

Hebrews 11: Can I Trust God? Can God Trust Me?

Part 5: "Though You slay me, yet will I trust You!" (11:17-19)

At the lowest point in his life, Job shouted out, in confused, frustrated reverence: "**Though He slay me, yet will I trust Him!**" Job 13:15

Can we really come to that point of trust? That question drives our **two key questions** in this series on the flawed but victorious heroes of Hebrews 11: *Can I trust God? Can God trust me?*

How fully can I really depend on God's word and His guidance as the genuine, decisive basis for my decisions and choices in every arena of life?

Today let's use three different Biblical descriptions of the same event. It is the supreme test and supreme moment of trusting God in Abraham's life.

Sometime later, God tested Abraham.

He said to him: "Abraham." "Here I am," he replied. Then God said: "Take your son, your only son, Isaac, whom you love and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains I will tell you about."

Genesis 22:1-2

The words are so blunt, so horrifying, the response so powerful.

God had said: Your whole life will be defined by this one son, whom you are to name ISAAC = Laughter.

Now God says: This son, who represents all my promises to you, this son who is the "laughter" in your life, this most precious possession you have on earth—give him up. Give him back to Me!

Abraham...set out for the place God had told him about.

Genesis 12:3

"We will worship, then **we** will come back to you!" "Father?" "Yes, my son?" "The fire and the wood is here, but where is the lamb for the sacrifice?"

"God Himself will provide the Lamb

for the sacrifice, my son."

Genesis 22:5, 7-8

"Abraham! Abraham!" "Here I am," he replied. "Do not lay a hand on the boy," He said. "Do not do anything to him. Now I know that you fear God, because **you have not withheld from Me your son, your only son.**"

Genesis 22:11-12

Abraham looked up and there in a thicket he saw a ram caught by its horns. He went over and took the ram and sacrificed it as the burnt offering **instead of his son.**

Genesis 22:13

So Abraham called that place: **The LORD Will Provide.** And to this day it is said, "On the mountain of the LORD it will be provided."

Genesis 22:14

Your father Abraham rejoiced at the thought of seeing My day; he saw it and rejoiced." "You are not yet fifty years old," they said to Him, "and You have seen Abraham!" "Very truly I tell you," Jesus answered, "**before Abraham was born, I AM!**"

John 8:56-58

By faith Abraham, when God tested him, offered Isaac as a sacrifice.

He who had embraced the promises was about to sacrifice his one and only son, even though God had said to him, "It is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned."

Abraham reasoned that God could even raise the dead, and so, in a parabolic sense, he did receive Isaac back from death.

Hebrews 11:17-19

APPLICATION:

The main question this story poses to us is this:

- Would I give up anything God ask me to give up?
- Would I trust to God anything that He asks me to surrender?

Is there something, or many things, in my life that ranks higher on my list of priorities than obedience to God? We can only, truly worship one God, and in the end it will be seen clearly who or what our true 'God' was.

Anything God asks us to give to Him, in the end He gives back better = fully restored.