

Christ In The Old Testament
“By Faith Abraham”
Genesis 22:1-19

Introduction:

1. Last Week We Learned:
 - That Christ Can Be Found:
 - In The Old Testament:
 - When He Visits His People:
 - As “*The* Angel Of The Lord!”
 - Not Just As:
 - *An* Angel Of The Lord - Or:
 - One Of His:
 - Created Ministers & Messengers!
 - But As:
 - *The* Angel Of The Lord:
 - Who Delivers The Message *Of* God:
 - *As* God - To Man!
 - And In The Case Of Hagar’s Story:
 - To A Woman!
2. There Are Times When:
 - “The Angel Of The Lord” Refers To:
 - The Ministry Of Christ Himself:
 - Before His First Advent Into This World!
 - Now - Sometimes:
 - As In The Story Of Hagar:
 - This Special Messenger:
 - Is *Seen!*
 - In A Physical & Visible Form:
 - Probably As A Man!
 - But - He Can Also Manifest Himself:
 - In *Word!* So That:
 - Even Though He May Not Be Seen:
 - With Person’s Eyes:
 - He Can Be Heard:
 - With A Person’s Ears!
 - 3. And This Is What We Find:
 - In The Passage We Come To Tonight:
 - Which Tells Us About The Time:
 - When God Himself Tested Abraham:
 - And His Faith!
 - So - Let’s Open Up Our Bibles:
 - To Genesis 22 - Where We Will Read:
 - 22:1-19! Read Passage!
 - 4. Now - In 22:1:
 - We Are Told That It Is “God” Who:
 - “Did Tempt” Abraham!
 - The Word “Tempt” Is Probably Better Translated:
 - “Test” Or “Try!”
 - Because Of What James Tells Us:
 - In 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!”
 - God Does Not Tempt Anyone:
 - To Sin - But God Will Often:
 - Test & Try & Prove:
 - The Faith Of His People!
 - And That Is Why:

- In 22:1-2 - We Read About:

1. ***The Test Of Abraham's Faith!***

- Even Though God Already Knew:
 - The Outcome Of This Test:
 - This Test Was More:
 - For Abraham!
 - And - For Those Who Would Come After Abraham:
 - To Learn About The True Nature Of Faith!
- But - What A Test!
 - In Verse 2 - We Find:
 - 3 Commands / 3 Imperatives!
 - Which All Lead Up To:
 - The Most Difficult Thing Abraham Would Ever Be Asked To Do In His Life!
 - "Take" - God Commanded Him!
 - "Take Now Thy Son, Thine Only Son Isaac, Whom Thou Lovest!"
 - Perhaps Abraham Was Wondering:
 - Take Him - For What? Then:
 - "Get" - God Commanded Him!
 - "Get Thee Into The Land Of Moriah!"
 - A Place Far From His Home:
 - But - A Place That Was Specially Chosen By The Lord! (Moriah)
 - Perhaps Abraham Kept Wondering:
 - Go There - But Why? Then:
 - The Test Comes With The Word:
 - "Offer" - "Offer" - God Commanded Him!
 - "And Offer Him There For A Burnt Offering Upon One Of The Mountains Which I Will Tell Thee Of!"
 - When You Go Through:
 - A Trial / Testing Of Your Faith:
 - Remember That:
 - It Ultimately Comes From God!
 - And - 1 Peter 1:7:
 - "The trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ!"
 - When You Go Through:
 - A Trial / Testing Of Your Faith:
 - In Your Life - Remember To:
 - "Trust & Obey!"
 - Because - Even Though:
 - Abraham Must Have Been Feeling & Thinking & Wondering ***Something***:
 - When He Heard This Demand & Command From The Lord:
 - We Are Not Told ***Anything*** About His Response - Except This:
 - In 22:3 - "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!"
 - God Told Abraham:
 - To "Take" - And So:
 - He Obeyed - And "Took Two Of His Young Men With Him, And Isaac His Son!"
 - God Told Abraham:
 - To "Get" - And So:
 - He Obeyed - And "Went Unto The Place Which God Had Told Him!"
 - God Told Abraham:
 - To "Offer" Up His Son - And So:
 - He Made Everything Ready:
 - For "The Burnt Offering" Of His Son!
 - And - Through This Verse:

- We See:

2. ***The Truth Of Abraham's Faith!***

- Abraham Believed In & Trusted In:

- The Lord - With All Of His Heart!

