

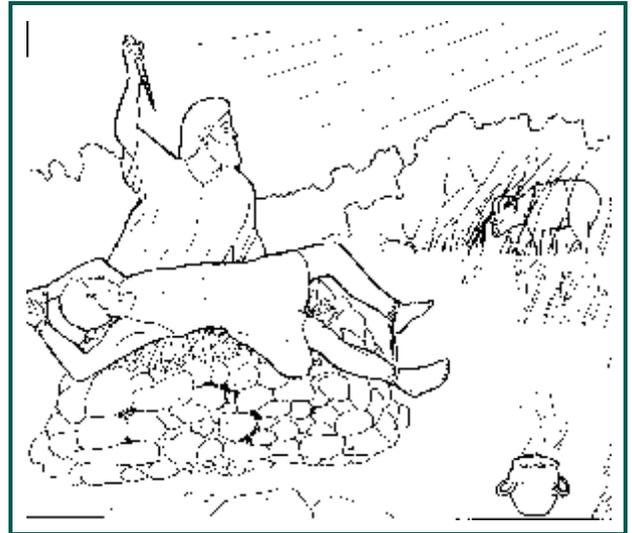
Isaac's Birth/Abraham Offers Isaac

Genesis 21:1-7; 22:1-19

Does this picture of Abraham and Isaac remind you of another time when a Father gave His Son as an offering?

Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father, We come before You this day asking You to guide our hearts and minds as we study Your Word. Help us to know and understand Your will in our lives. Help us to believe Your promise that You will bless us and will forgive us when we have a weak faith. Amen.



The Story Genesis 21:1-7; 22:1-19

And the LORD visited Sarah as He had said, and the LORD did for Sarah as He had spoken. {2} For Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age, at the set time of which God had spoken to him. {3} And Abraham called the name of his son who was born to him; whom Sarah bore to him; Isaac. {4} Then Abraham circumcised his son Isaac when he was eight days old, as God had commanded him. {5} Now Abraham was one hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him.

{6} And Sarah said, "God has made me laugh, and all who hear will laugh with me." {7} She also said, "Who would have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse

children? For I have borne him a son in his old age."

22:1 Now it came to pass after these things that God tested Abraham, and said to him, "Abraham!"

And he said, "Here I am."

{2} Then He said, "Take now 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."

{3} 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. {4} Then on the



third day Abraham lifted his eyes and saw the place afar off. {5} And Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the lad and I will go yonder and worship, and we will come back to you."

{6} So Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son; and he took the fire in his hand, and a knife, and the two of them went together. {7} But Isaac spoke to Abraham his father and said, "My father!"

And he said, "Here I am, my son."

Then he said, "Look, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?"

{8} And Abraham said, "My son, God will provide for Himself the lamb for a burnt offering." So the two of them went together.

{9} Then they came to the place of which God had told him. And Abraham built an altar there and placed the wood in order; and he bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, upon the wood. {10} And Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. {11} But the Angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!"

So he said, "Here I am."

{12} And He said, "Do not lay your hand on the lad, or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me."

{13} Then Abraham lifted his eyes and looked, and there behind him was a ram caught in a thicket by its horns. So Abraham went and took the ram, and offered it up for a burnt offering instead of his son. {14} And Abraham called the name of the place, The-LORD-Will-Provide; as it is said to this day, "In the Mount of The LORD it shall be provided."

{15} Then the Angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time out of heaven, {16} and said: "By Myself I have sworn, says the LORD, because you have done this thing, and have not withheld your son, your only son; {17} "blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heaven and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies. {18} "In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice."

{19} So Abraham returned to his young men, and they rose and went together to Beersheba; and Abraham dwelt at Beersheba.

Outer Aim

God strengthened Abraham, Sarah and Isaac to live their lives dependent upon Him.

What The Story Tells Us - Answer the following questions.

1. Why was it unusual for Abraham and Sarah to have a baby?
2. Why did God make them wait so long for the child He had promised them?
3. Why did God tell Abraham to offer Isaac up as burnt offering to Him?
4. Why was Abraham able to do what God asked of him?
5. Why was Isaac so important to Abraham?
6. Why was Isaac so important to all believers?

What the Bible Tells Us - Look up the following passages. Tell whether they show a strong faith or a weak faith.

Gen. 12:1-4 _____

Gen. 17:17 _____

Gen. 15:1-6 _____

Gen. 18:11,15 _____

Gen. 16:1,2 _____

Gen. 22:8 _____

What was the blessing Abraham and Sarah needed that we all need according to Rom. 4:1-8?

Inner Aim

Jehovah brought Abraham to revere, love, and trust in Him above/before anything else.

Your Turn - Discuss the following.

Describe how Abraham's offering his son Isaac is like God offering His Son Jesus?

Describe how Jesus and Isaac were alike. Describe how Jesus and Isaac were different.

Tell how God's ways of dealing with Abraham, Sarah, and Isaac show His ways of dealing with all sinful men.

Passages

Hebrews 12:5-7 "My son, do not despise the chastening of the LORD, Nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him; {6} For whom the LORD loves He chastens, And scourges every son whom He receives." {7} If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten?"

Philippians 2:13 "...for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure."

Hebrews 6:13 "for when God made a promise to Abraham, because He could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself, saying 'surely blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply you.'"

According to these passages what truths do we know about God's ruling in the lives of sinful mankind? Underline the words in the passage that answer the question.

Hymn - TLH #517 v.1,2

The will of God is always best
And shall be done forever;
And they who trust in Him are blest,
He will forsake them never.
He helps indeed in time of need,
He chastens with forbearing;
They who depend on God, their Friend,
Shall not be left despairing.

God is my Comfort and my Trust,
My Hope and Life abiding;
And to His counsel, wise and just,
I yield, in Him confiding.
The very hairs, His Word declares,
Upon my head He numbers.
By night and day God is my Stay,
He never sleeps nor slumbers.

Prayer

Heavenly Father, We praise You for Your goodness and mercy. Thank You for giving us faith in Your Son Jesus. Forgive us for our times of weak faith when we like Abraham, Sarah, and Isaac don't love and trust only You. Give us a strong faith so we may find our greatest joy and hope in the fulfillment of all Your promises. Amen.