

FINAL STUDY NOTES - GENESIS CHAPTERS 21 & 22

6/25-26/2024

CLASSROOM LOCATION AND ZOOM – SIGN IN INFORMATION:

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PLEASE NOTE WE WILL CONTINUE TO NEED A PASSCODE TO JOIN THE ONLINE (ZOOM) STUDY!

MONDAY 7 PM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 PM DAYLIGHT SAVING Time (US and Canada)
THE MONDAY NIGHT STUDY WILL BE MEETING ON ZOOM ONLY UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE!

MEETING ID# - 87858644763 Passcode: 087484

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TUESDAY 7 AM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 AM DAYLIGHT SAVING Time (US and Canada).

- Beginning Tuesday, June 4, 2024, TUES MORNING MTG PLACE:
- 1201 KEY WEST, CORONA DEL MAR (shown as 1201 KW, Corona del Mar, CA 92625) on Global Positioning System (GPS) in automobiles. For driving directions from your starting point, Suggest using *WAZE* (waze.com/live-map) or *MapQuest* (mapquest.com),
- AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!

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OPENING PRAYER

Genesis Chapter 21 – Isaac is Born; Hagar and Ishmael Depart; A Covenant with Abimelech – Genesis Chapter 22 – Abraham’s Faith Confirmed! The Family of Nahor!

The Birth of Isaac

Gen 21:1 And the LORD visited Sarah as He had said, and the LORD did for Sarah as He had spoken.

- **I like this first verse of the twenty-first chapter. It has a ring to it I just love.** It resonates with something within my own heart. That's so much like God. He did as He said. He did it as He had spoken. So He *visited Sarah as He had said, and the LORD did for Sarah as He had spoken*.
- **God had promised through Sarah your seed shall be called.** Sarah was past the age of bearing children. She had gone through the menopause. Abraham, his own body a hundred years old, was as good as dead. Sarah's womb was dead. Yet God promised *through Sarah your seed shall be called*.

Gen 21:2 *For Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age, at the set time of which God had spoken to him.*

- **So at that time that God said, He brought it to pass. There is a set time with God** for all things and God, because He deals with the eternal, has all kinds of patience waiting for that set time. Because I deal with the temporal, I have all kinds of problems waiting for that set time, and I so often am trying to speed up God's clock. I'm trying to hasten God's program. I'm trying to do things before God's set time, and that is a mistake we often make not waiting upon God for His set time, but jumping ahead, moving before God moves.

Gen 21:3 *And Abraham called the name of his son who was born to him—whom Sarah bore to him—Isaac.*

- **That is an appropriate name, Isaac, meaning laughter! For when God said to Abraham when he was a hundred years old,** I'm going to give you a son by Sarah. Abraham laughed for joy really. Being strong in the faith, he gave glory to God. The laughter of Abraham was the laughter of joy. Later on, when the Lord was again talking to Abraham about the son in his tent and Sarah was hiding behind the tent flap and the angel said again to Abraham, "Sarah shall bear a son," she laughed. Her laugh was that of incredulity, of unbelief. The angel sort of rebuked her. They both laughed at the prospect of having a son, so you might as well name him laughter.

Gen 21:4 *Then Abraham circumcised his son Isaac when he was eight days old, as God had commanded him.*

- **That he might become one of the covenant people with God—circumcision,** according to the commandment of God.

Gen 21:5 *Now Abraham was one hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him.*

Gen 21:6 *And Sarah said, "God has made me laugh, and all who hear will laugh with me."*

Gen 21:7 *She also said, "Who would have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse children? For I have borne him a son in his old age."*

- **God really restored this gal, not only was she able to have Isaac,** but she was able to nurse him. Here she is over ninety years old nursing her baby boy!
- **For I have borne him a son in his old age. The Lord really rejuvenated Abraham too,** because when Sarah died, Abraham was a hundred and thirty-seven years old. Abraham, after the death of Sarah, remarried a woman by the name of Keturah, had six other children by her. So God really rejuvenated him.