- And That Is Why - When God Told Him:

- Do "Take" & "Get" & "Offer!"

- He Obeyed:

- Directly & Completely!

- He "Rose Up Early In The Morning!"

- And Made All The Preparations Necessary:

- To Fulfill God's Commands:

- To The Letter!

- Abraham Left Nothing Behind:

- Not Even "Isaac His Son!"

- But - Even As He Obeyed:

- We See:

- The Details Of His Faith!

- Especially There In 22:5 - Where:

- After Three Days - Traveling To "The Place!"

- "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!"

- Instead Of Fearing & Dreading:

- "The Place" Where He Was To:

- Offer Up His Son As:

- A "Burnt Offering!"

- His Faith Was:

- A Faith To "Go!"

- And Follow The Will Of God:

- No Matter Where It Took Him!

- His Faith Was:

- A Faith To "Worship!"

- And To Have Fellowship:

- With God - Even Though He Had Asked Him To Do:

- The Unthinkable!

- His Faith Was:

- A Faith To "Come Again!"

- And To Experience The Favor Of God:

- By Both Of Then Returning:

- Alive And Well!

- This Is What True Faith Looks Like!

- And - We Know This Was What He Believed:

- Because Of What We Are Told In:

- Hebrews 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!"

- Genuine Faith:

- Perseveres In:

- Following The Lord! And:

- Perseveres In:

- Fellowship With The Lord!

- Because It Rests In:

- The Favor Of The Lord!

- His Promises & His Grace!

- No Matter What The Trial Of Your Faith Looks Like!

- But - We Also See:

- The Dependence Of His Faith:

- In 22:8 - When His Son:

- Who May Have Been Anywhere:
 - From 25-36 Years Of Age:
 - Asked - 22:7 - “Behold the fire and the wood: but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?”
 - “And Abraham said, My son, God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering: so they went both of them together!”
- Abraham Depended On:
 - The Purpose Of God:
 - In This Test / Trial!
 - Even Though He Didn’t Yet Know What It Was! Also:
- Abraham Depended On:
 - The Provision Of God!
 - “God Will Provide Himself A Lamb!”
 - “Provide” Here Means:
 - To See / To Look Upon!
 - A Theme Throughout This Passage!
 - 22:2 - God Has His Eye:
 - On A Special Place - Called Moriah:
 - Seen / Chosen By The Lord!
 - Here - God Has His Eye:
 - On A Special Lamb:
 - For A Burnt Offering!
 - 22:14 - God Has His Eye:
 - On A Special Mountain:
 - Jehovah-Jireh - Jehovah Sees!
- Abraham Did Not Want Isaac:
 - To Look For A Lamb - But:
 - To Trust That God Had:
 - His Eye On Just The Right Lamb:
 - For His Burnt Offering!
 - And - After Abraham Expresses:
 - His Own Faith In The Lord:
 - We See That His Faith:
 - Was Infectious!
 - His Faith Spread To Isaac!
 - Because - 22:8 - “So They Went Both Of Them Together!”
 - Isaac Trusted His Father:
 - Completely - And So:
 - When The Time Came:
 - In 22:9 - For The Sacrifice To Be Made:
 - There Is No Resistance! No Struggle!
 - But - An Implicit Faith & Trust & Love:
 - In The Lord:
 - In Total Unity & Harmony!
- This Kind Of Faith:
 - Is As Beautiful As It Is Rare!
 - But - What Does The Lord Say:
 - About This Kind Of Faith?
 - Hebrews 11:6 - “But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him!”
- Faith Believes:
 - That God Is A Rewarder:
 - Of Them That Diligently Seek Him!
 - And This Is What We Find:
 - When “The Angel Of The Lord” Appears To Abraham!
 - In 22:10-11 - “And Abraham stretched forth his hand, and took the knife to slay his son. / And the angel of the LORD called unto him out of heaven, and said, Abraham, Abraham: and he said, Here am I!”
 - Now - We’re Not Told If Abraham:

- Saw The Angel Of The Lord This Time! But:
 - He Certainly Heard Him!
 - Loud & Clear!
- And We Know That This Angel:
 - Is No Ordinary Angel:
 - Because - In 22:16 - He Is Even Identified:
 - As The LORD Himself!
 - When He Said:
 - “By myself have I sworn, saith the LORD!”
 - This Special Messenger:
 - **From** The Lord - **Was** The Lord!
 - And Abraham Heard The Voice:
 - Of Christ!
- And - What He Heard Was:

