

Series: Stand Fast in the Lord

IN THE MOUNT OF THE
LORD IT SHALL BE SEEN
GENESIS 22:1-14

Text: Genesis 22:14

Genesis 22:14

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.

Introduction:

I would like to look at this passage from Abraham's perspective. As I read the Bible, I am confronted with the truth that no other man was called upon to give so much.

Yet, as Abraham's sacrifice to the Lord is offered, we do not see the heart of a devastated broken man.

Instead, we see the heart of a mature man of faith!

I believe there are lessons that we can learn from Abraham.

There are steps that we will take in this life that leads to maturity, and those steps often include the lonely mountain of absolute surrender.

Notice what's involved in climbing this mountain.

1. IT INVOLVES PERCEPTION (VS. 1-2)

Genesis 22:1-2

¹ And it came to pass after these things, that God did tempt Abraham, and said unto him, Abraham: and he said, Behold, here I am. ² And he said, Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee into the land of Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of.

A. This demands a relationship – Abraham knew the Lord.

B. It demands a readiness – As soon as God speaks, Abraham responds.

C. It demands a revelation – God revealed His plan for Abraham's life.

- Note How God Defines His Commands

“Thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest.”

Abraham's son Ishmael had already been sent away.

Now, the command comes that would take Isaac away as well.

God was asking for everything Abraham had!
All his hopes, his dreams and his plans were bound up in Isaac.

- Note How God Details His Command

God was very precise about what Abraham was to do.

When God speaks, He may not reveal every detail of His plan, but your next step will always be made clear.

- Note How God Darkens His Command

God does not explain the "*why?*" to men!

Does the "*why?*" even matter?

It shouldn't! Faith knows that the path of God always leads to good for us and to glory for Him.

Climbing this mountain involved Perception but also:

2. IT INVOLVES PREPARATIONS (VS. 3-5)

Genesis 22:3-5

³ And Abraham rose up early in the morning, and saddled his ass, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son, and clave the wood for the burnt offering, and rose up, and went unto the place of which God had told him. ⁴ Then on the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes, and saw the place afar off. ⁵ And Abraham said unto his young men, Abide ye here with the ass; and I and the lad will go yonder and worship, and come again to you.

As we saw Abraham doing what the Lord commanded, we see a man who is thoroughly prepared.

There are three areas in which Abraham made his preparations.

A. His hands were prepared (vs. 3)

Genesis 22:3

³ And Abraham rose up early in the morning, and saddled his ass, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son, and clave the wood for the burnt offering, and rose up, and went unto the place of which God had told him.

Abraham wasted no time, but got himself up and gathered everything he would need to do what God had commanded. He left nothing out.

There is an urgency to the commands of God. The moment He calls is the moment you should act.

John 9:4

⁴I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work.

Procrastination has caused the death on many profound spiritual experiences. We miss them because we hesitate.

B. His head was prepared (vs. 4-5a)

Abraham had three days and three nights to think about what was about to happen.

To him, it must have made no sense at all, yet he did it without question.

God help us to come to the place where, even when God's commands make absolutely no sense, we will still obey Him without question or reservation.

Remember we are called to walk by faith.

Romans 1:17

17 For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.

2 Corinthians 5:7

7 (For we walk by faith, not by sight:)

C. His heart was prepared (vs. 5b)

Abraham knew why he was there.

He was there to offer his beloved son to God.

He was there to give everything that was present in that day and all that was promised for tomorrow.

Abraham viewed God as being worthy of receiving all he had without question or without reservation.

Climbing this mountain involved Perception and Preparation but also:

3. IT INVOLVES PARTICIPATION (VS. 6-14)

Genesis 22:6-14

⁶And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering, and laid it upon Isaac his son; and he took the fire in his hand, and a knife; and they went both of them together. ⁷And Isaac spake unto Abraham his father, and said, My father: and he said, Here am I, my son. And he said, Behold the fire and the wood: but where is the lamb for a burnt offering? ⁸And Abraham said, My son, God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering: so they went both of them together. ⁹And they came to the place which God had told him of; and Abraham built an altar there, and laid the wood in order, and bound Isaac his son, and laid him on the altar upon the wood. ¹⁰And Abraham stretched forth his hand, and took the knife to slay his son. ¹¹And the angel of the LORD called unto him out of heaven, and said, Abraham, Abraham: and he said, Here am I. ¹²And he said, Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou any thing unto him: for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me. ¹³And 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. ¹⁴And 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.

A. This Participation was Personal (vs. 6)

Abraham personally placed the wood on Isaac. He personally took the fire and the knife and he personally lead the way. For Abraham, this was an event of personal commitment and sacrifice.

B. This Participation was Profound (vs. 7-10)

Abraham willingly and completely obeyed the command of God. He held nothing back! He gave up everything he had longed for, lived for and loved at the simple command of God!

C. This Participation is Powerful (vs. 11-14)

Abraham's participation was powerful because it gave God an opportunity to prove Himself, and it gave Abraham the opportunity to receive some special blessings that he would have otherwise missed out on.

Because Abraham climbed this mountain:

1. He received God's provision (vs. 11-14)
2. He received God's praise (vs. 12)
3. He received God's promise (vs. 15-19)

Close:

God isn't really interested in your Isaac's, it's you He wants.