God Protects Hagar and Ishmael

Gen 21:8 *So the child grew and was weaned. And Abraham made a great feast on the same day that Isaac was weaned.*

- **Children were usually weaned at the age of two or three years old.** They would nurse them for a long time. So when the child was weaned, they decided to have a big feast. They celebrated the fact that they are going to wean Isaac now. So the big feast in celebration!

Gen 21:9 *And Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, scoffing (mocking, laughing at).*

- **Who at this time was probably fifteen or sixteen years old.** He was thirteen years older than Isaac. Sarah saw this teenage son, Ishmael laughing or mocking, scoffing. He is not the center of attention anymore.

Gen 21:10 *Therefore she said to Abraham, "Cast out this bondwoman and her son; for the son of this bondwoman shall not be heir with my son, namely with Isaac."*

Gen 21:11 *And the matter was very displeasing in Abraham's sight because of his son.*

Gen 21:12 But God said to Abraham, "Do not let it be displeasing in your sight because of the lad or because of your bondwoman. Whatever Sarah has said to you, listen to her voice; for in Isaac your seed shall be called.

- **Abraham had listened to the voice of Sarah and that was really the cause** for Ishmael existing. God promised to give to Abraham seed as the *stars of heaven*. Abraham believed God, and the very next thing Sarah said, "Well, look I'm not going to be able to do it. Why don't you take my handmaiden Hagar? Go in and let her conceive and take the child as mine." But as soon as Hagar was pregnant, there came jealousy between Hagar and Sarah. There came a friction that never did leave.
- **That all happened, though, because Abraham listened to Sarah.** Later she got mad at him for the child that was born, but it was her suggestion that it all took place. Now this time Sarah is saying get rid of *this bondwoman!* Cast that kid out of here! Abraham loved Ishmael. It really was a disquieting thing to him to have to cast her out, but God spoke and said, listen to your wife Sarah, and do what she says.

Gen 21:13 Yet I will also make a nation of the son of the bondwoman, because he is your seed.

- **God promises that He will take care of him.** He will make a nation out of him because he is Abraham's child. Now as he is to be cast out, God said, "I'll still make a nation of him, but Isaac is the one."
- **In Galatians chapter 4, Paul quotes this experience of Sarah** saying, "**CAST OUT THE BONDWOMAN AND HER SON.**" Paul brings an interesting parallel between the child of the law and the child of the Spirit, or the child of faith. We are to live after the Spirit! We are to walk after the Spirit. It is by the Spirit that we become heirs of God, and the son of the bondwoman shall not be an heir with the child of faith, the child of the Spirit! Each of us in our lives always have those choices whether or not we are going to live after the flesh or live after the Spirit.
- ***Which choice does my life reflect? Living after the flesh or after the Spirit?***

Gen 21:14 So Abraham rose early in the morning, and took bread and a skin of water; and putting it on her shoulder, he gave it and the boy to Hagar, and sent her away. Then she departed and of Beersheba.

- ***She wandered in the Wilderness.*** The word is really, "she became lost." Abraham, no doubt had given her enough water to get her to a place of civilization or a city or community where she could have actually lived.

Gen 21:15 And the water in the skin was used up, and she placed the boy under one of the shrubs.

Gen 21:16 Then she went and sat down across from him at a distance of about a bowshot; for she said to herself, "Let me not see the death of the boy." So she sat opposite him, and lifted her voice and wept.

- **It must have been a difficult experience for Hagar.** She is sort of a victim of circumstances. It was hard on Abraham, but Sarah is insisting that this child not be around to be an heir with her son. So, he sends her away and now the boy is dying and she sits and weeps.

Gen 21:17 And God heard the voice of the lad. Then the angel of God called to Hagar out of heaven, and said to her, "What ails you, Hagar? Fear not, for God has heard the voice of the lad where he is.

