

Genesis Chapter 22

- This takes place approximately 1,900 years before Christ.
 - One of the most dramatic chapters in the entire Bible!
 - God speaks and or appears to Abraham 7 times; this is the last recorded time.
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V: 1 *“And it came to pass after these things,...”*

- One of the last things we see about Abraham in the last chapter is that he called upon the name of the Lord – and one of the next things we see is the Lord calling upon Abraham.
- We have just fast forwarded from the weaning of Isaac, and the casting out of Hagar and Ishmael about 30 years give or take.
- Sarah is 91-92 years old when she has Isaac, 2-3 years later when Isaac is weaned, she is 93-94 or so, in the next chapter she is 127 years old at the time of her death.
- Between chapters 21 and 23, approximately 30-33 years pass by, meaning Isaac might be around 30 years old.

“God tempted / tested Abraham”

Proverbs 17:3 *“The refining pot is for silver and the furnace for good, but the LORD tests the hearts.”*

“Tested” (H-5254) “nacad” naw-saw'; to test; to prove, tempt, try.

- **1st mention** of *“tested”* / “tempted” KJV

Rule of 1st mention:

- Sets or establishes a precedent.
- Emphasizes an important doctrine.
- Signifies an important event typologically.
- This word “tempted” / “tested” is only used 14 times in the Bible; this is the only time that it is used to denote God testing man.
- All the other times that this word is used; it is either a warning not to “test” / “tempt” God or questioning man for why he is doing so.
- The only use, the singular use of this word this way is between God and Abraham as it relates to the sacrifice of his only son.

- Even though this is the first use of this word this way, it is not Abrahams first test so to speak.
- How would this “test” be any different than the last 25-30 years?
 1. Leave your home, and your family, and go to a place that I’ll tell you.
 2. God’s promise of a son, innumerable descendants.
 3. Famine in Canaan.
 4. Battle with Chedorlaomer.
 5. Tithes to Melchizedek.
 6. Circumcision.
 7. Hagar & Ishmael – conception to sending out.
 8. Abimelech.

James 1:12-14 “¹²Blessed is the man who endures temptation for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him. ¹³Let no one say when he is tempted, “I am tempted by God”; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone. ¹⁴But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed.”

Hebrews 11:17 “By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac: and he who had received the promises offered up his only begotten son,”

- God knew all along exactly what Abraham would do. These things are playing out so that Abraham, Sarah, and all those around them would know that the Lord Himself meant more to Abraham than even his only son Isaac.
- That his relationship with God had the highest priority in his life, fulfilling:

Matthew 6:33 “But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.”

- The tests that we face in life always come down to just a couple of basic things:
 1. Do we love God more than the thing, or issue, the persons, or circumstance?
 2. Or do we love those things more than we love God?

“and said to him, Abraham: and he said, here I am.”

- God called to Abraham, and Abraham answered immediately – because he was waiting on the Lord.

V: 2 “...take now your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love...”

- God pointedly does not acknowledge Ishmael as one of Abraham's sons; He does not recognize the son of the flesh, just like He does not recognize the works of the flesh.
- From God's standpoint, only the son of promise is acknowledged or recognized.
- God also acknowledges Abraham's love for Isaac. God knows Abraham's heart.

Psalm 139:1-3 *"¹O LORD, You have searched me and known me. ²You know my sitting down and my rising up; You understand my thought afar off. ³You comprehend my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways."*

"whom you love..." **1st mention** of *"love"* in any form in the Bible.

- It is significant that the 1st mention of *"love"* in the Bible is used to describe the love of the Father for the Son.

"Love" – (H-157) "ahab", aw-hab; to have affection for, love like a husband / wife, brother, friend, object, or otherwise.

- In the NT, the first mention of love is in **Matthew 3:17** when Jesus emerges from the water of baptism and a voice from heaven declares: *"This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased"*
- In fact all 3 synoptic gospels are the same in that regard. The gospel of John is a little different:

John 3:16 *"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."*

"... go to the land of Moriah..." (Vicinity, vs: Mt. Moriah)

- Moriah will later become the site of Solomon's temple; built on the threshing floor of Araunah.

2 Chronicles 3:1 *"Then Solomon began to build the house of the Lord at Jerusalem on mount Moriah, where the Lord appeared to David his father, in the place that David had prepared on the threshing floor of Ornan (Araunah) the Jebusite."*

"...and offer him there for a burnt offering on one of the mountains which I shall tell you."

"Offer" (H-5927). "alah"; - *"to lift up"* – just as Jesus would be "lifted up" on the cross for our sins.

