

Abraham Offers Up His Only Son

Gen 22 ¹ 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, 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."

³ So Abraham rose early in the morning 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 lad and I will go yonder and worship, and we will come back to you." ⁶ So Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son; 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." Then he said, "Look, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" ⁸ And Abraham said, "My son, God will provide for Himself the lamb for a burnt offering." So the two of them went together. ⁹ Then they came to the place of which God had told him. And Abraham built an altar there and placed the wood in order; and he bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, upon the wood. ¹⁰ And Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. ¹¹ But the Angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" So he said, "Here I am." ¹² And He said, "Do not lay your hand on the lad, or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me." ¹³ Then Abraham lifted his eyes and looked, and there behind him was a ram caught in a thicket by its horns. So Abraham went and took the ram, and offered it up for a burnt offering instead of his son. ¹⁴ And Abraham called the name of the place, The-LORD-Will-Provide; as it is said to this day, "In the Mount of the LORD it shall be provided." ¹⁵ Then the Angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time out of heaven, ¹⁶ and said: "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 bless you, and multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heaven and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies. ¹⁸ In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice." ¹⁹ So Abraham returned to his young men, and they rose and went together to Beersheba; and Abraham dwelt at Beersheba.

► Within the life of Abraham, there are punctuated moments when God calls him to take a giant step forward, either in his understanding of the Gospel or in his trust and obedience to the God of the Gospel. Here, God calls Abraham to do _____ . God does so by _____ .
Abraham (1).

1Pet 1 ⁶ [Y]ou greatly rejoice, though now for a little while ... you have been grieved by various trials, ⁷ that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold ... though ... tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ

► It's important for us to remember exactly who is speaking to

Abraham: God the _____, _____ preincarnate.

Jn 8 ⁵⁶ "Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and he saw it and was glad." ⁵⁷ Then the Jews said to Him, "You are not yet fifty years old, and have You seen Abraham?" ⁵⁸ Jesus said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM."

Exo 3 ¹⁴ "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you. ¹⁵ ... The LORD God of your Fathers ... has sent me to you.'"

Heb 12 ²⁵ [I]f they did not escape who refused Him who spoke on earth, much more shall we not escape if we turn away from Him who speaks from heaven, ²⁶ whose voice then shook the earth

1Cor 10 ¹ [A]ll our fathers ... ³ ate the same spiritual food, ⁴ and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Christ.

► In Gn15, it is _____ preincarnate who makes the covenant with Abraham by walking alone the path of sacrificial death. A normal covenant requires two parties exchanging promises, so both are obligated to perform.

The only exception is a Last _____ & Testament.

Gen 15 ⁷ "I am the LORD, who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans ... ⁹ ... Bring Me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old female goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." ¹⁰ Then he brought all these to Him and cut them in two, down the middle, and placed each piece opposite the other ... ¹² Now when the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram ... ¹⁷ And ... when the sun went down and it was dark, ... beheld, there appeared a smoking oven and a burning torch that passed between those pieces. ¹⁸ On the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram

Hb 9 ¹⁵ He is the Mediator of the new covenant, by means of death ... ¹⁶ For where there is a testament, there must also of necessity be the death of the testator. ¹⁷ For a testament is in force after men are dead, since it has no power at all while the testator lives.

► This is why the NT connects Gn15 & 22 — they both powerfully point forward to Christ and his _____, and they both call on Abraham and us to _____.

James 2²¹ Abraham our father ... offered Isaac his son on the altar ...²³ And the Scripture was fulfilled which says, "Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness." [quoting Gn15.6]

► Who is "the Angel of the LORD"? (11, 15)

Exo 3² [T]he Angel of the Lord appeared to [Moses] in a flame of fire from the midst of a bush ...⁴ ... God called to him from the midst of the bush ...⁶ ... "I am the God ... of Abraham, ... Isaac, ... and Jacob"

► Christ is driving the gospel home to Abraham by having him _____ it out, as close as possible, in three ways:

► 1) Christ requires Abraham to live out the _____ of God the Father in giving His only begotten Son on the cross.

1Jn 4⁹ In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him. ¹⁰ In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

► 2) Christ requires Abraham to live out the _____ of Christ Himself as God's only begotten Son.

Heb 12¹ [L]et us run with endurance the race that is set before us, ² looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Heb 5⁷ [I]n the days of His flesh, ... He ... offered up prayers and supplications, with vehement cries and tears to Him who was able to save Him from death, and was heard because of His godly fear

Hb 11¹⁷ By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises offered up his only begotten son,¹⁸ of whom it was said, "In Isaac your seed shall be called,"¹⁹ concluding that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead, from which he also received him in a figurative sense.

► 3) Christ requires Abraham to live out the _____ of Christ on the cross.

Eph 5² Christ ... has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma.

Rom 5¹⁸ [A]s through one transgression there resulted condemnation to all men, even so through one act of righteous there resulted justification of life to all men. (NAS)

► In conclusion, we see that Gn22, just like Gn15, is pure _____. We see the difficulty of the test that Christ brought to Abraham, but we also see that it was brought in _____. Finally, we see the reason every good teacher gives challenging tests — not so students will _____, but so that they can _____.