- **Notice, the angel of God.** Up until this point we have been dealing with the angel of Jehovah. The name Jehovah is really the covenant name of God to Israel. Probably the same angel, but Hagar is outside of the covenant. The son of the bondwoman will not be heir with the son of the Spirit. So it is now called the angel of Elohim, the God over all.
- ***God has heard the voice of the lad where he is.*** Ishmael apparently was also praying. God had allowed them to come to the point where they could no longer endure in their own strength and would have to depend on Him. Most likely that was His purpose all along, that they, like Abraham, might learn to trust Him! (*Heb 5:7*) who, in the days of His flesh, when He had offered up prayers and supplications, with vehement cries and tears to Him who was able to save Him from death, and was heard because of His godly fear. He hears you and He hears me when we pray to Him!

Gen 21:18 Arise, li ft up the lad and hold him with your hand, for I will make him a great nation.

- He later had twelve sons, and thus, twelve tribes came from him.

Gen 21:19 Then God opened her eyes, and she saw a well of water. And she went and filled the skin with water, and gave the lad a drink.

Gen 21:20 So God was with the lad; and he grew and dwelt in the wilderness, and became an archer.

Gen 21:21 He dwelt in the Wilderness of Paran; and his mother took a wife for him from the land of Egypt.

A Treaty with Abimelech

Gen 21:22 And it came to pass at that time that Abimelech and Phichol, the commander of his army, spoke to Abraham, saying, God is with you in all that you do.

- Does my life reflect that?

Gen 21:23 Now therefore, swear to me by God that you will not deal falsely with me, with my offspring, or with my posterity; but that according to the kindness that I have done to you, you will do to me and to the land in which you have dwelt."

Gen 21:24 And Abraham said, "I will swear."

- Abimelech is the Philistine king that was told by Abraham when he came into his territory that Sarah is my sister," Abimelech took her into the harem. This is the same Abimelech that now, watching Abraham as he lived in the area, recognized that the hand of God was upon him. Abimelech saw that God was with Abraham and that God was blessing him. He probably heard of the miracle of the birth of this child. God said to him of Abraham, "*He is a prophet.*" So Abraham swore that he would not deal falsely.

Gen 21:25 Then Abraham rebuked Abimelech because of a well of water which Abimelech's servants had seized.

- Then Abraham took advantage of the situation to bring up a sore point, because his servants dug a well and the men of Abimelech had come by force and taken the well away.

Gen 21:26 And Abimelech said, "I do not know who has done this thing; you did not tell me, nor had I heard of it until today."

Gen 21:27 So Abraham took sheep and oxen and gave them to Abimelech, and the two of them made a covenant.

- Now Abraham is giving some of them back to him.

Gen 21:28 And Abraham set seven ewe lambs of the flock by themselves.

- Abimelech said, "What in the world is that all about?"

Gen 21:29 Then Abimelech asked Abraham, "What is the meaning of these seven ewe lambs which you have set by themselves?"

Gen 21:30 And he said, "You will take these seven ewe lambs from my hand, that they may be my witness that I have dug this well."

- So every time you see those ewe lambs, you'll know that I was the one that dug that well.

Gen 21:31 Therefore he called that place Beersheba, because the two of them swore an oath there.

- Beersheba can mean "the well of oath," or "swearing," or "seven wells." Sheba is seven in Hebrew, and it is also the word for an oath or swearing. Both meanings are correct.

Gen 21:32 Thus they made a covenant at Beersheba. So Abimelech rose with Phichol, the commander of his army, and they returned to the land of the Philistines.

Gen 21:33 Then Abraham planted a tamarisk tree (possibly, a grove of trees) in Beersheba, and there called on the name of the LORD, the Everlasting God.

- The LORD, the Everlasting God. This is the first mention of the everlasting God, El Elyon, the everlasting God. We need to be calling on the name of the LORD, don't we?

Gen 21:34 And Abraham stayed in the land of the Philistines many days.

The Sacrifice of Isaac; Abraham's Faith Confirmed

Gen 22:1 Now it came to pass after these things (25-30 years later) that God tested Abraham, and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am."