“*Burnt offering*” (H-5930) “Olah” - a voluntary offering; An offering of consecration, an offering of dedication of my life to God. “Lord I consecrate my life to you” – a person would do that with a burnt offering.

- It’s the idea of just being consumed for God, and being given over wholly unto Him.

Romans 12:1 “I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service

- Human sacrifice? Farfetched?

Testimony: Mike & Grace when we first started walking with the Lord – Grace concerned about the divide between us.

- Husbands, wives, children, careers, etc., can all be idols in our lives if we let them.

Jesus tells us:

Matthew 10:37 “He that loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me: and he that loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of me.”

Romans 12:1 “I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.”

“*On one of the mountains which I shall tell you.*” - General direction, get going and I will show you.

V: 3 Obedience! No hesitation – “*Abraham rose up early...*”

Psalms 119:60 “I made haste, and did not delay to keep Your Commandments.”

John 14:15 “If you love Me, keep My commandments.”

1 John 5:3 “For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome.” - “not grievous...”

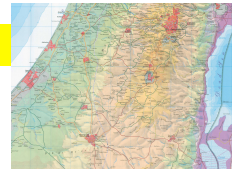
- Abraham gathers the things he needs and goes out to do what God told him to do. He takes two other men with him.

Hebrews 11:17-19 “¹⁷By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac: and he who had received the promises offered up his only begotten son, ¹⁸of whom it was said, “In Isaac your seed shall be called, ¹⁹concluding that God was able to

raise him up, even from the dead, from which he also received him in a figurative sense.”

- Abraham, like us, may not understand all of God’s plan concerning our lives – but there is a confidence that God is good, and His will is perfect.
- ***When we come to what we don’t know, we have to fall back on what we do know:***
 1. **God is good!**
 2. **God loves us!**
 3. **God’s Word is true!**
 4. **God’s will is perfect!**
- Abraham knows God’s promise and believes it, he knows that if God requires Isaac’s life, then God must plan on raising him from the dead or at least have something in mind because Isaac hasn’t had children yet.

V: 4 *“Then on the third day...”*



- It was a three day trip from Beersheba to Mt. Moriah:
- From the time that God had commanded Abraham to sacrifice his son Isaac, Abraham had considered Isaac as being dead.

Paul presents the Gospel:

1 Corinthians 15:3-4 “³For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; ⁴and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the scriptures:”

- Paul makes this statement as though it was from the Old Testament, and this is the only place that makes reference to the son dying and being resurrected on the 3rd day.

V: 5 The two young men, like the two thieves that accompanied Jesus to Calvary could only go so far – they couldn’t do what Jesus was sent to do.

- Isaac and I will go “worship”.

“worship” (H-7812) - shachah, shaw-khaw'; to prostrate, to bow down, crouch, fall down (flat), humbly beseech, do obeisance, do reverence, make to stoop, to worship.

- ~~Sometimes as we sing praises to God and lift our hands, we say that we have been worshipping God, but technically that is not what the Bible terms as worship.~~

- The word worship means “to bow down”. It is a reference to the bowing down of my will to God.
- ~~You can lift your hands and sing with your eyes closed, but you may be resisting God in your heart.~~
- What Abraham is really saying to these young men is, “*we’re going to go up to that mountain and bow down our will to God.*”

As Jesus prepared to go to the cross that was His prayer:

Matthew 26:39 “...O My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from Me: nevertheless not as I will, but as You will.”

“*5... the lad and I will go yonder and worship, and **we** will come back to you.*”

- We will worship the Lord, then we will come back.

Hebrews 11:19 “Concluding that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead, from which he also received him in a figurative sense.”

- Abraham was confident that God would restore his son. He trusted that the Word of God would be fulfilled.

V: 6 Isaac carried the wood on his back up to Calvary, just as did Jesus.

John 19:17 “And He, bearing His cross, went out to a place called the place of a Skull, which is called in Hebrew, Golgotha,” (Calvary, in Latin)

- Father & son, just like the crucifixion, there is only the brief description:

Matthew 27:35 “... then they crucified Him...”

Mark 15:24 “And when they crucified Him...”

Luke 23:33 “And when they had come to the place called Calvary, there they crucified Him...”

John 19:18 “... where they crucified Him...”

- One of the most important events in all of history, yet no real description. Possibly being held back as a private matter between the Father and the Son.
- Abraham brought the fire and the knife, both of which are symbolic of judgment.

V: 7-8 Isaac questions where is the lamb for the sacrifice?

