

Genesis - Lesson 22

Genesis Chapter 22

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Memory verses for this week: **Col 3:2** Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. **Col 3:3** For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.

Introduction: We continue our study on the book of Genesis this week as we cover one of the greatest books of the old testament. Genesis Chapter 22 is the story of the faith of Abraham to follow the Lord's command to take his only son Isaac up on a mountain in Moriah and offer him as a sacrifice to the Lord. If you know your bible, this was not carried out as God provided a substitute to take Isaac's place. No book has greater typification of the great love God had for us on Calvary when He offered his only Son for our sins like this book.

I. The Offering of Isaac

Gen 22:1 *And it came to pass after these things, that God did tempt Abraham, and said unto him, Abraham: and he said, Behold, here I am.*

Gen 22:2 *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.*

Gen 22:3 *And Abraham rose up early in the morning, and saddled his ass, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son, and clave the wood for the burnt offering, and rose up, and went unto the place of which God had told him.*

Gen 22:4 *Then on the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes, and saw the place afar off.*

Gen 22:5 *And Abraham said unto his young men, Abide ye here with the ass; and I and the lad will go yonder and worship, and come again to you.*

Gen 22:6 *And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering, and laid it upon Isaac his son; and he took the fire in his hand, and a knife; and they went both of them together.*

In verse 1, God gave the command to take Isaac to the land Moriah and sacrifice his son. Abraham's response was not like many of us would have given. There was no doubting or arguing with God, but simple obedience. In verse 5 you see the great faith that Abraham had when he told the young men that the lad and I will go yonder and worship, and come again. I believe with all my heart that Abraham KNEW that God was going to stand by his word, and if he promised a great nation would come from Isaac, then he believed that if he slayed the boy, that God will bring him back to life.

Isaac is a type of Christ "obedient unto death." Abraham illustrates the Father who "spared not His own Son." The resurrection is further illustrated in the deliverance of

Isaac. It is important that we understand that in verse 1 when it says "Tempt", it means that he was tried or tested. God does not tempt men to sin.

Jas 1:12 Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.

Jas 1:13 Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man:

Jas 1:14 But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed.

Jas 1:15 Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

Jas 1:16 Do not err, my beloved brethren.

John Wesley commented this about Abraham.

Gen 22:1 Here is the trial of Abraham's faith, whether it continued so strong, so vigorous, so victorious, after a long settlement in communion with God, as it was at first, when by it he left his country: then it appeared that he loved God better than his father; now, that he loved him better than his son. After these things - After all the other exercises he had had, all the difficulties he had gone through: now perhaps he was beginning to think the storms were blown over but after all, this encounter comes, which is stranger than any yet. God did tempt Abraham - Not to draw him to sin, so Satan tempts; but to discover his graces, how strong they were, that they might be found to praise and honour and glory. The trial itself: God appeared to him as he had formerly done, called him by name Abraham, that name which had been given him in ratification of the promise: Abraham, like a good servant, readily answered, Here am I; what saith my Lord unto his servant?

God simply asks for Abraham's best. There were four great crises in the life of Abraham.

a. Separation from his native land and kindred.

Gen 12:1 *Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee:*

Gen 12:2 And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing:

Gen 12:3 And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.

Gen 12:4 So Abram departed, as the LORD had spoken unto him; and Lot went with him: and Abram was seventy and five years old when he departed out of Haran.

It is important to realize that God did not call Lot, but only Abraham. And while Abraham did come out, God did not use him in a great way until he separated himself from Lot.

b. Separation from Lot.

Gen 13:1 *And Abram went up out of Egypt, he, and his wife, and all that he had, and*

Lot with him, into the south.

Gen 13:2 And Abram was very rich in cattle, in silver, and in gold.

Gen 13:3 And he went on his journeys from the south even to Bethel, unto the place where his tent had been at the beginning, between Bethel and Hai;

Gen 13:4 Unto the place of the altar, which he had made there at the first: and there Abram called on the name of the LORD.

Gen 13:5 And Lot also, which went with Abram, had flocks, and herds, and tents.

Gen 13:6 And the land was not able to bear them, that they might dwell together: for their substance was great, so that they could not dwell together.

Gen 13:7 And there was a strife between the herdmen of Abram's cattle and the herdmen of Lot's cattle: and the Canaanite and the Perizzite dwelled then in the land.

