

Series: thriving in Faith

Title: The Test of Faith

Text: Gen 22:1-24

Faith: (Heb 11:1-2,6)

(Rom 4:11) Abraham is the Father of Faith

In Gen 12 we saw the Bedrock of Faith:

Faith is not rooted in human Will.

Faith is not rooted in human Works.

Faith is not rooted in human Wisdom.

The ROOT of Faith is the Word of God.

(Rom 10:17) *Faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God.*

The REQUIREMENT of Faith is to Obey God.

The REWARD of Faith is Receiving God's Promises.

By Faith man gives God Pleasure.

Through Faith God gives man Treasure.

(Gen 13) we saw How to recover after Fumbling our Faith: Return to God (Repentance & Confession)

(Gen 14-15) we saw how Faith gives us the Victory over the World, the Flesh, and the Devil:

(Gen 16-17) we saw how Covenants require Faith.

(Gen 18:1-15) We saw that Faith allows us to extend beyond our shortcomings and for us to experience the GOD POSSIBLE!

(Gen 18:16-31) We saw Abraham Intercede by Faith

To go to God on the behalf of another by Faith.

To see God respond to our faith on the behalf of someone else.

(Gen 22) We see the Test of Faith

Satan tempts us to bring out the WORST in us.

God allows our faith to be tested to bring out the BEST in us. - (James 1:1-2,12)

The most Severe tests are accompanied by the Greatest Blessings.

(Gen 22:1-19)

The Practical Test of Faith: *Faith that cannot be Tested, is a Faith that cannot be Trusted.*

(Gen 22:1-2)

God didn't want Isaac's Life!

God Wanted Abraham's Heart!

Abraham had waited 24 years for Isaac to be born.

Isaac was dear to him.

So much so, he had sent his other son, Ishmael away.

It was possible that Abraham was trusting in Isaac to fulfill the promises, instead of God.

Didn't God know? Yes, but Abraham didn't!

What has your heart?

How do you know it has your heart?

By how bad it hurts when it is taken away!

What has it's hooks in you?

What do you have that REALLY HAS YOU????

God knows, but we don't, so testing teaches us.

How would Abraham go through this test?

He had waited 13 years for his birth!

He had enjoyed 14 years of fellowship!

How would Abraham go through this test?

By Resting in God's Promises to him.

(Heb 11:17-19) *By faith Abraham, when he was tried, offered up Isaac: and he that had received the promises offered up his only begotten son, 18 Of whom it was said, That in Isaac shall thy seed be called: 19*

Accounting that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead; *from whence also he received him in a figure.*

(Gen 12:2) *“And I will make of thee a great nation”*

(Gen 13:16) *And I will make thy seed as the dust of the earth: so that if a man can number the dust of the earth, then shall thy seed also be numbered.*

(Gen 15:5) *Look now toward heaven, and tell the stars, if thou be able to number them: and he said unto him, So shall thy seed be.*

God Promised, Abraham Believed.

(Gen 15:6) *And he believed in the LORD; and he counted it to him for righteousness.*

Abraham knew God would fulfill His promise by Isaac, whether he lived, or was resurrected.

The Bedrock of Faith is the Word of God!

“Never doubt in the Dark what God told you in the Light!”

(Gen 22:3) Abraham obeyed Immediately.

What is it that God is not aloud to take away and you still obey?

You don't own it, IT OWNS You!

This was a Practical Test of Faith: *Faith that cannot be Tested, is a Faith that cannot be Trusted.*

This was a Pictorial Test of Faith:

This is story is a Picture of Christ and His Sacrifice in Our Place.

Both Jesus & Isaac were the Promised Sons.

Both Jesus & Isaac were Miraculously Born.

Both Jesus & Isaac were Born at a Set Time. Gen 18:14

Both Jesus & Isaac were persecuted by their Brethren.

Both Jesus & Isaac brought Joy to their Father.

Both Jesus & Isaac were accompanied by 2 men.

