

God affirms and reassures faith that _____ in testing. GENESIS 22:15-19

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Sermon Notes

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The Chapel on the Campus

God is pleased with faith-full obedience. vv. 15-17A

21 Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered up his son Isaac on the altar? 22 You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was completed by his works; 23 and the Scripture was fulfilled that says, "Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness" — and he was called a friend of God.

JAMES 2:21-23 (ESV)

Obedience brings new assurances vv. 17B-19

Will you trust in God's provision of Jesus?

How to become a Christian

Many people believe they are Christians because they were born in a Christian culture, go to church regularly, try to do their best, or live a good life. However, the Bible teaches that these things cannot make you a Christian. You become a Christian by simply taking these two steps:

- Acknowledge that you (along with all people) have sinned and fallen short of God's standards. ROMANS 3:23
- Personally believe that Jesus Christ, who was God in human flesh, died for your sins on the cross and rose again. 1 CORINTHIANS 15:3, 4

You may express your belief through prayer, asking Jesus to come into your life, and receiving Him as God's gift to you.

JOHN 1:12, ROMANS 6:23, REVELATION 3:20

"For it is by grace you have been saved through faith...it is the gift of God; not by works, so that no one can boast." EPHESIANS 2:8, 9 (NIV)

Genesis: Lessons from the Faith and Failure of Our Spiritual Leaders

Test of Faith

GENESIS 22 (NIV84)

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 him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains I will tell you about."

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.

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. 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.

²⁰ Some time later Abraham was told, “Milcah is also a mother; she has borne sons to your brother Nahor: ²¹ Uz the firstborn, Buz his brother, Kemuel (the father of Aram), ²² Kesed, Hazo, Pildash, Jidlaph and Bethuel.” ²³ Bethuel became the father of Rebekah. Milcah bore these eight sons to Abraham’s brother Nahor. ²⁴ His concubine, whose name was Reumah, also had sons: Tebah, Gaham, Tahash and Maacah.

Abraham’s other tests

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| ✓ Family test (GENESIS 11:27-12:5) | Passed! |
| ✗ Famine test (GENESIS 12:10-13:4) | Failed! |
| ✓ Fellowship test (GENESIS 13:5-18) | Passed! |
| ✓ Fight test (GENESIS 14:1-16) | Passed! |
| ✓ Fortune test (GENESIS 14:17-24) | Passed! |
| ✗ Fatherhood (GENESIS 16) | Failed! |
| ✓ Farewell test (GENESIS 21:14-21) | Passed! |

God tests those who _____ Him. GENESIS 22:1-2

God calls Abraham to sacrifice his son Isaac.

God’s heart

God’s purpose for tests:

- Purify our faith 1 Peter 1:6-9
- Perfect our character James 1:1-4
- Protect us from sin and pride 2 Corinthians 12:7-10

Obedience through testing _____ our faith.
GENESIS 22:3-14

Abraham’s obedience is worship vv. 3-5

Focus on God’s _____ not explanations.

God provides a substitute vv. 6-11

Depend on God’s _____ not limitations.

“Jehovah-jirah” (22:14) “The Lord will see to it.” vv. 12-14

Relaying on God’s provision and promise bring _____.

When Abraham didn’t know _____ – he trusted God. HEBREWS 11:8

When Abraham didn’t know _____ – he trusted God. HEBREWS 11:9-10, 13-16

When Abraham didn’t know _____ – he trusted God. HEBREWS 11:11-12

When Abraham didn’t know _____ – he trusted God. HEBREWS 17-19

¹⁷ By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son, ¹⁸ of whom it was said, “Through Isaac shall your offspring be named.” ¹⁹ He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking he did receive him back. HEBREWS 11:17-19 (ESV)