- Abraham responds that “God will provide ~~(for)~~ himself a lamb for a burnt offering.”

Exegetical: “God will provide - lamb - a burnt offering - son.”

John 1:29 “The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!”

1 Peter 1:18-19 “¹⁸Knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, ¹⁹but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.”

- Abraham speaks prophecy, a lamb is not the same as a ram.

V: 9 Abraham has built altars to worship the Lord in the past, this will be his final and ultimate sacrificial offering.

1. **Genesis 12:7** Sychar / Shechem Shoulder, in the center of Israel.
2. **Genesis 12:8** Bethel - House of God.
3. **Genesis 13:4** Bethel again.
4. **Genesis 13:18** Hebron & Mamre Richness & Communion.
5. **Genesis 22:9** Moriah / Calvary / Golgotha.

- Bound his son, who yielded to his 125-33 year old father.

Matthew 27:2 “And when they had bound Him, they led Him away and delivered Him to Pontius Pilate the governor.”

Speaking of Jesus Paul wrote:

Philippians 2:8 “And being found in fashion as a man, He humbled Himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.”

V: 10 Abraham took hold of the knife and was about to slay his son.

- As Isaac lay there looking into his father’s eyes – what did he see?



Speaking of God, Solomon prayed:

2 Chronicles 6:30b “for You alone know the hearts of the sons of men.”

- God knew Abrahams heart, that he was going to go through with it – his faith was real.

James 2:18-21 “¹⁸But someone will say, “You have faith, and I have works.” Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works. ¹⁹You believe there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe - and tremble! ²⁰But do you want to know O foolish man, that faith without works is dead? Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered Isaac his son on the altar?”

Genesis 15:6 “And he believed in the Lord; and He counted it to him for righteousness.”

- Abraham had already been accounted righteous because of his faith – now his faith was manifest – tested and real.
- Abrahams faith and his actions were working together, and his faith was made complete by what he did.

V: 11-12 “The angel of the Lord” - Jesus called out to Abraham from Heaven and stopped him after he had done in his heart what he was about to do physically.

- Jesus always addressed the issues of the heart, knowing that was where the actions originate from.
- Still the 3rd day – on the 3rd day He rose again.
- God does not allow human sacrifice.
 1. It contradicts His word – thou shalt not kill / murder.
 2. God wouldn't allow Isaac to be compared as such to Jesus.
 3. Man cannot offer anything close to the sacrifice that God made for us.

Romans 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?”

V: 13 The altar is ready to go, Abraham sees a ram – caught in a thicket – a substitutionary sacrifice provided by the Lord - another typology.

- Sin offering: first mentioned as such in **Exodus 29:14** but the concept of a substitutionary sacrifice is first described in Genesis 3:21.

Genesis 3:21 “Also for Adam and his wife the LORD God made tunics of skin, and clothed them.”

Exodus 12 Passover lamb - blood on the door posts.

Leviticus 17:11 “For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it to you upon the altar to make atonement for your souls; for it is the blood that makes atonement for the soul.”

Isaiah 53:5 “But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities;..”

Leviticus 16:21 “Aaron shall lay both his hands on the head of the live goat, confess over it all the iniquities of the children of Israel...”

Turn to:

1 Peter 3:18 “For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit.”



V: 14 Abraham names the place – *“The Lord will provide.”* - **“Jehovah Jireh”**

- The same place would later be called “Golgatha” – Hebrew for “place of a skull” – Calvary in Latin.
- Prophecy: *“In the mount of the Lord it shall be provided.”*

V: 15-18 God renews His vow / covenant with Abraham.

- God swears an oath on His own name because there is no name that is greater to swear by.

Hebrews 6:13-18 *“For when God made a promise to Abraham, because he could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself, ...”*

- By faith, Abraham withheld nothing and obeyed God.

1st mention of obedience – “obeyed”

1 Samuel 15:22 *“... behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams.”*

John 14:21 *“He that has My commandments, and keeps them, he it is that loves me:...”*

- Being obedient to His word is that act of faith, that proof of our stated faith, the evidence. – Our offering to Him!

Messianic prophecy:

“¹⁸And in your seed (singular) shall all the nations of the earth be blessed because you have obeyed my voice.”

Galatians 3:16 *“Now to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made. He does not say, “and to seeds,” as of many, but as of one, “And to your Seed,” who is Christ.”*

V: 19 Abraham returns to the servants, and goes home.

- No mention of Isaac – until he receives his bride.

V: 20-24 Abraham learns that his brother has children, including one who would later be a bride for his son.