

Exposition of the Book of Genesis



Genesis 22: A Test of Abraham's Faith

November 30, 2011

Text: Genesis 22:1-19

Summary Statement



⌘ True Faith is faith
that can withstand
God's most
demanding test

What is Faith?



⌘ **“Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen” (Heb. 11:1)**

⌘ **Paraphrase: Faith is the certainty that future things will come to pass, and the trust that what I cannot see is real.**

The Essence of True Faith



⌘ True Faith always rests on facts.

⌘ Bottom Line: Your faith is only as valid as the object of your faith

1 Corinthians 10:13



⌘ No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it.

Matthew 17:19-21

⌘¹⁹Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, “Why could we not drive it out?” ²⁰And He said* to them, “**Because of the littleness of your faith; for truly I say to you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move; and nothing will be impossible to you. ²¹“£ *But this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting.*”**

⌘ (cf. Matthew 10:1)

Mark 11:22-24



⌘ **And Jesus answered* saying to them,**
“**Have faith in God. ²³‘Truly I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, ‘Be taken up and cast into the sea,’ and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says is going to happen, it will be *granted* him. ²⁴‘Therefore I say to you, all things for which you pray and ask, believe that you have received them, and they will be *granted* you. (cf. Eph. 1:1-3)**”

Abraham: Man of Faith



- ⌘ Abraham's response does not make sense unless he knew something about the character of God. God is a God who keeps His promises
- ⌘ Abraham had nothing to go on except the promises of God...that's True Faith

God's Prerogative



⌘ **God's Prerogative is to test a Believer's Faith (1-2)**

⌘ Prerogative is an attribute of God's sovereignty. He has the right to test our faith.

God's Prerogative



⌘ God chooses the time

⌘ God chooses the test

⌘ God chooses the
territory

A Believer's Prerequisite



⌘ A Believer's prerequisite
is to respond in Faith

⌘ (3-10)

⌘ A believer believes; that
makes him or her a
believer

Abraham's Faith



- ⌘ Abraham's prompt obedience was predicated on his Faith (vs3-4)
- ⌘ Abraham's confidence in God's character was predicated on his Faith (vs5)

Abraham's Faith



⌘ Abraham's trust in God's provision were predicated on his Faith (vs8)

⌘ Abraham's complete surrender to God's will was predicated by his Faith (vs9-11)

Obedience



⌘ Faith and obedience are bound up in the same bundle. He that obeys God, trusts God; and he that trusts God, obeys God.

⌘ Charles Haddon Spurgeon

Obedience



⌘ It is not what we do that matters, but what a sovereign God chooses to do through us. God doesn't want our success; He wants us. He doesn't demand our achievements; he demands our obedience.

Oswald Chambers

God's Provision



⌘ **God's Provision
is in response to
Faith (11-19)**

God's Provision



⌘ God's Protection (vs11-12)

⌘ God's Provision (vs13-14)

⌘ God Promise of a Blessing (vs15-19)