These Kids Are Going to Be the Death of Me – Abraham & Isaac Genesis 21-22 - Pastor Aaron Crane

GENESIS 22:1 After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am."

GENESIS 21:1 "the Lord did to Sarah as He had promised"

GENESIS 21:13 "I will make a nation of the son of the slave woman also, because he is your offspring."

GENESIS 22:2 "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you."

"Sometimes God tests us not to see if we're strong enough—but to show us He's faithful enough."— Jackie Hill Perry

Point 1: God tests our faith by testing what we treasure.

Genesis 22:3–5 So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar. Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over there and worship and come again to you."

Hebrews 11:19 "Abraham considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead."

Romans 12:1 "Present your bodies as a living sacrifice... this is your spiritual worship."

Point 2: Real faith always leads to real sacrifice.

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 they went both of them together. And Isaac said to his father Abraham, 'My father!' And he said, 'Here I am, my son.' He said, 'Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?' Abraham said, 'God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son.' So they went both of them together.

"To do evil that good may come is false morality, and wicked policy... For us is duty, for God is the fulfillment of His own promise." — Charles Spurgeon

Point 3: Faith isn't about knowing the outcome. It's about knowing the One who is leading.

Genesis 22:9–14 When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called the name of that place, "The Lord will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided."

"Remembering is the root of faith. If you don't intentionally remember God's grace, you'll end up forgetting His faithfulness."— Paul David Tripp

Point 4: Faith remembers where God provided.

Genesis 22:15–19 And the angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven and said, "By myself I have sworn, declares the Lord, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies, and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice." So Abraham returned to his young men, and they arose and went together to Beersheba. And Abraham lived at Beersheba.

Point 5: Faithful obedience today creates eternal impact tomorrow.

Reflection Questions

- 1. What do you treasure that God may be asking you to surrender?
- 2. Are you willing to follow Him when it costs you something?
- 3. Will you trust Him even when you don't know how it's going to work out?
- 4. Can you look back and remember His provision?
- 5. Will you choose to obey-right here, right now-believing that what God does through your faith will ripple into eternity?

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