

GOD WILL PROVIDE ~ Genesis 22:1-19

→ Scripture Reading Genesis 22:1-8

INTRODUCTION

GOD'S PURPOSE WAS TO SHOW Wiersbe

- Abraham's Remarkable FAITH
- the SUBSTITUTIONARY Nature of Sacrifices
- the OATH that God swore GUARANTEED the Promises

GOD TESTED ABRAHAM ~ Genesis 22:1-2

[1] Some time later God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!" "Here I am," he replied. [2] Then God said, "Take your son, your only son, Isaac, whom you love, and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice [offer] him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains I will tell you about."

THREE COMMANDS vs. 2

- TAKE - your son
- GO - to Moriah
- OFFER - your son as a burnt offering

APPLICATION

GOD TESTS US TO... Wiersbe

- PURIFY our Faith - 1 Peter 1:6-7
1 Peter 1:6-7 (NIV) ...now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. [7] These have come **SO THAT your faith - of greater worth than gold** ...may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.
- PERFECT our Character - James 1:2-4
James 1:34 (NIV) ...you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. Perseverance must finish its work SO THAT you may be MATURE and COMPLETE, not lacking anything.
- PROTECT us from Sin - 2 Cor. 12:7-10
2 Corinthians 12:7 (NIV) **To keep me from becoming CONCEITED** because of these surpassingly great revelations, there was given me a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me.

PROOF OF ABRAHAM'S FAITH ~ Genesis 22:3-8

[3] Early the next morning Abraham got up and saddled his donkey. He took with him two of his servants and his son Isaac. When he had cut enough wood for the burnt offering, he set out for the place God had told him about. [4] On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance. [5] He said to his servants, "Stay here with the donkey while I and the boy go over there. We will worship and then we will come back to you." [6] Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and placed it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. As the two of them went on together, [7] Isaac spoke up and said to his father Abraham, "Father?" "Yes, my son?" Abraham replied. "The fire and wood are here," Isaac said, "but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?" [8] Abraham answered, "God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son." And the two of them went on together.

APPLICATION

ABRAHAM'S GROWING FAITH... Wiersbe

- ACT of Obedience and Faith vs. 3
- a STATEMENT of Faith vs.5
- a PROPHETIC statement vs. 8
- a HOPE and PRAYER

THE SUBMISSION OF ISAAC ~ Genesis 22:9-13

[9] When they reached the place God had told him about, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. He bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. [10] Then he reached out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. [11] But the angel of the LORD called out to him from heaven, "Abraham! Abraham!" "Here I am," he replied. [12] "Do not lay a hand on the boy," he said. "Do not do anything to him. Now I know that you FEAR God, because you have not withheld from me your son, your only son." [13] Abraham looked up and there in a thicket he saw a ram caught by its horns. He went over and took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering INSTEAD of his son.

To FEAR God means to reverence Him as sovereign, trust Him absolutely, and obey him without question. BKC

APPLICATION

Abraham was only able to tie Isaac down to the altar because Isaac was willing to be tied down. And why was Isaac willing? Because of his father's faith in the God of the impossible... Strassner

GOD GUARANTEES HIS PROMISES ~ Genesis 20:14-19

[14] So Abraham called that place The LORD Will Provide. And to this day it is said, "On the mountain of the LORD it will be provided." [15] The angel of the LORD called to Abraham from heaven a second time [16] and said, "I swear by myself, declares the LORD, that because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, [17] I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will take possession of the cities of their enemies, [18] and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed me." [19] Then Abraham returned to his servants, and they set off together for Beersheba. And Abraham stayed in Beersheba.

This was a SWORN GUARANTEE of innumerable descendants, the capture of land, and blessing on Abraham and, through him, on ALL the nations of the world. New Bible Com

TAKE AWAY ??

God's severe testing in our lives is not merely meant to test and prove our faith, but also to give us a chance, through our obedience, to test and prove HIS FAITHFULNESS! And God always passes the test. There is always a ram in the thicket! Strassner