Gen 13:8 And Abram said unto Lot, Let there be no strife, I pray thee, between me and thee, and between my herdmen and thy herdmen; for we be brethren.

Gen 13:9 Is not the whole land before thee? separate thyself, I pray thee, from me: if thou wilt take the left hand, then I will go to the right; or if thou depart to the right hand, then I will go to the left.

c. Abandonment of his plan as to Ishmael.

Gen 17:17 Then Abraham fell upon his face, and laughed, and said in his heart, Shall a child be born unto him that is an hundred years old? and shall Sarah, that is ninety years old, bear?

Gen 17:18 And Abraham said unto God, O that Ishmael might live before thee!

Initially he indicates that he believes the blessings will come through the line of Ishmael, but ultimately believes God and turns from this plan.

d. Offering of Isaac as a burnt sacrifice in our current chapter.

"Moriah" was the place where the temple was built.

2Ch 3:1 *Then Solomon began to build the house of the LORD at Jerusalem in mount Moriah, where the LORD appeared unto David his father, in the place that David had prepared in the threshingfloor of Ornan the Jebusite.*

It could have been the same place where Christ was crucified but this is not clear. Isaac is the only type in the O.T. which clearly intimated that God required a human sacrifice. While the idol worshiper offered human sacrifice, it was never practiced by God's people.

The son Isaac was separated for sacrifice in verse 3.

Rom 8:31 What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?

Rom 8:32 He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall

he not with him also freely give us all things?

Unlike most men, Abraham does not hesitate or falter. In verse 3 he gets up and follows the Lord's command.

Act 2:23 Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain:

Act 2:24 Whom God hath raised up, having loosed the pains of death: because it was not possible that he should be holden of it.

In verse 4, it says Abraham saw the place afar off. God saw our condition and need for salvation before he ever created Adam and Eve. Sin did not take God by surprise.

Rev 13:8 And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.

Just as there two on each side of Jesus on the cross, there were 2 men that came along on the journey. However, when the time came for the offering, only the father and the son could go. So was it on Mt. Calvary with Christ and the heavenly Father. No man provided a sacrifice for our sins except Jesus Christ, who was equal with the Father and Holy Spirit.

Abraham had certainty of the resurrection.

Rev 11:17 Saying, We give thee thanks, O Lord God Almighty, which art, and wast, and art to come; because thou hast taken to thee thy great power, and hast reigned.

Rev 11:18 And the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that thou shouldest give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name, small and great; and shouldest destroy them which destroy the earth.

Rev 11:19 And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament: and there were lightnings, and voices, and thunderings, and an earthquake, and great hail.

The wood laid on Isaac. A typification of the Cross which was laid on Christ.

Abraham took the fire and the knife with him to the place of the sacrifice.

Isa 53:4 Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.

Isa 53:5 But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

Isa 53:10 Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.

II. The Conversation Between The Father And Son

Gen 22:7 And Isaac spake unto Abraham his father, and said, My father: and he said, Here am I, my son. And he said, Behold the fire and the wood: but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?

Gen 22:8 And Abraham said, My son, God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering: so they went both of them together.

Isaac was not a young boy at this time. He was probably 12 to 15 years of age, and he understood about offering sacrifices to God. He had witnessed this in the past, and he questions Abraham. "Where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" Whether Abraham knew this or simply trusted God, he said "My son, God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering." This was true on that day, but so much so in a greater way. God will and did provide Himself a lamb when Jesus died there on Mt. Calvary.

III. Isaac On The Altar

Gen 22:9 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.

Gen 22:10 And Abraham stretched forth his hand, and took the knife to slay his son.

I don't know about you, but doing what God had commanded would have been a very hard thing to do. It says in verse 9 that the altar was built. Isaac was bound and placed on the altar. He was old enough to carry the wood and thus old enough to resist, but he did not. Isaac showed as much or more faith than Abraham. Just like Isaac did not resist being laid down for the offering, neither did Christ.

Isa 53:5 But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

Isa 53:6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

Isa 53:7 He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth.

Abraham was obedient, and lifted the knife to slay his son. This is faith that is beyond my grasp. Praise God for trusting and not doubting. Only God could give a man such faith.