- **God tested Abraham!** – Notice this coming portion of Scripture will describe *a test* that God is giving Abraham! It will be **a test** of Abraham's faith, obedience, and submission! Abraham has known of God's tremendous promises to him. One of the big ones was in (*Gen 21:12c*) *for in Isaac your seed shall be called!*

Gen 22:2 *Then He said, "Take now your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love (first use), and go to the land of Moriah (Jerusalem area), and offer him there as a burnt offering (6X) on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you."*

- **Take now your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love.** Love is probably one of the most important words in the Bible, and interestingly enough, **this is the first time the word** is found in the Bible.
- **There is a study of the Bible that takes the first use of the word in the Bible**, as setting the pattern for the use of the word throughout the Bible. So in the law of first mention, this is an important thing! The first mention of the word *love* in the Bible is interestingly enough the love of a father for his son. We hear a lot of mother love, but the first mention of love in the Bible is not of a mother for her child, a husband for his wife, but it is of the father for his son! **Take now your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love.**
- **Here God does not recognize Ishmael**, who was the work of the flesh. God refused to recognize him, because of the work of the flesh. He is not the child of promise. He isn't the work of God, the work of the Spirit. He is the work of the flesh. So God doesn't acknowledge him, but acknowledges the work of the Spirit in Isaac.
- **We often are guilty of trying to offer to God the works of our flesh, wanting** God to accept them. God will not accept the works of your flesh! So much of our efforts for God is our endeavor in the flesh. That is one of the weaknesses and the problems of the church today. We are endeavoring in the ability and the energy of the flesh to do the work of the Spirit!
- **Go to the land of Moriah, the area of Jerusalem.** Abraham is living down near Beersheba, about forty-five miles away. You made ten to fifteen miles a day walking, maybe by donkey, and so it was a good, three-day journey.
- **Offer him there as a burnt offering.** God was testing Abraham, demanding the sacrifice of his only, beloved son, as a proof and attestation of his faith. The issue shows, that God did not desire the sacrifice of Isaac by slaying, burning him upon the altar, but his complete surrender, and a willingness to offer him up to God even by death! Nevertheless the divine command was given in such a form, that Abraham could not understand it in any other way than as requiring an outward burnt-offering, because there was no other way in which Abraham could accomplish the complete surrender of Isaac, other than by an actual preparation for really offering the desired sacrifice!
- **Notice the perfect clarity involved in God's test of Abraham!**

Gen 22:3 *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 the wood for the burnt offering, and arose and went to the place of which God had told him.*

- **Young men.** The Hebrew word translated here *young men* is the same word that is translated *lad* for Isaac. So, he was about the same age as these young servants that Abraham took, probably in their twenties or early thirties. *He took two of his young men with him.*

Gen 22:4 *Then on the third day Abraham lifted his eyes and saw the place afar off.*

- **Paul speaks in (1Co 15:3-4)** *For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: 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.* That is the gospel he preached to them, speaking of it as being really from the Old Testament.
- **Where in the Old Testament does it say that He would be raised again on the third day?** As I look at the Old Testament, this must be the reference to which Paul was referring. For three days, as they journeyed, Isaac was as dead in the mind of his father, Abraham! Pondering this dilemma, he could not understand what was going on. He could not understand the command of God.
- **The third day! Do we see the many types, signs, pointing us to Jesus Christ?**

- **He saw a real dilemma, God's dilemma.** God had said through Isaac your seed shall be called. Isaac didn't have any children. He was not yet married. So the seed has to come through Isaac, and yet God is saying, (*Gen 22:2b*) offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you." So how can then Isaac have seed? The only way he can is for God to raise him from the dead! In (*Heb 11:17-19*) By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises offered up his only begotten son, [18] of whom it was said, "IN ISAAC YOUR SEED SHALL BE CALLED," [19] concluding that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead, from which he also received him in a figurative sense. It was a figure and earnest of the glorious resurrection of all true believers, whose life is not lost, but hidden with Christ in God!
- **So Abraham is going in faith, the faith in the promise of God that through Isaac your seed shall be called!** God You've got a problem. I don't know how You are going to solve it, but that's Your problem.

