

Rosh Hashanah

The Akedah—The “Binding” of Isaac

(Genesis 22:1-18)

A. The *Command* to Sacrifice (22:1-2)

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

² 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.”

B. The *Compliance* of Abraham (22:3-6)

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

⁴ On the third day **Abraham** raised his eyes
and saw the **place** from a **distance**.

⁵ **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.**”

⁶ **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**.

C. The *Concern* of Isaac (22:7-8)

⁷ **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?**”

⁸ **Abraham** said, “**God will provide** for Himself
the **lamb** for the **burnt offering**, my **son.**”
So the **two** of them **walked on together**.

D. The *Call* from Heaven (22:9-12)

⁹ 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**.

¹⁰ **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!**" And he said, "**Here I am.**"

¹² 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**."

E. The "*Catching*" of a Substitute (22:13-14)

¹³ 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.

¹⁴ **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**."

F. The *Confirmation* of the Covenant (22:15-18)

¹⁵ Then the **angel of the LORD** called to **Abraham** a second time from **heaven**,

¹⁶ 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**,

¹⁷ 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**.

¹⁸ **In your seed** all the nations of the **earth** shall be blessed, because **you** have obeyed My voice."

Reflecting on the Akedah

→ To many Jews, the Akedah is a topic with much Controversy
(The Problem of the Akedah in Jewish thought - *Quote*)

→ To Believers, the Akedah serves as Confirmation

As **believers** we have both **confirmation** and **comfort**, as we see that **God** had a **greater purpose** regarding the **Akedah**, then being just a *test* of **Abraham's faith**.

The **Akedah** is also a “**type**” of that which **was to come**. Although **Abraham** was prevented by **God** from actually **sacrificing his son Isaac**, we believe this to be a *prophetic picture* of the **Father (God) delivering His Son (Messiah)** to be a **sacrifice** that would “**take away the sin of the world** (John 1:29).”

In comparing **Mt. Moriah** to “**Mt. Calvary**” we see:

A. **Abraham** as a “**type**” of **God the Father**→

1. *Who* loves **His Son** (John 3:35), as did **Abraham** (Gen. 22:2)
2. *Who*, like **Abraham**, “did not **spare His own Son**, but **delivered Him** over for **us all**” (Romans 8:32)

B. **Isaac** as a “**type**” of **Messiah**→

1. *Who* was the “**only Son**” of *His Father* (22:2) (John 3:16)
2. *Who* was to be **offered** as a **sacrifice** (22:2) (Col. 1:19-20, Heb. 10:10-14)
3. *Who*, like **Isaac**, was **obedient** unto **death** (22:7-9) (Phil. 2:8)
4. *Who* was **raised from the dead** (I Cor. 15:3-4), **fulfilling** that which **Isaac typified**—being “**raised from death**” back to his **father (Abraham)** (Heb. 11:17-19)

A **Closing Look** at the **Faith** of **Abraham**

A. **Abraham's Training** in **Faith**

By **faith** **Abraham**, when he **was called**, **obeyed** by **going out** to a **place** which he was to receive for **an inheritance**; and **he went out**, **not knowing where** he was going.

By **faith** he lived as **an alien** in the **land of promise**, as in a **foreign land**, dwelling in **tents** with **Isaac** and **Jacob**, **fellow heirs** of the **same promise**; (**Hebrews 11:8-9**)

B. **Abraham's True Test** of **Faith**—The **Akedah**

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

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 22:1-2)

C. Abraham's *Triumph* of Faith

1. His *Personal Trust*

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."

He considered that **God is *able*** to **raise *men*** even from the **dead**, from which **he** also **received him back as a type**.
(Hebrews 11:17-19)

2. His *Praise* from God

He (God) 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**."
(Gen. 22::12)

3. His *Promise* of Blessing Affirmed

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**,...

In your seed all the **nations** of the **earth** shall **be blessed**, because you have **obeyed My voice**." (Gen. 22:15-18)

D. Abraham's *Testimony* of Faith

For what does the **Scripture** say?

"ABRAHAM BELIEVED GOD,
AND IT WAS ***CREDITED TO HIM AS RIGHTEOUSNESS.***"
(Romans 4:3)

Closing Comments