In the Scofield Commentary, in regards to the fact Isaac was laid on the altar, he said these things:

laid

The typical lessons here are:

(1) Isaac, type of Christ "obedient unto death" ([Phi 2:5-8](#)).

(2) Abraham, type of the Father, who "spared not His own son, but delivered Him up for us all" ([Joh 3:16](#)); ([Rom 8:32](#)).

(3) the ram, type of substitution -- Christ offered as a burnt-offering in our stead, ([Heb 10:5-10](#)).

(4) very comparable to the resurrection ([Heb 11:17-19](#)); ([Jam 2:21-23](#)).

IV. The Intervention Of God

Gen 22:11 And the angel of the LORD called unto him out of heaven, and said, Abraham, Abraham: and he said, Here am I.

Gen 22:12 And he said, Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou any thing unto him: for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me.

Gen 22:13 And Abraham lifted up his eyes, and looked, and behold behind him a ram caught in a thicket by his horns: and Abraham went and took the ram, and offered him up for a burnt offering in the stead of his son.

Gen 22:14 And Abraham called the name of that place Jehovahjireh: as it is said to this day, In the mount of the LORD it shall be seen.

Just as he was about to slay Isaac, the angel of the Lord, is the Lord Himself, speaks to Abraham.

This was like in other accounts when God appeared unto man in the name of an angel.

Gen 16:7 And the angel of the LORD found her by a fountain of water in the wilderness, by the fountain in the way to Shur.

Gen 16:8 And he said, Hagar, Sarai's maid, whence camest thou? and whither wilt thou go? And she said, I flee from the face of my mistress Sarai.

Gen 16:9 And the angel of the LORD said unto her, Return to thy mistress, and submit thyself under her hands.

Gen 21:17 And God heard the voice of the lad; and the angel of God called to Hagar out of heaven, and said unto her, What aileth thee, Hagar? fear not; for God hath heard the voice of the lad where he is.

Gen 21:18 Arise, lift up the lad, and hold him in thine hand; for I will make him a great nation.

Gen 18:1 *And the LORD appeared unto him in the plains of Mamre: and he sat in the*

tent door in the heat of the day;

Gen 18:2 And he lift up his eyes and looked, and, lo, three men stood by him: and when he saw them, he ran to meet them from the tent door, and bowed himself toward the ground,

Gen 18:3 And said, My Lord, if now I have found favour in thy sight, pass not away, I pray thee, from thy servant:

If you were here a couple of months ago, you heard Missionary Gary Norberg, our missionary to Africa, speak about the five times names were repeated in the bible, and the great significance placed on each. When any word is repeated in the Bible it is important and God is getting our attention. When a name is repeated, it is VERY important. "Abraham, Abraham" reveals the urgency and intensity of God. God knew all about this, and He never intended for Isaac to die that day. But it was a great test to the faith of Abraham. (and Isaac).

Gen 46:2 And God spake unto Israel in the visions of the night, and said, Jacob, Jacob. And he said, Here am I.

Exo 3:4 And when the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called unto him out of the midst of the bush, and said, Moses, Moses. And he said, Here am I.

Exo 3:5 And he said, Draw not nigh hither: put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground.

1Sa 3:10 And the LORD came, and stood, and called as at other times, Samuel, Samuel. Then Samuel answered, Speak; for thy servant heareth.

Act 9:4 And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?

Act 9:5 And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks.

Verse 12 shows Abraham's obedience. Just like for you and I, a substitute was providentially provided. A ram took the place of Isaac this day, but the Lamb of God providentially was provided for us.

Examples of how the Lamb took our place.

- a. In Revelation the dominant name for Christ is the Lamb.

Rev 5:6 And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in

the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth.

b. The Lamb slain and the Lamb worshiped.

Rev 5:8 And when he had taken the book, the four beasts and four and twenty elders fell down before the Lamb, having every one of them harps, and golden vials full of odours, which are the prayers of saints.

Rev 5:9 And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation;

Rev 5:10 And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.

c. The Lamb is worthy.

Rev 5:12 Saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing.

d. Great multitudes washed their robes in the blood.

Rev 7:14 And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

e. The Lamb stands on Mt. Zion.

Rev 14:1 *And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and with him an hundred forty and four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads.*

f. Beast worshiper tormented in the presence of the Lamb.

