

PATRIARCHS OF THE PROMISE

Lesson 6: Abraham's test

Genesis 22:1-19, Hebrews 11:17-19

Hebrews 11:17-18 (NASB95)

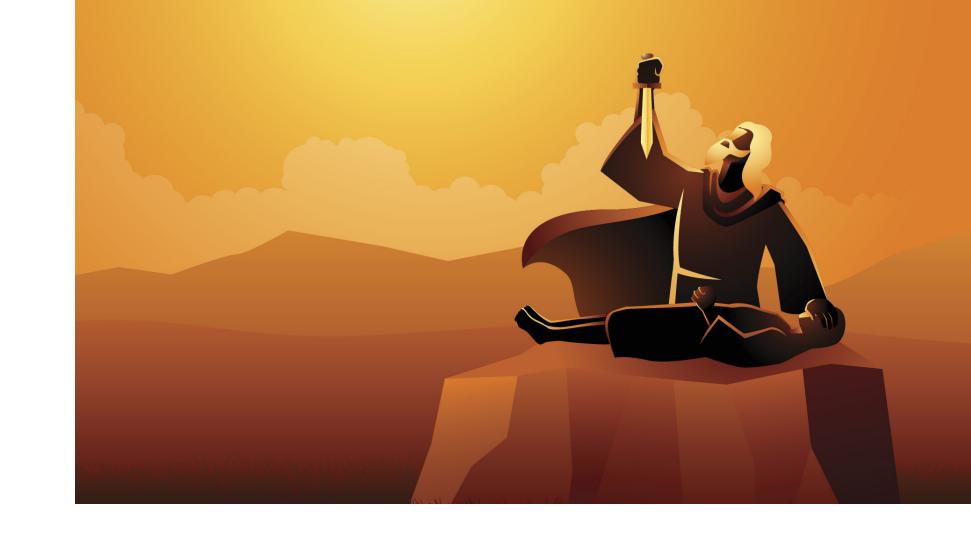
By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was offering up his only begotten son; it was he to whom it was said, "In Isaac your descendants shall be called."

Feb 23, 2025

Outline

Introduction/Background

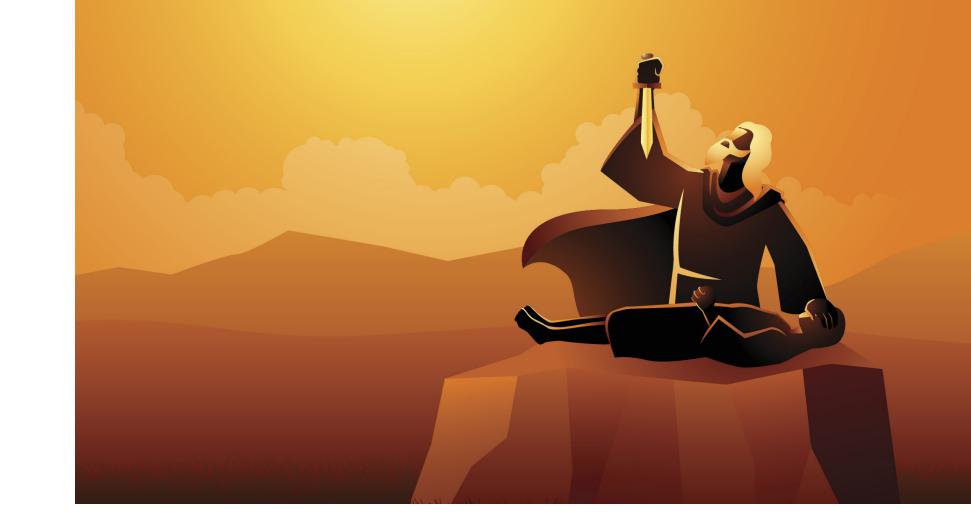
- Abraham's Test Genesis 22:1-19
 - Observe
 - Interpret
 - Apply