Gen 22:5 And Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the lad and I will go yonder and worship, and we will come back to you."

- *The lad and I will go yonder and worship* (first mention). **This is the first mention of worship in the Bible, which literally means "to bow down."** It is a reference to the bowing down of my will to God! That is what God looks at, as worship. When I bow down my will to God, my worshipping Him. That is what worshipping God is all about!
- ***How much of when I worship God, is truly worship?***
- Abraham is saying, "We're going to go up to that mountain and we're going to bow down our will to God." I'm bowing down to God's will, going up to bow down, to surrender to the will of God. We will go. We will worship. We will bow down and we will come again. **We will come!** The word *come* is a plural verb, so it is we will come again, back to you!

Gen 22:6 So Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son; and he took the fire in his hand, and a knife, and the two of them went together.

- *So Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering, and he laid it on Isaac his son*, even as Jesus when they put the cross upon Him and He bore it towards Golgotha.
- ***The Father-Son! Laid the wood on the Son! Again, pointing us to Jesus, to the cross! Lord, help me to see Jesus on every page of the Bible!***

Gen 22:7 But Isaac spoke to Abraham his father and said, "My father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." Then he said, "Look, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?"

Gen 22:8 And Abraham said, "My son, God will provide for Himself (will provide Himself a lamb – KJV) the lamb for a burnt offering." So the two of them went together.

- ***God will provide Himself!*** The KJV translation, "God will provide Himself," may be a better translation than the NKJV, "God will provide for Himself" This is a prophecy of Abraham concerning Jesus Christ, God the Son, who was provided as a lamb, slain for our sins. (*1Pe 1:18-19*) knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, [19] but as a lamb without blemish and without spot. As John cried, (*Joh 1:29b*) Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! God will provide Himself a lamb for the burnt offering! What a marvelous prophecy!
- ***God will provide Himself the lamb for a burnt offering! Again, pointing us to Jesus, to the cross, on Golgotha, on this very spot, 2,000 years later! Do we understand that? Do we really believe that?***

Gen 22:9 Then they came to the place of which God had told him. And Abraham built an altar there and placed the wood in order; and he bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, upon the wood.

- *He bound Isaac his son and laid him* (who totally submitted!) *on the altar!* Isaac is no longer a child at this point. He likely is twenty-five, thirty, possibly even thirty-three years old. The next advent that we read about is the death of Sarah, and Isaac was about thirty-seven when his mother died. His father is now about 130 thirty years old. Surely, Isaac could have overpowered his dad! But like Jesus, he submitted to his father! He allowed his father to place him on the altar!

- Even as Jesus, in going to the cross, submitted to the will of the Father. He could have escaped it. In the garden He prayed, " (Luk 22:42) saying, "Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done.
- ***Thy will be done! The Son submitting to the Father's will! Here Isaac submitting to Abraham; like Jesus submitting to His Father's will! As His son, how totally submitted am I to my Father's will?***
- When the soldiers came to arrest Him and Peter pulled out his sword and began to swing away, (Joh 18:11) So Jesus said to Peter, "Put your sword into the sheath. Shall I not drink the cup which My Father has given Me? Don't you realize I could call ten legions of angels to wipe these guys out? But the cup the Father has given Me to drink, shall I not drink it?" As He was praying there in (Joh 17:5) And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was. What shall I say? He said, (Joh 12:27) "Now My soul is troubled, and what shall I say? 'Father, save Me from this hour'? But for this purpose I came to this hour. Submitting to the Father, He went to the cross and Isaac, submitting to his father was bound and placed on the altar.

Gen 22:10 And Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to slay his son.

