

# ***The Mount of Sacrifice***

Genesis 22:1-19

## **Introduction:**

*“In the Bible, going to the mountain has always been associated with getting close to God. Each time the great men of old took something away from the experience that was unforgettable.”*

***And the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in, choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful. Mark 4:19***

*“You must understand that Abraham’s greatest test came right after God’s greatest blessing in his life.”*

## **The Qualities of Abraham’s Spiritual Life**

- ♦ He was a man who put priority on prayer.
- ♦ He was a man to whom God had given great promises.
- ♦ He was a man who had a boldness in prayer.
- ♦ He was a man who God trusted to live righteously.

***For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the LORD, Genesis 18:19***

## **I. The call to the mountain. (V. 1-6)**

*“All people have three parts to their personality: intellect, emotions, and will. Each was included in this test as God sought to refine Abraham to a purer faith.”*  
**- David Jeremiah**

### **A. It is a call to surrender to God’s will.**

***And he said, Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee into the land of Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of. Genesis 22:2***

## **What Could Be An Isaac that God Is Asking You to Sacrifice?**

- ♦ Is it something that slowly begins to eclipse God from your life?
- ♦ Is it something that causes you to grow independent of Him?
- ♦ Is it something that takes Him out of the driver’s seat and puts Him into the back seat of your life?
- ♦ Is it something that replaces God as being the central thing that brings excitement, enthusiasm, and intrigue into your life?
- ♦ Is it something that causes your affections for God to cool and your love for Him become distant?
- ♦ Is it something that quenches your thirst for righteousness with carnal fillers?

## B. It is a call to sacrifice to God in worship.

*Then on the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes, and saw the place afar off. (V. 5) And Abraham said unto his young men, Abide ye here with the ass; and I and the lad will go yonder and worship, and come again to you, (V. 6) And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering, and laid it upon Isaac his son; and he took the fire in his hand, and a knife; and they went both of them together. Genesis 22:4-6*

## II. The conversation on the mountain. (V. 7-10)

### A. There were the words that were exchanged by faith.

*And Isaac spake unto Abraham his father, and said, My father: and he said, Here am I, my son. And he said, Behold the fire and the wood: but where is the lamb for a burnt offering? (V. 8) And Abraham said, My son, God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering: so they went both of them together. Genesis 22:7-8*

*“ ‘The lad and I will go yonder and worship, and we will come back to you’. Somehow Abraham had the confidence and trust that God would bring this boy back with him again.”*  
- Jerry Vines

*By faith Abraham, when he was tried, offered up Isaac: and he that had received the promises offered up his only begotten son, Hebrews 11:17*

### B. There were the works that were exercised by faith.

*And they came to the place which God had told him of; and Abraham built an altar there, and laid the wood in order, and bound Isaac his son, and laid him on the altar upon the wood. (V. 10) And Abraham stretched forth his hand, and took the knife to slay his son. Genesis 22:9-10*

## III. The confirmation of the mountain. (V. 11-19)

### A. God confirmed who he had become on the mountain.

*And the angel of the LORD called unto him out of heaven, and said, Abraham, Abraham: and he said, Here am I. (V. 12) And he said, Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou any thing unto him: for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me. (V. 13) And Abraham lifted up his eyes, and looked, and behold behind him a ram caught in a thicket by his horns: and Abraham went and took the ram, and offered him up for a burnt offering in the stead of his son. (V. 14) And Abraham called the name of that place Jehovah-jireh: as it is said to this day, In the mount of the LORD it shall be seen. (Abraham passed the priority test.) Genesis 22:11-14*

## What Does God Desire from the Mountain of Sacrifice?

- ♦ To know that He is first priority in your life.
- ♦ To know that you're willing to sacrifice anything to renew your fellowship with Him.
- ♦ To know that you consider His will to be the most fulfilling purpose for your life.
- ♦ To know that you consider your dependence on Him to be the greatest necessity for life.
- ♦ To know that you reserve for Him alone an intimate, personal oneness that you refuse to compromise for any reason.

### B. God confirmed who he would be on the mountain.

*"God does not want a place in your life. God does not want prominence in your life.  
God desires, God deserves, God demands preeminence in your life."*  
- **Adrian Rogers**

*And the angel of the LORD called unto Abraham out of heaven the second time, (V. 16) And said, By myself have I sworn, saith the LORD, for because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only son: (V. 17) That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, Genesis 22:15-17*