

Text: Genesis 22:1-14

Meaning: Abraham went ALL IN by trusting God for the future

Big Idea: We go ALL IN when we trust God for the future

Objective: I want the hearers to sacrifice for God's future Kingdom

Theme:

Abraham – ALL IN FOR THE FUTURE

READ GENESIS 22:1-14

After all these things: What Things?

Isaac – Abraham's promised Son and only true heir. This is huge because God said through Abraham's lineage He would make a great nation of Abraham and all the nations of the earth would be blessed through His posterity. Isaac was the miracle child of Sarah and Abraham. God promised Abraham an heir, but Sarah was barren. But God told Sarah and Abraham when Sarah was later 80's and Abraham was late 90's they would conceive and she would bear a son. They laughed! One year later they conceived and Isaac was born. Isaac is the promised seed through which the Messiah would come. So, the Lord wants Abraham to sacrifice His own Son – sound familiar?!

Chiastic Structure of Genesis 22

Genesis 22 is what we refer to as a chiasm. A chiasm is simply a story that repeats. The first section of the passage is simply repeated in reverse order in the second section of the passage. The central point of a chiasm is the central idea being emphasized in the chiasm.

Central point of the Chiasm – Isaac's question and Abraham's answer in verses 7 and 8. Where is the lamb for the offering? God will provide for Himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son.

The whole point of the passage is that GOD WILL PROVIDE A LAMB.

On top of that – Hebrew is a VERB BASED language. In other words Hebrew sentences start typically with verbs and not nouns. Where we would say "Pastor Derek preached today." The Hebrew would read "Preached Pastor Derek today."

HOWEVER – HERE IN VERSE 8 ABRAHAM'S STATEMENT BEGINS WITH A NOUN – GOD! SO THE TEXT IS SAYING GOD WILL NOT ONLY PROVIDE THE LAMB, GOD HIMSELF IS THE LAMB!

John the Baptist cries "Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world" – the entire crowd would have immediately remembered Genesis 22!

MORIAH (Hebrew Tradition)

- God began the creation of the universe
- Dust of Moriah used to create Adam
- Place where Adam first offered sacrifices to God
- Abraham met Melchizedek, King of Salem
- Isaac would meet His bride

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Mt. Moriah – Jerusalem, Solomon's Temple, Golgotha

CREATION BEGAN – CREATION WAS REDEEMED
ADAM WAS MADE OF THE DUST OF THE GROUND – THE SECOND
ADAM'S BLOOD STAINED THE DUST TO SAVE MANKIND
WHERE THE FIRST SACRIFICE WAS GIVEN – THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE
WAS MADE

FATHER ABRAHAM OFFERED UP HIS ONE AND ONLY SON, GOD THE
FATHER OFFERED UP HIS ONE AND ONLY SON

CHRISTOLOGICAL PICTURE OF ISAAC

Isaac and Jesus both born miraculously
Both were only begotten sons

Both were to be sacrificed by their Fathers on Moriah/Golgotha
Both were to be resurrected on the third day
Both willingly took up the means of their execution
Both demonstrate that one life can be sacrificed for another – Ram for Isaac and Jesus for mankind

FIRST OCCURRENCE OF THE WORD FOR LOVE, Gen 22 – Ahavah in Hebrew. It's a reference to the Abraham's love for Isaac – a picture of the Father's love for His only begotten Son.

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GOD IS LOVE – we learn love directly from the Father!

GEN 22 AND GEN 12 – Faith without works is DEAD

Another interesting piece to the language of the passage is that in the Hebrew we have the exact same language used here for God's call to Abraham that was originally given to him in Genesis 12.

Gen 12 – The Lord called Abraham to go forth from your country and your family and go to a land that I will show you.

Gen 22 – The Lord calls Abraham to go from his family and his country to the land of Moriah to a mountain of which I will show you.

The underlying idea is that Gen 22 is the culmination of what began in Genesis 12. THE POINT IS THAT TRUE FAITH ENDURES, IT LASTS, IT WORKS.

James 2:21-23

²¹Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered up his son Isaac on the altar? ²²You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was completed by his works; ²³and 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.

GOD IS SOVEREIGN. HE ORCHESTRATES THE EVENTS OF THIS EARTH TO FULFILL HIS WILL AND PLAN.
GOD HAS A DEFINED DESTINY FOR YOUR LIFE AND MINE TODAY.

Here is what is so intriguing about that – We somehow still must choose to obey the Lord.

God's call for our lives is for us to GO ALL IN FOR HIM.

God TESTED ABRAHAM – God tests us to see if we are willing to GO ALL IN FOR HIM. TESTS REVEAL AS MUCH AS THEY PRODUCE. TESTS REVEAL THE FAITH THAT IS IN US AND STRENGTHEN OUR FAITH AT THE SAME TIME.

What we see in this passage is A FAITH THAT PASSES THE TEST

1. LEAVE THE FAMILIAR

2. LAY DOWN THE BLESSING

Provision always comes to the one who sacrifices.

The QUESTION NEVER IS THE FAITHFULNESS OF GOD. THE QUESTION ALWAYS IS THE FAITHFULNESS OF MAN. The question is not can God be trusted. The real question is CAN I BE TRUSTED WITH WHAT GOD HAS GIVEN ME?

WILL I LAY DOWN ISAAC ON THE ALTAR? WILL I LAY DOWN THAT WHICH IS MOST PRECIOUS TO ME SO THAT CHRIST CAN BE EXALTED IN MY LIFE AND OTHERS MAY BE RESCUED?

3. LIVE IN OBEDIENCE TO GOD

Delayed Obedience is Disobedience

Partial Obedience is Disobedience

Christ's resurrection is a picture also of the Christian life. What I let die for Christ's sake He will raise new and better.

Scarcity says – I can't lose something

Faith says – I want to gain something

Scarcity says – I don't have enough

Faith says – God owns it all

4. LOOK FOR A RESURRECTION

Hebrews 11:17 – Abraham was willing to offer up Isaac by faith believing that God was able even to raise him from the dead!