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Recap

Recap

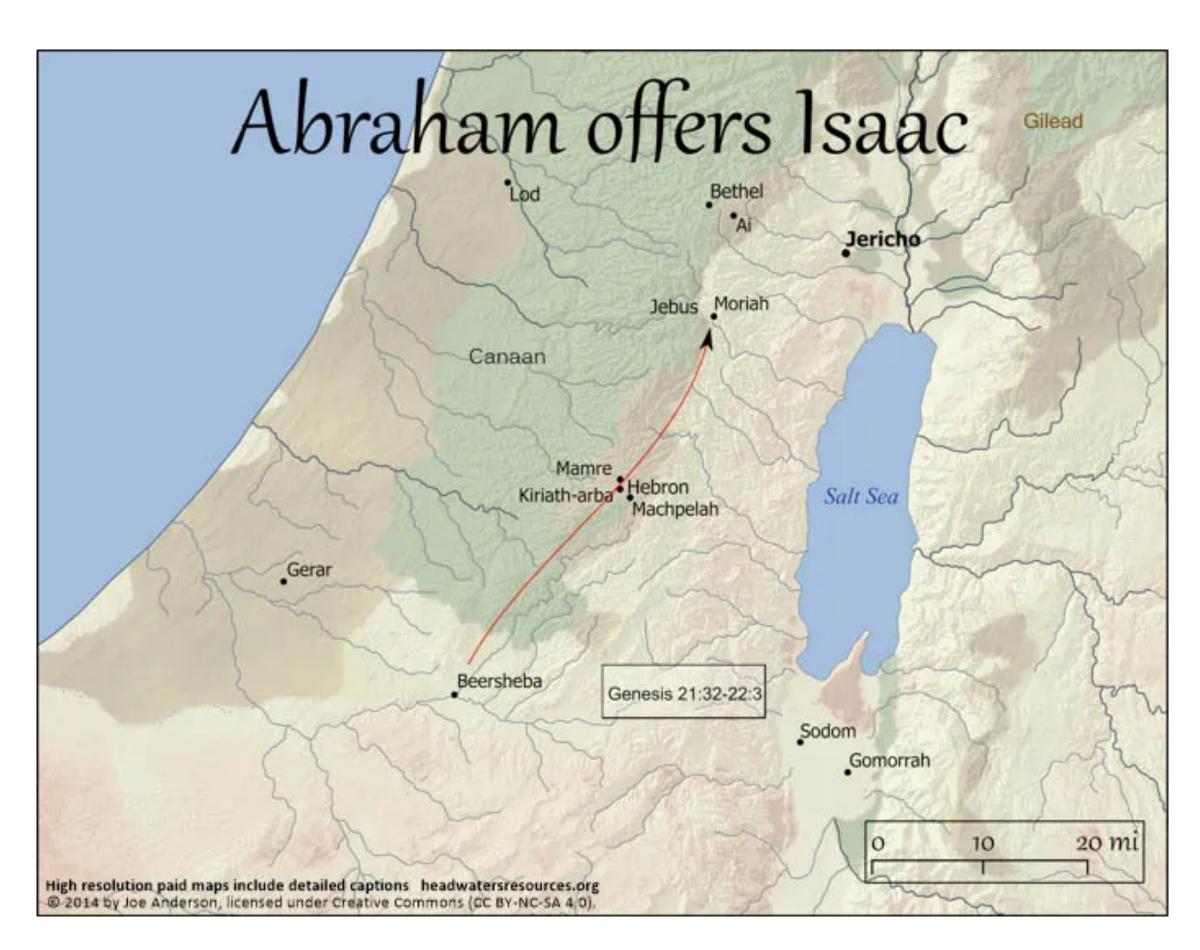
- Last week's lesson:
 - God gives Abraham and Sarah a son, Isaac, in their old age
 - God fulfills His promise to Abraham

Recap

- Last week's lesson:
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 - God fulfills His promise to Abraham

