

## “On the Mount of the Lord It Shall Be Provided”

Genesis 22:1–19

August 20, 2023

### The Test

“Sarah your wife shall bear you a son, and you shall call his name Isaac. I will establish my covenant with him as an everlasting covenant for his offspring after him.” (Genesis 17:19)

“For through Isaac shall your offspring be named.” (Genesis 21:12)

### Lesson #1: God Tests the Faith of His People

“Let no one say when he is tempted, ‘I am being tempted by God,’ for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one.” (James 1:13)

“Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness.” (James 1:2–3)

“In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.” (1 Peter 1:6–7)

“God is most glorified in us when we are most satisfied in him.” (John Piper)

### Lesson #2: God Demands Sacrificial Obedience

“One thing you still lack. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me.” (Luke 18:22)

### Lesson #3: God Rewards Faithful Obedience

“By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac.” (Hebrews 11:17)

“He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back.” (Hebrews 11:19)

Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered up his son Isaac on the altar? You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was completed by his works; and the Scripture was fulfilled that says, ‘Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness’—and he was called a friend of God. You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone.” (James 2:21–24)

### Lesson #4: God Provides His Own Sacrifice

One thing you still lack. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me.” (Luke 18:22)

## Notes

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## Discuss

- Abraham didn't know beforehand if or when he would be tested, and he didn't know it was a test while it was happening. Do you think that Christians can know if or when they will be tested, or can they know when they are being tested? If so, how?
- Are you able to share a personal example of how God, as far as you know, accomplished something good (revealing your faith, strengthening your faith, glorifying himself) through testing you?
- What are you most tempted to withhold from God? How is this story an encouragement to you to sacrifice it to him?
- How is your faith connected to your obedience? Are there breakdowns in that connection in your life?
- Why is it so important to understand that Jesus died as a substitutionary sacrifice for sinners, and how does this story deepen your understanding of what that means?

## Read

James 2:14–26; Hebrews 11:17–19

## Pray

- That the Holy Spirit will use your trials for your good and the glory of God the Father.
- That the Holy Spirit will help you to sacrificially and faithfully obey, whatever the cost.
- That the Holy Spirit will help you to more fully rely on the substitutionary sacrifice of Jesus for your salvation.

## Bulletin

- Women's Bible Study (Twelve Weeks): Wednesdays at 10:00am
- Exploring Membership: August 13, 20, 27, and September 3 at 9:30am
- Men's Breakfast: September 16 at 8:00am
- Members' Meeting: September 24 at 5:00pm
- Trunk or Treat: October 29 (time TBD)