

## Gleanings from the Pentateuch

The Testing of Abraham  
(Genesis 22)

## Testing of Abraham

Why this event?

1. The climactic test of Abraham
2. The connection to the unfolding story (“forward-directed”)

## Testing of Abraham

Genesis 22:1-2

Now it came about after these things, that **GOD** tested Abraham, and said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.”

And He said, “Take now your son, your only son, whom you love, Isaac, and go to the land of Moriah; and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I will tell you.”

## Testing of Abraham

Principle #1

God brings tests upon believers

- Come in a variety of forms
- bottom line: *will we trust God?*

## Testing of Abraham

Take now your son,  
your only son,  
whom you love,  
Isaac,  
and go to the land of Moriah; and offer him  
there as a burnt offering on one of the  
mountains of which I will tell you.

## Testing of Abraham

Principle #2

Testing involves obeying God  
when obedience appears  
disastrous and impossible to turn  
to good

## Testing of Abraham

Genesis 22:3-5

So Abraham rose early in the morning and saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him and Isaac his son; and he split the wood for the burnt offering, and arose and went to the place of which God had told him.

On the third day Abraham raised his eyes and saw the place from a distance.

And Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey, and I and the lad will go yonder; and we will worship and return to you."

## Testing of Abraham

Hebrews 11:17-19

"By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac; and he who had received the promises was offering up his only begotten; it was he to whom it was said, 'In Isaac your seed shall be called.'

He considered that God is able to raise men even from the dead; from which he also received him back as a type."

## Testing of Abraham

Genesis 22:6-8

And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son, and he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on together.

And Isaac spoke to Abraham his father and said, "My father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." And he said, "Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?"

## Testing of Abraham

Genesis 22:9

And Abraham said, "God will provide for Himself the lamb for the burnt offering, my son." So the two of them walked on together.

*ra'ah* – to see, to provide

## Testing of Abraham

Genesis 22:8-10

Then they came to the place of which God had told him; and Abraham built the altar there, and arranged the wood, and bound his son Isaac, and laid him on the altar on top of the wood.

And Abraham stretched out his hand, and took the knife to slay his son.

## Testing of Abraham

Genesis 22:10-12

But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven, and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am."

And he said, "Do not stretch out your hand against the lad, and do nothing to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me.

## **Testing of Abraham**

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### **Principle #3**

**God brings tests for our (eternal)  
good**

#### **1 Peter 1:6-7**

- reveals the genuineness of our faith
- exposes the hidden idolatry of our heart