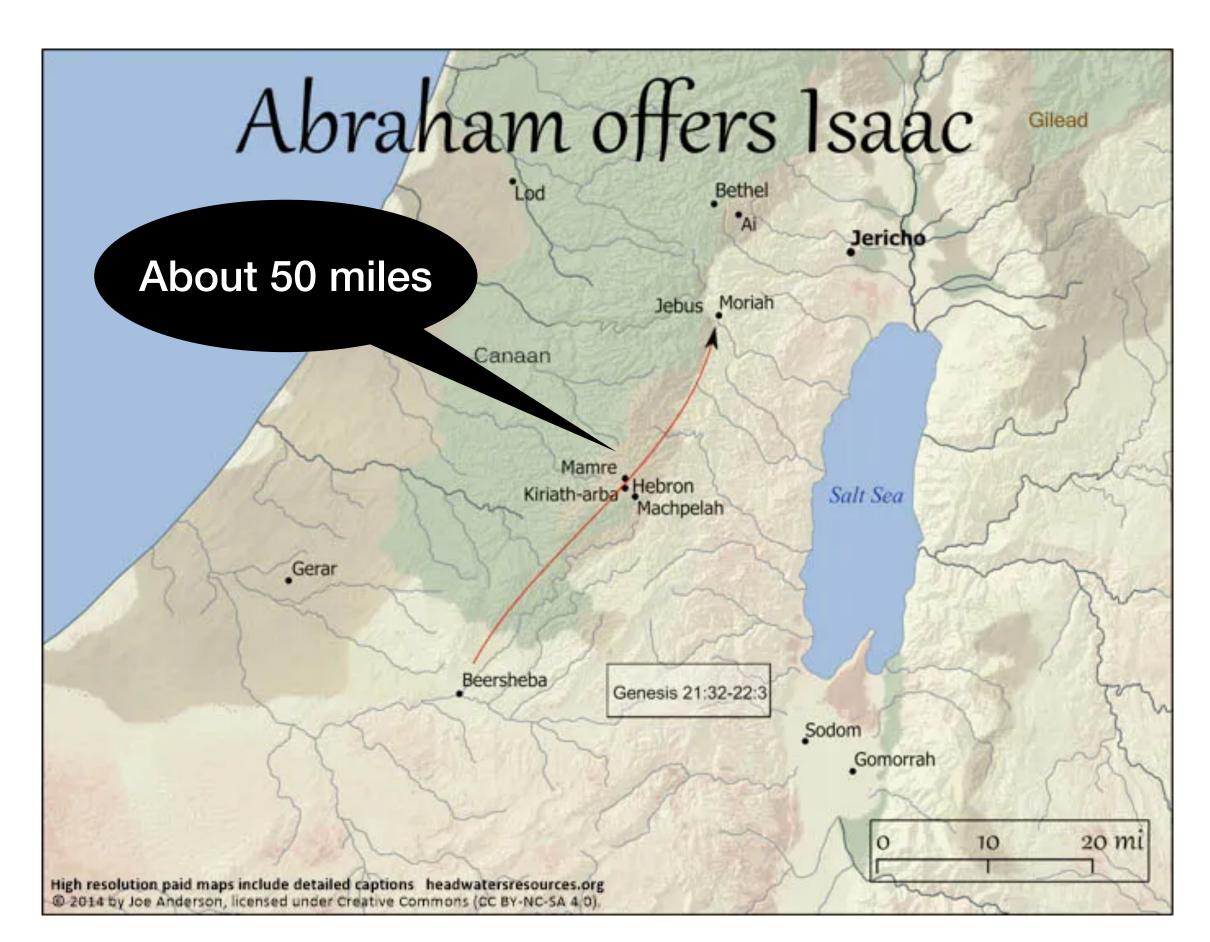
- This week's lesson:
 - God commands Abraham to sacrifice Isaac, the long-awaited promised son
 - Foreshadows Christ's sacrifice on the cross