- I imagine, at this point, Isaac was looking up at his dad and saw the tears rolling down his dad's cheek. It must have been the hardest thing Abraham ever did! This is the greatest test of faith he could ever have! Somehow God is going to bring my son, Isaac, back to life. I don't know how, but He1 's got to be the one through which the promise comes! God has said *through Isaac your seed shall be called!*
- There was that moment, whether the father or the son was suffering the most, Abraham or Isaac? Being a dad I would venture to say Abraham was suffering more than Isaac. When Jesus was hanging on the cross, who suffered the most? "Take now your son, your only son Isaac, who you love." "This is my beloved Son!" We don't often think of the pain of the Father's heart when the Son was being sacrificed for our sins!
- Abraham raised the knife. Now Abraham comes to this supreme test, being asked to give up Isaac. Abraham does not quite understand all the details, but God had told him, "In Isaac your seed shall be called." Abraham believed God would raise Isaac from the dead (Heb 11:19) concluding that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead, from which he also received him in a figurative sense. But as far as Abraham is concerned, he is **demonstrating his willingness to go through** with the sacrifice!
- ***How frequent are there demonstrations in my life of my willingness to submit to God's will? To my passing His tests?***

Gen 22:11 But the Angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" So he said, "Here I am."

- Not the Angel of God, but back to the Angel of the LORD.

Gen 22:12 And He said, "Do not lay your hand on the lad, or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me."

- James gives to us a very interesting commentary on this passage, (Jas 2:21-24) *Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered Isaac his son on the altar? [22] Do you see that faith was working together with his works, and by works faith was made perfect? [23] And the Scripture was fulfilled which says, "ABRAHAM BELIEVED GOD, AND IT WAS ACCOUNTED TO HIM FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS." And he was called the friend of God. [24] You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith only.*
- **The proof that he believed God was manifested when he sacrificed his son.** Thus, that work of sacrificing his son was the proof of his faith. So that faith without works is dead, abiding alone. He uses that as a part of his argument that faith has to produce works that are in correspondence and in harmony with what I declare I believe! So the faith of Abraham was demonstrated in his willingness to offer his son!

Gen 22:13 Then Abraham lifted his eyes and looked, and there behind him was a ram caught in a thicket by its horns. So Abraham went and took the ram, and offered it up for a burnt offering instead of his son.

Gen 22:14 And Abraham called the name of the place, The-LORD-Will-Provide (Jehovah Jireh); as it is said to this day, "In the Mount of the LORD it shall be provided."

- This is a prophecy again, two marvelous prophecies by Abraham. The first one: God will provide Himself a lamb for the sacrifice.
- Now he repeats it declaring The-LORD-Will-Provide (Jehovah Jireh); as it is said to this day, "In the Mount of the LORD it shall be provided." This Mount of the LORD being Mount Moriah. If you go to Jerusalem today and you go to the temple mount, the temple mount where so many sacrifices were to be made in later years, is Mount Moriah. In (2Ch 3:1) Now Solomon began to build the house of the LORD at 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. So there on the side of Mount Moriah, Solomon built the temple.
- If you take a careful look at the geography of Mount Moriah, you will note that the temple mount is on the side of the mountain and not at the top of Mount Moriah, which continues in a gentle slope from the temple mount up to the top. However, when Solomon built the walls of the city, the temple and many of the buildings, on the north side of the city, the rock has had a great chunk taken out of it. But originally, at the time of Abraham that stone had not been quarried. So from the temple mount the gentle slope would have come all the way from the top of Mount Moriah, which is now across sort of a valley from the wall of Jerusalem. So if you'll stand near Herod's gate on the top of the wall of Jerusalem, you can see the configuration of Moriah, how that it was over on the other side gently sloping and the top of it was on the other side of what is now a valley where they have a street and a bus depot and all.
- On the other side where they have quarried it, there are caves which look like a skull. Thus, the name of the place became Golgotha, which is, "the Place of the Skull," or in Latin it's called, "Calvary," which has the same meaning, the skull. So that above the skull, Golgotha or Calvary was originally the top of Mount Moriah, and no doubt, when Abraham went to the mount, which was customary to go to the top of the mountain to build the altar. So, on the top of the mountain, Mount Moriah, where Abraham built the altar to offer Isaac his son, there two thousand years later, because God so loved the world, He gave His only begotten Son, as a sacrifice for our sins!
- In the same place where Abraham built his altar is the place where God sacrificed His Son and the prophecy of Abraham was fulfilled when he said, "God will provide Himself a sacrifice." In the mount of the Lord it shall be seen! And it was--two thousand years later! "Take now your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love." "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son." So the picture of Abraham sacrificing his son is a foreshadowing of that which God would do, the heart of the Father in His love for the world sacrificing His only begotten Son. (Rom 8:32) He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?

