he’s carrying the wood (22:6)] or 37, but it seems like a medium of 15-20 years old is quite reasonable.

and I will go yonder and worship, In Abraham’s mind, this was going to be Isaac. It was not free to worship to Abraham (or David, according to the last chapter of 2 Samuel) **and we will come back to you.”** Hebrews 11:17-19 shows us that Abraham believed God could raise His Son back up if he had to offer him for this “burnt offering.” He would have been ashes on the rocks, yet it seems **Abraham** expected him to be raised if it had come to that.

⁶**So Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac** just as he did upon Hagar (21:14). **his son;** John 19:17 shows us this was Christ carrying His cross in the telescopic view. **and he took the fire in his hand, and a knife, and the two of them went together.** ⁷**But Isaac spoke to Abraham his father and said, “My father!”**

And he said, “Here I am, my son.”

^bGen. 22:12, 16; John 3:16; Heb. 11:17; 1 John 4:9

^c John 5:20

^d 2 Chr. 3:1

^e Gen. 8:20; 31:54

¹ Or *young man*

^f [Heb. 11:19]

^g John 19:17

Then he said, “Look, the fire and the wood, but where *is* the ²lamb for a burnt offering?”

⁸ And Abraham said, “My son, God will provide for Himself the ^hlamb for a burnt offering.” So the two of them went together. In the Calvary perspective (Luke 24:27; 24:44), God was with His Son all the way to the cross (Isaiah 53:10). Sweet communion all the way to the noon hour on the day of death.

⁹ Then they came to the place in the Christ picture, this is God’s good planning choosing the place and the means by which His Son would die (1 Peter 1:20). of which God had told him. And Abraham built an altar there and placed the wood in order; and he bound Isaac his son Ishmael was also set aside for death (21:15).

and ^jlaid him on the altar, upon the wood. There is no indication that he fought his father. He had been watching his father live by faith for his entire life—hearing stories of Abraham’s departure from the comforts of the hometown in his 70’s. Incidentally, this is the first time God tells Abraham to do something without his responding with questions. ¹⁰ And Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. In the Jesus/Father perspective, God held the hammer. Isaiah 53:10-11 shows us it was the Father who “bruised [His Son].”

Here is where Isaac no longer pictures Christ and the picture of Christ switches to the “ram.”

¹¹ But the ^kAngel of the LORD called to him from heaven Just as he had done, in 21:17, to Hagar. and said, “Abraham, Abraham!”

So he said, “Here I am.”

¹² And He said, ^l“Do not lay your hand on the lad, or do anything to him; for ^mnow I know that you fear God, since you have not ⁿwithheld your son, your only son, Ishmael is in his 30’s probably so this is strange terminology, isn’t it? from Me.”

¹³ Then Abraham lifted his eyes just as Hagar was able to all of the sudden see God’s provision (21:19).

and looked, and there behind *him* was a ram caught in a thicket by its horns. And only by its horns, or it may not have been without blemish. Christ was so pictured (1 Peter 1:18-19). So Abraham went and took the ram, a male sheep that can still breed. and offered it up for a burnt offering instead of his son. ¹⁴ And Abraham called the name of the place, ³The-LORD-Will-Provide; as it is said to this day, “In the Mount of the LORD it shall be provided.” What would be provided in the Mount? The Lamb (22:7). Where is the Mount of the LORD? In Exodus it is Sinai, so since they are rather at Moriah, it seems that Mount of the LORD is anywhere God establishes His covenant. Since Jesus is the mediator of the New Covenant and gives His life close by Moriah, we can only assume that this is a prophecy of John 1:29. Surely Isaiah 2:3 shows us that Zion would be the Mount of the LORD is in Jerusalem, and this

² Or goat

^h John 1:29, 36

ⁱ Ex. 12:3–6

^j [Heb. 11:17–19; James 2:21]

^k Gen. 16:7–11; 21:17, 18; 31:11

^l 1 Sam. 15:22

^m Gen. 26:5; James 2:21, 22

ⁿ Gen. 22:2, 16; John 3:16

³ Heb. *YHWH Yireh*

prophecy should remove all doubt. In Genesis 14:18, we are told that Melchizedek is king in the very place where this story takes place. Was he there in that place?

¹⁵ **Then the Angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time out of heaven,** Sometimes it is God (Exodus 3:1-3), but other times this is not so. ¹⁶ **and said: ^o“By Myself I have sworn, says the LORD, because you have done this thing, and have not withheld your son, your only *son*—¹⁷ blessing I will ^pble^ss you, and multiplying I will multiply your descendants ^qas the stars of the heaven ^rand as the sand which *is* on the seashore; and ^syour descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies.** Much the same promise he received in 21:12. ¹⁸ **“In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, ^ubecause you have obeyed My voice.”** ¹⁹ **So Abraham returned to his young men, just like he said he would. and they rose and went together to ^vBeersheba; and Abraham dwelt at Beersheba.** Still, as last chapter. The story then ends where it began.

^o Ps. 105:9; Luke 1:73; [Heb. 6:13, 14]

^p Gen. 17:16; 26:3, 24

^q Gen. 15:5; 26:4; Deut. 1:10; Jer. 33:22; Heb. 11:12

^r Gen. 13:16; 32:12; 1 Kin. 4:20

^s Gen. 24:60

^t Gen. 12:3; 18:18; 26:4; Matt. 1:1; Luke 3:34; [Acts 3:25, 26]; Gal. 3:8, 9, 16, 18

^u Gen. 18:19; 22:3, 10; 26:5

^v Gen. 21:31