Mount Moriah



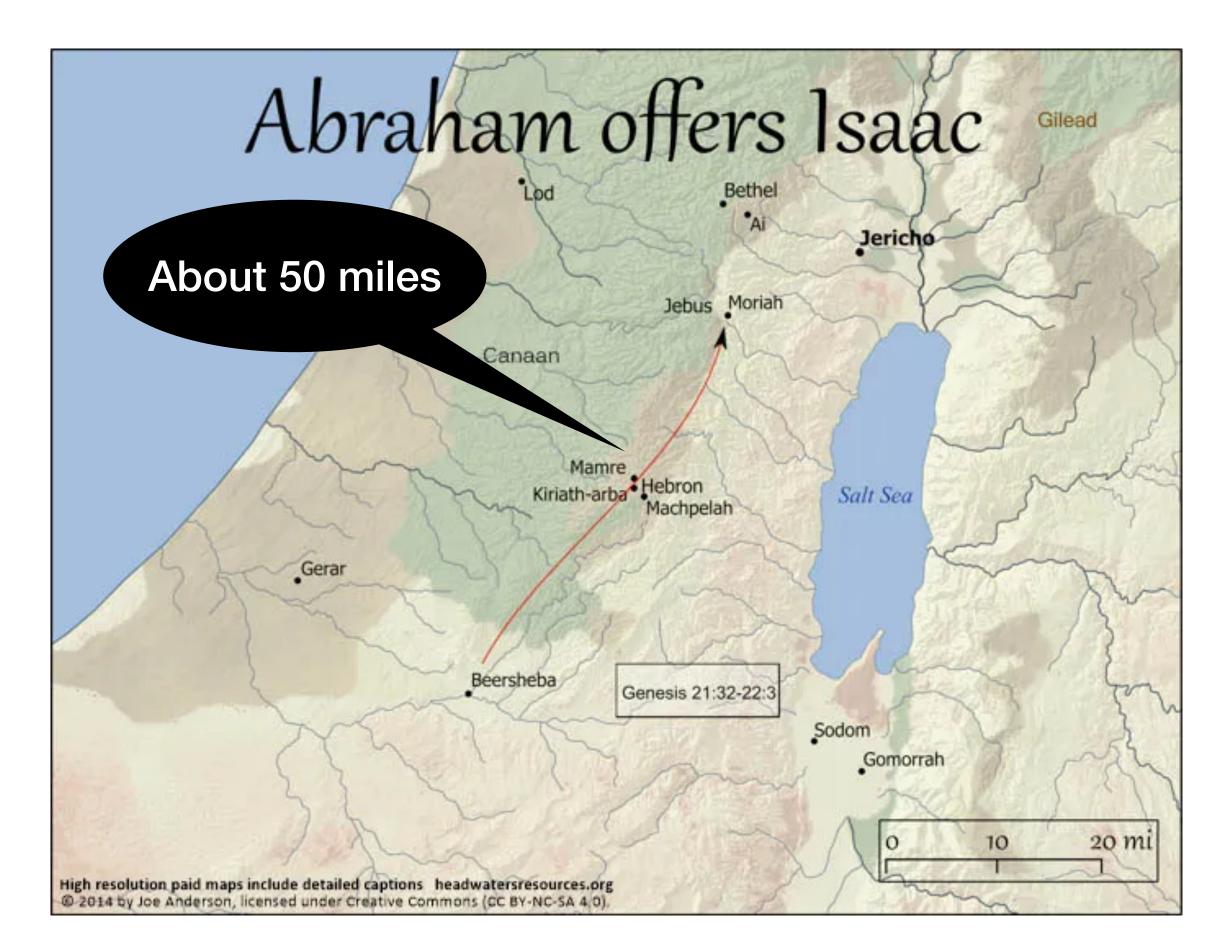
Mount Moriah

Beersheba -> Moriah (about 50 miles)



Mount Moriah

- Beersheba -> Moriah (about 50 miles)
- Significant location in the Bible

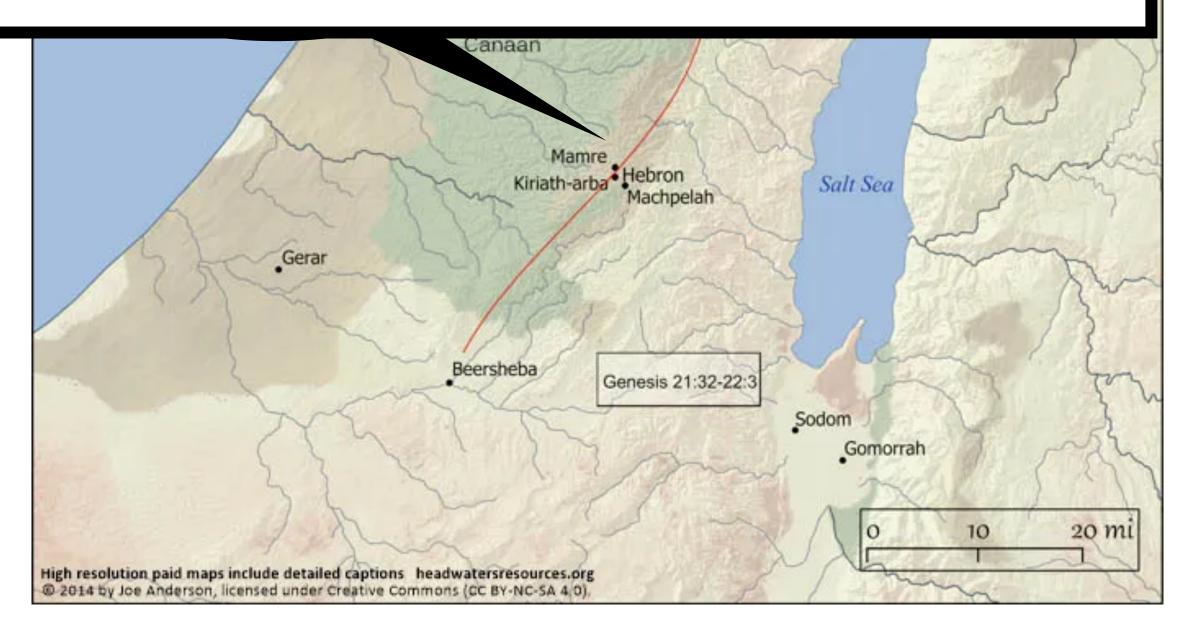


Then Solomon began to build the house of the LORD in Jerusalem on Mount Moriah, where the Lord had appeared to his father David, at the place that David had prepared on the threshing floor of Ornan the Jebusite.

