

Abraham Sacrificed Isaac: Supreme, Sacrificial Faith — The Steps to Absolute Surrender Genesis 22:01–24

1. *Abraham faced God’s demand for absolute sacrifice, His highest demand*

- a. God tested Abraham
- b. God asked Abraham to offer his son as a sacrifice to God

2. *Abraham thought through the sacrifice*

- a. Abraham thought through God’s unusual demand while he obeyed and made preparations
- b. Abraham had three days to think through the sacrifice

3. *Abraham trusted God and His power to raise up and use the sacrifice*

- a. A great trust:
That Isaac would return
 - b. A tender walk together:
Father and son
- 1) “My father”
 - 2) “Yes, my son”
 - 3) “Where is the lamb for the sacrifice?”

- 1 Some time later God tested Abraham. He said to him, “Abraham!”
“Here I am,” he replied.
- 2 Then God said, “Take your son, your only son, whom you love — Isaac — and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on a mountain I will show you.”
- 3 Early the next morning Abraham got up and loaded his donkey. He took with him two of his servants and his son Isaac. When he had cut enough wood for the burnt offering, he set out for the place God had told him about.
- 4 On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance.
- 5 He said to his servants, “Stay here with the donkey while I and the boy go over there. We will worship and then we will come back to you.”
- 6 Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and placed it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. As the two of them went on together,
- 7 Isaac spoke up and said to his father Abraham, “Father?” “Yes, my son?” Abraham replied. “The fire and wood are here,” Isaac said, “but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?”

- c. A great trust re-emphasized:
God will provide the lamb

4. Abraham followed through with the sacrifice

- a. Making the final preparations
- b. Binding and laying the sacrifice on the altar
- c. Actually offering the sacrifice:
Absolute surrender to God

5. Abraham experienced God's acceptance and provision

- a. God accepted the sacrifice and surrender of Abraham's heart
 - 1) God stopped Abraham
 - 2) God accepted the fear, reverence and trust of Abraham's heart
- b. God provided a substitute sacrifice
- c. God was worshipped:
Abraham memorialised the place forever,
naming it Jehovah Jireh

6. Abraham had God's promises renewed to his heart

- a. God gave a solemn oath:
Swore by Himself

8 Abraham answered,
"God himself will provide the lamb
for the burnt offering, my son."
And the two of them went on together.

9 When they reached the place
God had told him about,
Abraham built an altar there
and arranged the wood on it.
He bound his son Isaac and laid him
on the altar, on top of the wood.

10 Then he reached out his hand
and took the knife to slay his son.

11 But the angel of the LORD called out to him
from heaven, "Abraham! Abraham!"
"Here I am," he replied.

12 "Do not lay a hand on the boy," he said.
"Do not do anything to him.
Now I know that you fear God,
because you have not withheld from me
your son, your only son."

13 Abraham looked up and there in a thicket
he saw a ram caught by its horns.
He went over and took the ram
and sacrificed it as a burnt offering
instead of his son.

14 So Abraham called that place
The LORD Will Provide.
And to this day it is said, "On the mountain
of the LORD it will be provided."

15 The angel of the LORD called to Abraham
from heaven a second time

16 and said, "I swear by myself,
declares the LORD,
that because you have done this
and have not withheld your son,
your only son,

b. God renewed the promise of the promised seed, meaning a great nation of people

c. God renewed the promise of the promised seed, meaning a singular seed, the Saviour of the world

7. Conclusion:

Abraham, God's servant, received good news

a. He travelled back — settled in Beersheba

b. He received good news about his brother Nahor (from a traveller)

c. His brother Nahor had been blessed with a large family

17 I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will take possession of the cities of their enemies,

18 and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed me.”

19 Then Abraham returned to his servants, and they set off together for Beersheba. And Abraham stayed in Beersheba.

20 Some time later Abraham was told, “Milkah is also a mother; she has borne sons to your brother Nahor:

21 Uz the firstborn, Buz his brother, Kemuel (the father of Aram),

22 Kesed, Hazo, Pildash, Jidlaph and Bethuel.”

23 Bethuel became the father of Rebekah. Milkah bore these eight sons to Abraham's brother Nahor.

24 His concubine, whose name was Reumah, also had sons: Tebah, Gaham, Tahash and Maakah.