3. *The Tribute To Abraham’s Faith!*

- Christ Came To Abraham - In That Moment:
 - To Reward Him For His Faith!
 - And - His Word Was Enough:
 - To Bless Him & To Encourage Him!
 - Because:
 - Through His Word:
 - Christ Came To Remind Him:
 - Of All Of God’s Promises To Him!
 - The First Words Out Of Christ’s Mouth:
 - Were - “Abraham! Abraham!”
 - He Said His Name:
 - Not Only To Get His Attention:
 - But Also To Remind Him That He Is:
 - “Abraham” - The Father Of A Multitude:
 - According To God’s Own Promises! Also:
 - Through His Word:
 - Christ Came To Reassure Him:
 - Of God’s Plan!
 - In 22:12 - He Said - “And 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!”
 - God Had Tested Abraham:
 - And His Faith - And:
 - Abraham Passed The Test!
 - Abraham Had PleasEd God!
 - I Believe That:
 - This Was The Most:
 - Reassuring Thing To Abraham!
 - That He PleasEd God!
 - And He Heard It From:
 - Christ’s Own Mouth! Also:
 - Through His Word:
 - Christ Came To Reward Him:
 - By Renewing His Promises Of Blessing:
 - In 22:15-17!
 - When The Angel Of The Lord - Christ Himself:
 - “Called Unto Abraham Out Of Heaven The Second Time!”
 - He Renewed His Covenant With Abraham With An Oath! With Promises:
 - Of Certain Goodness!
 - “In Blessing I Will Bless Thee!” (22:17)
 - Of Certain Growth!
 - “In Multiplying I Will Multiply Thee!” (22:17)
 - Not Just A Natural Seed:

- Through Isaac!
- But A Spiritual Seed:
 - Through Christ!
 - Galatians 3:7 - “Know ye therefore that they which are of faith, the same are the children of Abraham!”
- Of Certain Greatness!
 - “Thy Seed Shall Possess The Gate Of His Enemies!” (22:17)
- Of Certain Grace!
 - “And In Thy Seed Shall All The Nations Of The Earth Be Blessed!” (22:18)
 - And - This Grace Would Come:
 - Through Christ Himself:
 - And The Gospel!
- And All Because - By Faith:
 - Abraham Did Not “Withhold His Son, His Only Son!” (22:16) - And:
 - “Because Thou Hast Obeyed My Voice!” (22:18)
 - The Voice Of God!
 - The Voice Of Christ!
 - But - God Had Even Greater Plans:
 - For The Faith & Obedience:
 - Of Abraham! So:
 - As An Even Greater Tribute:
 - He Used This Test Of Faith - To Reveal:

4. ***The Type Of Abraham’s Faith!***

- The ***Test*** Of Abraham’s Faith:
 - Points Us To:
 - The ***Object*** Of Abraham’s Faith:
 - Jesus Christ!
 - Because - The One Who Spoke To Him:
 - Out Of Heaven That Day - Would One Day:
 - Come From Heaven:
 - To Fulfill All His Promises:
 - To Abraham!
- Abraham’s Sacrifice:
 - Was A Type Of Christ:
 - And His Sacrifice:
 - For Our Sins!
 - The Place Of Sacrifice:
 - Was A Mountain In The Land Moriah:
 - Which - To This Day - Is Identified As:
 - The Hills & Mountains:
 - Of Jerusalem!
 - Where Jesus Was:
 - “Brought As A Lamb To The Slaughter!”
 - The Wood For The Sacrifice:
 - That Was Laid Upon Isaac:
 - Was Just A Picture Of:
 - The Wooden Beams That Made Up The Cross That Jesus Had To Carry On His Own Back:
 - All The Way To The Hill Of Golgotha!
 - The Rope For The Sacrifice:
 - That Was Used To Bind Isaac:
 - By The Loving & Tender Hands:
 - Of His Father!
 - Was Used To Bind Jesus:
 - By The Rough Hands Of Roman Soldiers:
 - Who Mocked Him & Hit Him & Whipped Him:
 - Till He Was Unrecognizable!
- The Knife & The Fire:

- That Abraham Took In His Hands:
 - To Slay & To Sacrifice His Son:
 - Points To The Fury & Wrath Of God:
 - That Was Poured Out On His Son, Jesus Christ!:
 - Instead Of Us!
- 1 John 2:2 - “And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world!”
- Christ Approved Of Abraham’s Faith:
 - Because - It All Pointed To Him!
 - Also:
- Abraham’s Submission:
 - Was A Type Of Christ:
 - And His Submission:
 - To His Father’s Will!
 - And - Not Just Abraham’s Submission:
 - But Isaac’s Submission As Well!
 - Remember Back In 22:8 - We Were Told:
 - “So they went both of them together!” (Repeat Of 22:6)
 - So - Jesus Christ & His Father:
 - Were In Complete Harmony:
 - In Their Work Of Redemption!
 - So - Christ Willingly Left The Glories Of Heaven:
 - To Become An Offering:
 - For Sin!
 - In The Garden Of Gethsemane:
 - Jesus Prayed - “O my Father, if this cup may not pass away from me, except I drink it, thy will be done!” (Matthew 26:42)
 - Also:
- Abraham’s Substitute:
 - Was A Type Of Christ:
 - And His Substitution:
 - For Us!
 - In 22:13 - We Are Told:
 - “And 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!”
 - Though Christ Restrained Abraham:
 - From Offering Isaac As A Sacrifice:
 - Isaac Still Needed A Sacrifice:
 - To Be Made For Him!
 - And This Would Be True:
 - For Everyone - Until:
 - The Lamb That God Had His Eye On:
 - Would Become The Substitute:
 - For All Who Believe In Him!
 - And Jesus Is That Lamb!
 - John 1:29 - “The Lamb Of God, Which Taketh Away The Sin Of The World!”
 - And - “Who His Own Self Bare Our Sins In His Own Body On The Tree! / By Whose Stripes Ye Are Healed!” (1 Peter 2:24)

Conclusion:

1. Christ Honored Abraham’s Faith:
 - Because - Abraham’s Faith:
 - Pointed To Christ!
 - But - Not Just In His Faith-Filled:
 - Sacrifice & Submission & Substitute!
 - But - In Their Result!
2. Because - It Was Carefully Noted:
 - In 22:4 - That:

- “On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes, and saw the place afar off!”
 - Now - There Are A Lot Of Significant Things:
 - That Happen On The “Third Day”:
 - In The Bible!
- But - On This “Third Day” - Even Though:
 - It Was The Day That:
 - Abraham Was To Offer His Son To God:
 - As A Burnt Offering!
 - It Was The Same Day:
 - That His Son:
 - Was Saved & Rescued:
 - From That Fate!
- 3. Again - As We Are Told In:
 - Hebrews 11:19 - That Abraham:
 - “Accounting that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead; from whence also he received him in a figure!”
 - On The First Day:
 - When God Told Abraham To Sacrifice His Son:
 - In His Mind - Isaac Was Already Dead!
 - It Was As If He Had Already:
 - Sacrificed His Son To The Lord!
 - But On That Third Day:
 - When Christ’s Word Came From Heaven:
 - And Intervened! To Abraham:
 - It Was As If Isaac:
 - Had Come Back To Life!
 - And By Faith:
 - God Showed Abraham:
 - What This Test Was All About!
 - Because - In John 8:56 - Jesus Himself Said That:
 - “Abraham rejoiced to see my day: and he saw it, and was glad!”
 - By Faith - Abraham Saw:
 - Christ’s Life! Christ’s Death! And Christ’s Resurrection!
 - Through The Powerful Lense:
 - Of Isaac’s Sacrifice!
 - 4. And - How Could Jesus Know This?
 - How Could Jesus Know:
 - “Abraham Saw His Day?”
 - Not Only Because Christ Is God!
 - But - Because Christ Was There!
 - As The Angel Of The Lord:
 - Christ Spoke To Abraham:
 - From Heaven:
 - With A Message Of Grace!
 - 5. Remember That:
 - Christ Is Still:
 - God’s Voice From Heaven:
 - To Us! And - His Message:
 - Is Still A Message Full:
 - “Of Grace & Truth!”

Grace Baptist Church
Stephen Elmer, Pastor
 4245 North 200 West
 Greenfield, Indiana 46140
 317-326-2362
www.sermonaudio.com/wordofgrace
www.growatgrace.org
pastor-elmer@hotmail.com