Both Jesus & Isaac questioned their father. (Gen 22:7)

“My God, My God, why hast thou forsaken me?”

Both Jesus & Isaac were Obedient unto death.

Both Jesus & Isaac were raised from the dead.

Isaac figuratively: (Heb 11:19) *Accounting that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead; from whence also he received him **in a figure.***

Christ Literally: (1 Cor 15:3-6) *For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; 4 And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures: 5 And that he was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve: 6 After that, he was seen of above five hundred brethren at once; of whom the greater part remain unto this present, but some are fallen asleep.*

(Gen 22:19) Abraham returns to his servants with no mention of Isaac till Ch 24 where he is receiving his bride.

Jesus too, has returned to His Father's home in heaven and is waiting to receive His Bride, The Local Church at the Rapture.

(Rom 15:4) *For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.*

(John 5:39) *Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.*

This was a Practical Test of Faith:
This was a Pictorial Test of Faith:

The was a Prophetic Test of Faith:

(Gen 22:1-3) He walked 3 days to get there.

(Gen 22:5) *A Place of Worship -*

(2 Chron 3:1) The Temple would be build.

(Gen 22:7-8) God would provide the Lamb!

(John 1:29) *“Behold the lamb of God which ...”*

A Substitute was provided: (Gen 22:13) *And Abraham lifted up his eyes, and looked, and behold behind him a ram caught in a thicket by his horns: and Abraham went and took the ram, and offered him up for a burnt offering in the stead of his son.*

“IT SHALL BE SEEN” - Prophetic

(Gen 22:14) *And Abraham called the name of that place Jehovahjireh: as it is said to this day, In the mount of the LORD it shall be seen.*

(John 8:56) *Your father Abraham rejoiced to see my day: and he saw it, and was glad.*

(John 14:6) *I am the way, the truth, and th life, no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.*

This was a Prophetic Test of Faith:

This was a Practical Test of Faith: *a faith that can't be tested is a faith that cannot be trusted!*

This was a Pictorial Test of Faith: *Lamb-ship Typology*

This was a Prophetic Test of Faith: *“It shall be seen”*

This was a Proposed Test of Faith: *God's plan & purpose for the ages is demonstrated here!*

Substitution has always been the Father's Plan:

Gen 3:21 "Coats of Skins"

Gen 22:13 "Ram caught in the thicket"

Ex 12:22-23 "Passover Lamb"

Heb 13:11-12 "Jesus paid our sin debt in blood"

The Choice is left up to us! (John 3:16-19)

(Gen 22:11-12, 15-16)

True faith is always Proved by Obedience.

Abraham **WAS NOT** saved when he offered Isaac.

Abraham **WAS** saved years before when He believed God.

(Gen 15:6) *And he believed in the LORD; and he counted it to him for righteousness.*

(James 1:21-23) *Was not Abraham our father justified by works, when he had offered Isaac his son upon the altar? 22 Seest thou how faith wrought with his works, and by works was faith made perfect? 23 And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the Friend of God.*

We are not saved by Works, We are saved by Faith.

(Rom 4:1-5*)

(Is 64:6) *Filthy Rags*

I will keep the 10 commandments!

How is that going?

(James 2:10) *For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.*

(Gal 3:6) *Even as Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.*

(Rom 4:11) *... that he might be the father of all them that believe,...*

This was a Practical Test of Faith: *a faith that can't be tested is a faith that cannot be trusted!*

What has your heart?

How do you know it has your heart?

By how bad it hurts when it is taken away!

What has it's hooks in you?

What do you have that REALLY HAS YOU????

God knows, but we don't, so testing teaches us.

This was a Pictorial Test of Faith: *Lamb-ship Typology.*

Is your Faith in the Bible as a religion or in Jesus, your Substitute?

This was a Prophetic Test of Faith: **Jesus of Nazareth is the only fulfillment of God's Types/ picture.**

This was a Proposed Test of Faith: *God's plan & purpose for the ages is demonstrated here!*

Substitution has always been the Father's Plan: