

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SoJMdhDdN5c>

FORESHADOWS OF CHRIST IN THE OT

ABRAHAM'S OFFERING OF ISAAC

Genesis 22:1-14

Sunday morning, Oct. 12, 2014

This is the seventh and last appearance of God to Abraham. After this, there is nothing more that God could ask Abraham to do. J. Vernon McGee

1. The Strange Command of God.

a. The Time of the Trial of Abraham.

vs. 1 – “after these things”, what things? After settling down in Beer-sheba, Abraham plants a grove. A sense of permanence is setting in. Then abruptly, God radically interjects into Abraham’s life requiring a test.

b. The Author of the Trial of Abraham.

Note that vs. 1 states “that God did tempt Abraham”. This was initiated by God the Father, not Abraham coming up with something to offer to God on his own.

Salvation first and foremost has its origination in the heart and mind of God, not man.

John 3:16 & Rom. 5:8- But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

James 1:13 - Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man:

Deut. 8:2 - And thou shalt remember all the way which the LORD thy God led thee these forty years in the wilderness, to humble thee, and to prove thee, to know what was in thine heart, whether thou wouldest keep his commandments, or no.

1 Cor. 10:13 - There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.

Strong faith is often exercised with strong trials and hard services.

c. The Trial Itself.

The burnt offering was the offering up until the time of the Mosaic law, then a sin offering and a trespass offering were given.

God did not condone human sacrifice but will through this prove once and for all that it is not acceptable to Him.

Abraham must offer his only son, Isaac, whom he loved dearly, as a sacrifice and then by his own hand, kill his son.

2. The Strange Obedience of Abraham.

A. The Difficulties Involved Initiating It.

a. This would seem like a contradiction with the character of God.

b. This would seem like murder in the worst case; his own son.

c. God gave Abraham no specific reason for doing this.

d. This would seem to nullify the promise that God had made to him, “In Isaac shall thy seed be called”, Gen. 21:12.

e. What affect would this have on Sarah and their marriage should he go through with this?

f. What would the surrounding nations think about this God of Abraham's? Already Pharaoh and Abimelech have first hand experience with the God of Abraham.

B. The Steps Taken to Accomplish It.

- a. Abraham immediately the next morning begins preparation to obey the vision.
- b. He has to split wood for the fire.
- c. He has to get the animal ready to ride.
- d. He gets servants ready to go on this trip with he and Isaac.
- e. He has to have provisions for the journey, three days away.
- f. He has to overcome his emotions and his questions to even begin this process.
- g. He has to contain himself and not speak to anyone what he is about to do, esp. Sarah.

3. The Strange Issue of the Trial Itself.

a. Isaac is Rescued.

His being offered was only for trying Abraham's faith. Abraham's feelings are never considered nor mentioned other than God bringing out that Isaac is loved by his father.

b. Abraham is Approved.

Abraham expresses his deep belief in God's provision in vs. 8 when Isaac brings up the natural question about the animal to sacrifice.

vs. 16 tells clearly that now this is the final testing for Abraham and he has passed.

c. A Substitute is Provided.

God gave the ram to be used instead of Isaac at just the right time and place.

d. A Revelation is Given.

vs. 14 – Abraham names this place by God's revelation of Himself, Jehovah-jireh, "my provider". Never again will he have the same concern about God's ability to provide on any level.

James 2:21-24 - Was not Abraham our father justified by works, when he had offered Isaac his son upon the altar? Seest thou how faith wrought with his works, and by works was faith made perfect? 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. Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only.

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, Of whom it was said, That in Isaac shall thy seed be called: Accounting that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead; from whence also he received him in a figure

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