Gen 22:15 Then the Angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time out of heaven,

Gen 22:16 and said: "By Myself I have sworn, says the LORD, because you have done this thing, and have not withheld your son, your only son—"

- Hey, wait a minute. The Angel of the LORD, what did he say to Abraham? Go back to verse 12, he said, "Do not lay your hand on the lad, or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, (from whom?) From Me." (the Angel of the LORD" Who is the Angel of the LORD? None other than Jesus Christ! "You've not withheld your only son from Me." Again, the Father, the Son, the Tri-unity of the Godhead, it's here in the Old Testament as well as the New! So now the angel of the Lord calling to Abraham saying, "By myself I have sworn, says the LORD,"
- Because you have done this thing, you have not withheld your son, your only son, in blessing I will bless you. The book of Hebrews, in talking about this said that God has a problem when He wants to make an oath to man, because whenever you make an oath, you swear by something higher, something greater, but God can't swear by anything greater. So when He wants to make an oath, He

has to swear by Himself, because there is nothing higher to swear by. (*Heb 6:18*) *that by two immutable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before us.*

Gen 22:17 blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heaven and as the sand which is on the seashore and your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies.

- ***As the stars of the heaven, For many years it was thought that there were only three thousand stars.*** Before telescopes, guys would sit out and count the stars at night. They came up with numbers in the area of three to six thousand, that are visible to the naked eye.
- ***And the sand which is by the seashore. Skeptics used to say that God couldn't have written the Bible,*** because it says here that there are probably as many stars as there are grains of sand. But then came the telescope and more powerful telescopes, until now it is estimated that the number of stars in our universe are ten to the twenty-fifth power, which is the same as the estimated number of grains of sand! So God would put those two together as the stars of heaven are as the grains of sand! They'll be innumerable. You won't be able to count them! God must have written it, because at the time this was written they thought there were only three thousand stars.

Gen 22:18 In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice.

- ***So, we become the beneficiaries of the obedience of Abraham.*** Blessed, because of Jesus, who was born of the seed of Abraham!
- ***This is the last time God would speak personally to Abraham, so He summed up all His previous promises and enlarged on them. All the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice.***
- ***How thankful am I for His blessings, because Abraham was obedient to God's voice? How obedient am I?***

Gen 22:19 So Abraham returned to his young men, and they rose and went together to Beersheba; and Abraham dwelt at Beersheba.

- ***Now, where was Isaac? It doesn't mention him coming back here with Abraham. I'm sure he did, but the Spirit does not mention it deliberately,*** because Isaac, being a type of Christ after His death was taken up into heaven and will not appear again until the servant, the Holy Spirit, brings back the bride for the son. The Holy Spirit is now gathering among the world the bride for the Son! When the bride is gathered, then the Holy Spirit is going to bring the bride to the Son and shall arise to meet them in the clouds of the air and so shall we ever be with the Lord! But He doesn't appear on the scene again until the time of the bride. We'll get that in our next lesson, chapter 24.

Gen 22:20 Now it came to pass after these things that it was told Abraham, saying, "Indeed Milcah also has borne children to your brother Nahor:

Gen 22:21 Huz his firstborn, Buz his brother, Kemuel the father of Aram,

Gen 22:22 Chesed, Hazo, Pildash, Jidlaph, and Bethuel.

- ***Abraham had his brother Nahor still living back in Babylon.*** He received word and probably from a caravan or something concerning his brother. "Oh yes, I know Nahor and his wife Milcah. She has a bunch of kids." Well, what are their names? Huz and Buz. Great names, aren't they? Huz and Buz, they must have been twins.