(2 Chronicles 3:1, NASB95, emphasis mine)

Significant location in the Bible

Threshing floor of Araunah (Ornan)
 the Jebusite: King David build an altar
 to the LORD so that a "plague may be
 held back from the people"



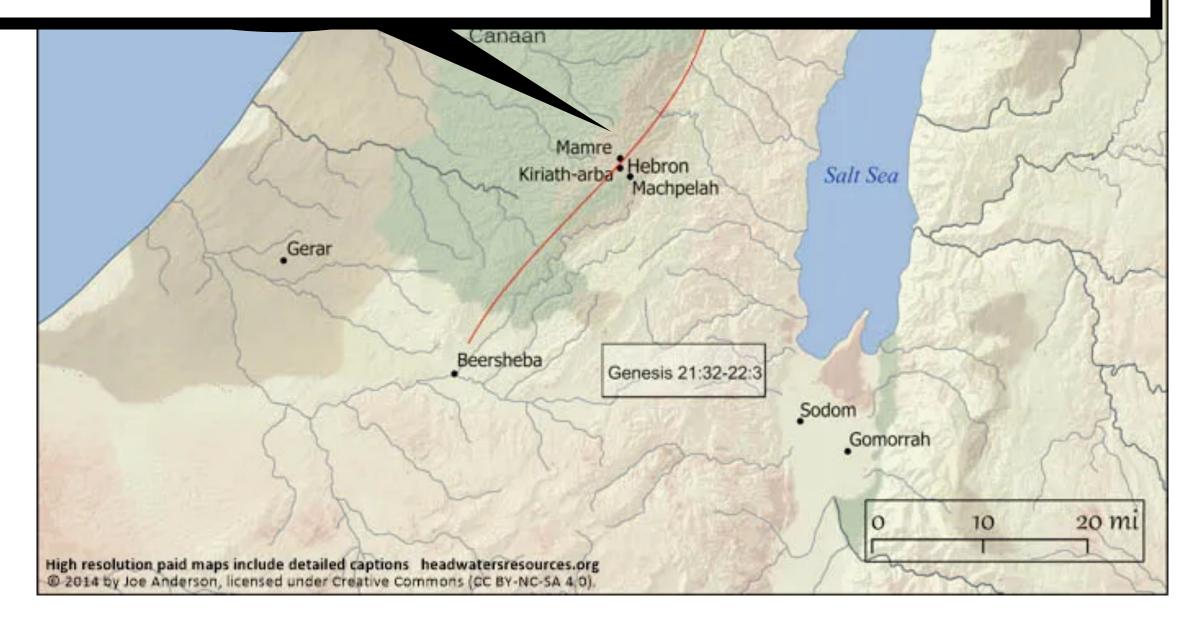
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King Solomon's temple



Mount Moriah

- Beersheba -> Moriah (about 50 miles)
- Significant location in the Bible
 - Threshing floor of Araunah (Ornan) the Jebusite: King David build an altar to the LORD so that a "plague may be held back from the people"
 - King Solomon's temple
 - King Herod's temple



Outline

Introduction/Background

- Abraham's Test Genesis 22:1-19
 - Observe
 - Interpret
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Genesis 22:1-19

Genesis 22:1-19

OBSERVE

What did God ask Abraham to do?

Genesis 22:1-19

OBSERVE

What did God ask Abraham to do?

He said, "Take now your son, your only son, whom you love, Isaac, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I will tell you. (Genesis 22:2, NASB95, emphasis mine)

Genesis 22:1-19

- What did God ask Abraham to do?
- What was the purpose of God's command?

Genesis 22:1-19

OBSERVE

- What did God ask Abraham to do?
- What was the purpose of God's command?

Now it came about after these things, that God tested Abraham, and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am."

(Genesis 22:1, NASB95, emphasis mine)

Genesis 22:1-19

- What did God ask Abraham to do?
- What was the purpose of God's command?
- When did Abraham act on God's command?

Genesis 22:1-19

OBSERVE

- What did God ask Abraham to do?
- What was the purpose of God's command?
- When did Abraham act on God's command?

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 wood for the burnt offering, and arose and went to the place of which God had told him.

(Genesis 22:3, NASB95, emphasis mine)

Genesis 22:1-19

Genesis 22:1-19

OBSERVE

Who traveled with Abraham?

Genesis 22:1-19

OBSERVE

Who traveled with Abraham?

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 wood for the burnt offering, and arose and went to the place of which God had told him.

(Genesis 22:3, NASB95, emphasis mine)

Genesis 22:1-19

- Who traveled with Abraham?
- How long did the journey take?

Genesis 22:1-19

OBSERVE

- Who traveled with Abraham?
- How long did the journey take?

On the third day Abraham raised his eyes and saw the place from a distance. (Genesis 22:4, NASB95, emphasis mine)

Genesis 22:1-19

- Who traveled with Abraham?
- How long did the journey take?
- As they arrived in Moriah, what did Abraham tell the servants?