Rev 14:10 The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb:

g. The Lamb overcomes the kings of the earth.

Rev 17:14 These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful.

h. The marriage of the Lamb.

Rev 19:9 And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God.

i. The bride, the Lamb's wife, which is the scriptural New Testament church.

Rev 21:9 And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, saying, Come hither, I will shew thee the bride, the Lamb's wife.

j. The Lamb takes away sin.

Joh 1:29 The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.

6. Jehovah-jireh, it shall be seen, or the Lord will provide.

Gen 22:14 And Abraham called the name of that place Jehovahjireh: as it is said to this day, In the mount of the LORD it shall be seen.

V. The Promise Renewed

Gen 22:15 And the angel of the LORD called unto Abraham out of heaven the second time,

Gen 22:16 And said, By myself have I sworn, saith the LORD, for because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only son:

Gen 22:17 That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies;

Gen 22:18 And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice.

As we have seen repeatedly in our recent lessons, God makes and keeps his covenants. When God speaks something, it is as if it has already happened. That is the confidence you can have in God. In verse 15, we find the second occurrence of God speaking to Abraham on the mountain.

1. This was the second time God spoke to him on the mount.
2. God swears by the greatest which is himself in verse 16.
3. Abraham's seed were to be multiplied according to verse 17.
4. His seed will conquer his enemies because of Abraham's faithfulness.

Mat 16:18 And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

5. All nations of the earth were to be blessed according to verse 18.

6. Obedience pays. It paid Abraham, and it will still pay for you and I today. God wants simple obedience from His children. When we follow the Lord's commandments, we honor and glorify Christ.

VI. Abraham Returns To Beer-sheba

Gen 22:19 So Abraham returned unto his young men, and they rose up and went together to Beersheba; and Abraham dwelt at Beersheba.

Nothing is said of Isaac, although he did return just as Abraham had promised the young men who waited. God did receive him, and resurrect him in a figure.

Heb 11:17 By faith Abraham, when he was tried, offered up Isaac: and he that had received the promises offered up his only begotten son,

Heb 11:18 Of whom it was said, That in Isaac shall thy seed be called:

Heb 11:19 Accounting that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead; from whence also he received him in a figure.

Gen 22:20 And it came to pass after these things, that it was told Abraham, saying, Behold, Milcah, she hath also born children unto thy brother Nahor;

Gen 22:21 Huz his firstborn, and Buz his brother, and Kemuel the father of Aram,

Gen 22:22 And Chesed, and Hazo, and Pildash, and Jidlaph, and Bethuel.

Gen 22:23 And Bethuel begat Rebekah: these eight Milcah did bear to Nahor, Abraham's brother.

Gen 22:24 And his concubine, whose name was Reumah, she bare also Tebah, and Gaham, and Thahash, and Maachah.

Abraham receives news concerning his family. His brother Nahor had a large number of children born unto him by his wife Milcah. Four more were born from his concubine named Reumah.

STUDY QUESTIONS

1. How is Isaac a type of Christ?

He willingly laid down his life as a sacrifice. He was offered by His father.

2. Who is Abraham the type of?

God the Heavenly Father.

3. What does "tempt" mean in v. 1?

It refers to the testing Abraham went through to try his faith.

4. Name the four great crises in the life of Abraham.

Being called out from his family in Haran.

Separation from Lot.

Willingness to forsake his plan as Ishmael as the promised seed.

Willingness to take Isaac and offer him there in the mountains of Moriah.

5. What was the name of the mount where Isaac was offered?

Mt. Moriah

6. What O.T. structure was built on this mount?

Temple built by Solomon

7. What was Isaac's question to Abraham as they went up the mount to worship?

Where is the burnt offering

8. What was Abraham's reply?

God will provide himself a lamb.

9. What does Isaac carrying the wood typify?

The sins of the world being placed on Christ.

10. Why did not Abraham slay Isaac on the altar?

God stayed his hand and provided the ram in the bush as a substitute.

11. What as the dominant name for Christ in Revelation?

The Lamb

12. What does God's name, Jehovah-jireh, mean?

It shall be seen, or the Lord will provide.

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Prov 4:18 But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day.

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Practice Random Acts of Kindness. Each act spreads, and many will be blessed.