Gen 22:23 And Bethuel begot Rebekah. These eight Milcah bore to Nahor, Abraham's brother.

- ***Now Rebekah is going to come into the scene in a couple of chapters, and that is why she is mentioned here.***

Gen 22:24 His concubine, whose name was Reumah, also bore Tebah, Gaham, Thahash, and Maachah.

- ***So, twelve sons. How many daughters were born, we don't know,*** because girls didn't count then..
- ***Now Abraham was no doubt interested in a wife for Isaac.*** It could be that he sent a servant back to find out how his brother was doing, whether he had any children or not, because he really couldn't find a bride from among the heathen where they lived for his son Isaac. So he was thinking about sending his servant back to his family. Nahor, oh yes, he's had twelve sons. But you see, the

daughters of Nahor would have been much too old for Isaac, because Isaac wasn't born till Abraham was a hundred.

- **So the grandchildren of his brother's would be more the age of Isaac, and so it does turn out** that Isaac then marries one of the grandchildren of Abraham's brother as we develop in the story. But this is just thrown in here to give you a little insight into what is coming. You know the secret decoder, here's clues of what is going to come in the next episode. So stay tuned and in the next episode we'll find where Rebekah comes into the scene and that fabulous story. And again, the carrying on of this whole typology of Isaac, the type of Christ, and Eliezer the type of the Holy Spirit gathering a bride for the Master's Son. We will find a lot of beautiful types and all as we move into chapter 24 and this fascinating portion of scripture.

SUMMARY

- **(Gen 21:10b,12)** *Cast out this bondwoman and her son; for the son of this bondwoman shall not be heir with my son, namely with Isaac. [12b] Whatever Sarah has said to you, listen to her voice; for in Isaac your seed shall be called.*
- **(Gen 22:2,8a,12,14,16)** *Then He said, "Take now your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you." [8] And Abraham said, "My son, God will provide Himself the lamb for a burnt offering." [12] And He said, "Do not lay your hand on the lad, or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me." [14] And Abraham called the name of the place, The-LORD-Will-Provide; as it is said to this day, "In the Mount of the LORD it shall be provided." [16] and said: "By Myself I have sworn, says the LORD, because you have done this thing, and have not withheld your son, your only son—*

CLOSING SONG

THE GOD OF ABRAHAM PRAISE Daniel ben Judah; Cantor Meyer Lyon: Paraphraser: Thomas Olivers (1770)
Tabernacle Choir(4:45)

1 The God Of Abraham Praise, Who reigns enthroned above, Ancient Of Everlasting Days, And God Of Love: Jehovah, Great I Am, By Earth and Heaven Confessed; We Bow and bless the Sacred Name, For Ever Blest.

2 The God Of Abraham Praise, at Whose Supreme Command from earth we rise, And seek the joys; at His Right Hand: We all on earth forsake, its wisdom, fame, and power; And Him My Only Portion Make, Our Shield and Tower.

3 The God Of Abraham Praise, Whose All-Sufficient Grace shall guide us all my happy days, In All Our Ways. He is our faithful Friend, He is our gracious God; And He will save us to the end, Through Jesus' blood.

4 Though Nature's Strength Decay, And Earth And Hell Withstand, To Canaan's Bounds We Urge our Way, At His Command. The heavenly land we see, With peace and plenty blessed; A land of sacred liberty, Our endless rest.

5 There Dwells The Lord Our King, The Lord Our Righteousness, Triumphant O'er The World And Sin, The Prince Of Peace; On Zion's Sacred Height His Kingdom He Maintains, And Glorious With His Saints In Light For Ever Reigns.

6 The whole triumphant host give thanks to God on high; "Hail, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost," they ever cry. Hail, Abraham's God, and mine! (I join the heavenly lays) All might and majesty are thine, and endless praise.

CLOSING PRAYER

NEXT WEEK: Read and study Genesis Chapters 23 & 24!