Genesis 22:1-19

OBSERVE

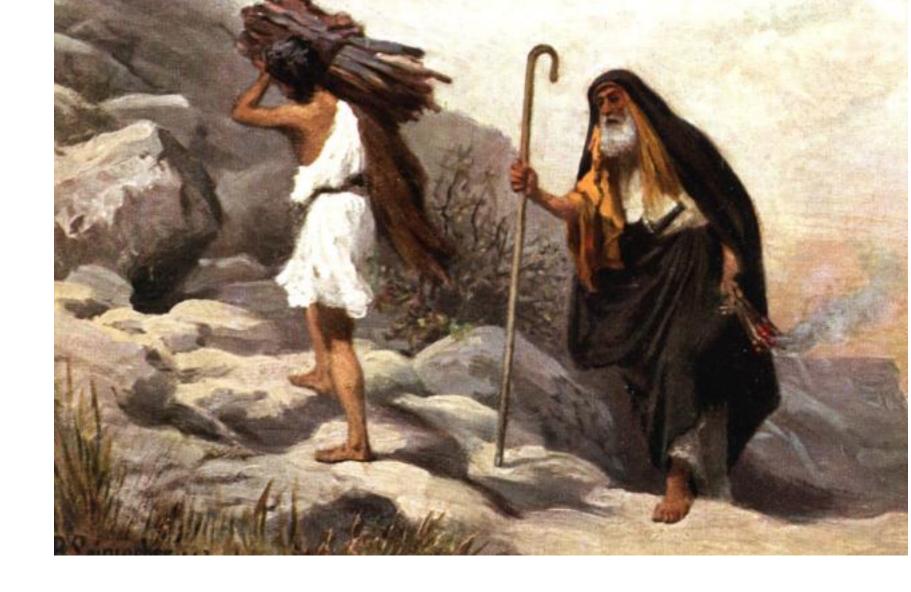
Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey, and I and the lad will go over there; and we will worship and return to you." (Genesis 22:5, NASB95)

As they arrived in Moriah, what did Abraham tell the servants?

Genesis 22:1-19

- Who traveled with Abraham?
- How long did the journey take?
- As they arrived in Moriah, what did Abraham tell the servants?

Genesis 22:1-19



Genesis 22:1-19

OBSERVE

What was taken to the sacrifice?



Genesis 22:1-19

OBSERVE

What was taken to the sacrifice?



Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son, and he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on together.

(Genesis 22:6, NASB95, emphasis mine)

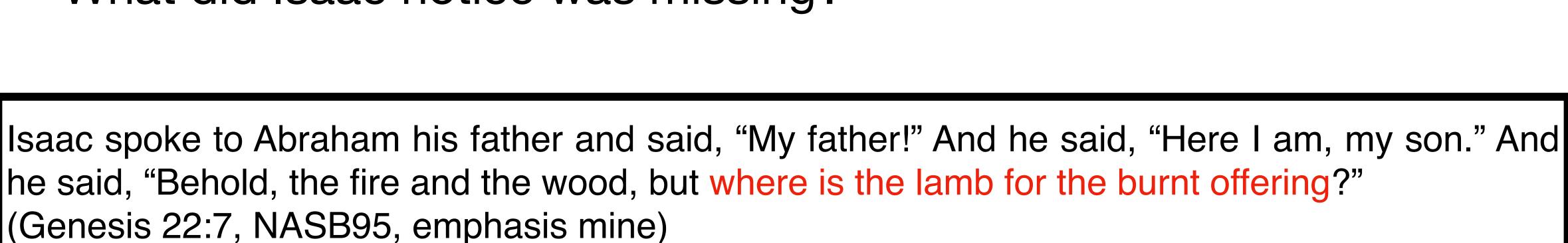
Genesis 22:1-19

- What was taken to the sacrifice?
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Genesis 22:1-19

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Genesis 22:1-19

OBSERVE

- What was taken to the sacrifice?
- What did Isaac notice was missing?
- In response to Isaac, how did Abraham express his faith in God's promise?

Abraham said, "God will provide for Himself the lamb for the burnt offering, my son." So the two of them walked on together.

(Genesis 22:8, NASB95, emphasis mine)



Genesis 22:1-19

- What was taken to the sacrifice?
- What did Isaac notice was missing?
- In response to Isaac, how did Abraham express his faith in God's promise?
- At what point did God intervene in the act of sacrificing?



Genesis 22:1-19

OBSERVE

What was taken to the sacrifice?



Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Do not stretch out your hand against the lad, and do nothing to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me." (Genesis 22:10-12, NASB95)

At what point did God intervene in the act of sacrificing?

Genesis 22:1-19

OBSERVE



Genesis 22:1-19

OBSERVE





Genesis 22:1-19

OBSERVE



How did God provide a replacement for the sacrifice?

Then Abraham raised his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him a ram caught in the thicket by his horns; and Abraham went and took the ram and offered him up for a burnt offering in the place of his son.

(Genesis 22:13, NASB95, emphasis mine)

Genesis 22:1-19

OBSERVE

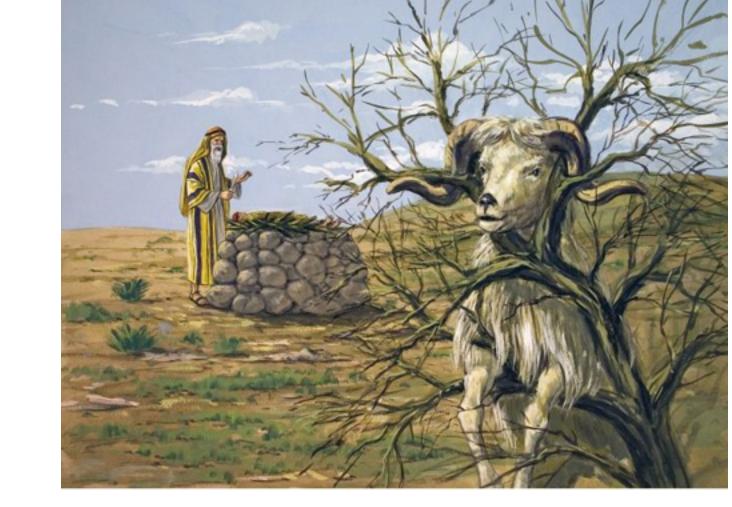


How did Abraham name the place of the sacrifice?



Genesis 22:1-19

OBSERVE



- How did God provide a replacement for the sacrifice?
- How did Abraham name the place of the sacrifice?

Abraham called the name of that place The LORD Will Provide, as it is said to this day, "In the mount of the LORD it will be provided."

(Genesis 22:14, NASB95, emphasis mine)

Genesis 22:1-19

OBSERVE



- How did Abraham name the place of the sacrifice?
- What phrase is repeated three times (v2, v12, v16)?



Genesis 22:1-19

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He said, "Do not stretch out your hand against the lad, and do nothing to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me." (Genesis 22:12, NASB95, emphasis mine)

Genesis 22:1-19

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- How did Abraham name the place of the sacrifice?
- What phrase is repeated three times (v2, v12, v16)?
- What did the angel of the LORD say to Abraham the second time?



Genesis 22:1-19

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Then the angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven, and said, "By Myself I have sworn, declares the LORD, because you have done this thing and have not withheld your son, your only son, indeed I will greatly bless you, and I will greatly multiply your seed as the stars of the heavens and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your seed shall possess the gate of their enemies. In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice."

(Genesis 22:15-18, NASB95, emphasis mine)

What did the angel of the LORD say to Abraham the second time?

Genesis 22:1-19

Genesis 22:1-19

INTERPRET

Why do you think God tested Abraham in this way (v1)?

Genesis 22:1-19

- Why do you think God tested Abraham in this way (v1)?
 - Reveal, strengthen and prove reality of Abraham's faith
 - Nothing that God did not already know (Omniscience)
 - Foreshadow Christ

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knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. And let endurance have *its* perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing. (James 1:3-4, NASB95)

Genesis 22:1-19

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 - Was God's command for Abraham to sacrifice Isaac unjust or cruel? How does this align with God's nature?

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- God does not endorse child sacrifice (Deut 12:31)
- Abraham trusted that God would preserve Isaac (Heb 11:17-19)
- God is the giver of life. He has the sovereign right to command life and death

Genesis 22:1-19

<u>INTERPRET</u>

- Why do you think God tested Abraham in this way (v1)?
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- What does Abraham's readiness to obey reveal about his faith?

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When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. (Luke 9:51, NASB95, emphasis mine)

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And He went a little beyond *them*, and fell on His face and prayed, saying, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; yet not as I will, but as You will." (Matthew 26:39, NASB95, emphasis mine)

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 - How does it foreshadow Jesus
- Why did Abraham say

- Faith in God's promise
- Knew that God would somehow intervene
- Somehow knew the principle of substitutionary sacrifice
- to the servants that Isaac and him would return after they worshipped (v5)?
- to Isaac that "God will provide for Himself the lamb for the burnt offering, my son." (v8)?

Genesis 22:1-19

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INTERPRET

How do you think Isaac might have felt during this event?

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- Probably confused and fearful
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Isaac spoke to Abraham his father and said, "My father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." And he said, "Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?" (Genesis 22:7, NASB95, emphasis mine)

Genesis 22:1-19

INTERPRET

- Bible doesn't record Isaac's emotions
- Probably confused and fearful
- Yet he did not appear to resist
- How do you think Isaac might have felt during this event?

Then they came to the place of which God had told him; and Abraham built the altar there and arranged the wood, and bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. (Genesis 22:9-10, NASB95)

Genesis 22:1-19

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For you have been called for this purpose, since Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example for you to follow in His steps, who committed no sin, nor was any deceit found in His mouth; and while being reviled, He did not revile in return; while suffering, He uttered no threats, but kept entrusting *Himself* to Him who judges righteously; (1 Peter 2:21-23, NASB95)

Genesis 22:1-19

INTERPRET

- How do you think Isaac might have felt during this event?
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He was oppressed and He was afflicted, Yet He did not open His mouth; Like a lamb that is led to slaughter, And like a sheep that is silent before its shearers, So He did not open His mouth. (Isaiah 53:7, NASB95)

Genesis 22:1-19

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- How do you think Isaac might have felt during this event?
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Then Jesus *said to him, "Put your sword back into its place; for all those who take up the sword shall perish by the sword. Or do you think that I cannot appeal to My Father, and He will at once put at My disposal more than twelve legions of angels?
(Matthew 26:52-53, NASB95)

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By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was offering up his only begotten *son*; *it was he* to whom it was said, "In Isaac you descendants shall be called." He considered that God is able to raise *people* even from the dead, from which he also received him back as a type.

(Hebrews 11:17-19, NASB95)

Genesis 22:1-19

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- How do you think Isaac might have felt during this event?
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The next day he *saw Jesus coming to him and *said, "Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! (John 1:29, NASB95, emphasis mine)

How does the ram caught in the thicket point to God's provision?

Genesis 22:1-19

<u>INTERPRET</u>

- How do you think Isaac might have felt during this event?
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and He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wounds you were healed.

- (1 Peter 2:24, NASB95, emphasis mine)
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Genesis 22:1-19

INTERPRET

- How do you think Isaac might have felt during this event?
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He made Him who knew no sin *to be* sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

(2 Corinthians 5:21, NASB95, emphasis mine)

How does the ram caught in the thicket point to God's provision?

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- What is the significance of the repeated phrase "your son, your only son"?

Genesis 22:1-19

- How do you think Isaac might have felt during this event?
- God knew how precious Isaac was to Abraham
- Foreshadowing Jesus (God's only Son) John 3:16, 1 John 4:9

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"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. (John 3:16, NASB95, emphasis mine)

 What is the significance of the repeated phrase "your son, your only son"?

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By this the love of God was manifested in us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world so that we might live through Him. (1John 4:9, NASB95, emphasis mine)

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Genesis 22:1-19

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INTERPRET

Why does Abraham name the place "The LORD will provide"?

Genesis 22:1-19

<u>INTERPRET</u>



Why does Abraham name the place "The LORD will provide"?

Genesis 22:1-19

- Why does Abraham name the place "The LORD will provide"?
 - God's gracious provision of substitute for Isaac
 - "WILL provide" not "DID provide" -> Anticipates future action
 - V14 "In the mount of the LORD it will be provided."

Genesis 22:1-19

- Why does Abraham name the place "The LORD will provide"?
- Why does God reaffirm His covenant with Abraham in v15-18?

Genesis 22:1-19

- Abraham's obedience confirmed His faith
- God's oath emphasizes the certainty of His promise
- Expansion of covenant blessings
- The Messianic promise
- Why does Abraham name the place "The LORD will provide"?
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Then the angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven, and said, "By Myself I have sworn, declares the LORD, because you have done this thing and have not withheld your son, your only son,

(Genesis 22:15-16, NASB95)

Genesis 22:1-19

INTERPRET

- Abraham's obedience confirmed His faith
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- The Messianic promise

When God made his promise to Abraham, since there was no one greater for him to swear by, he swore by himself, saying, "I will surely bless you and give you many descendants." (Hebrews 6:13-14, NASB95, emphasis mine)

Then the angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven, and said, "By Myself I have sworn, declares the LORD, because you have done this thing and have not withheld your son, your only son,

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indeed I will greatly bless you, and I will greatly multiply your seed as the stars of the heavens and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your seed shall possess the gate of their enemies. In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice."

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Now the promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. He does not say, "And to seeds," as *referring* to many, but *rather* to one, "And to your seed," that is, Christ. (Galatians 3:16, NASB95)

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Genesis 22:1-19

APPLY

- "The LORD will provide" How does knowing this about God affect the way we live?
- Trusting God involves surrendering what we hold dear. Do you struggle with this? What has helped you trust God more?
- How does being reminded of Christ's substitutionary atonement give you peace and assurance of your salvation? (If you have trusted in Christ's finished work)