



Sermon Highlights

The God Who Sees and Provides: Abraham's Ultimate Test of Faith

Sermon Summary:

This sermon explores Genesis 22, examining Abraham's ultimate test when God asked him to sacrifice Isaac. The message emphasizes that true faith must be tested, not for God's knowledge but for our own spiritual growth. Through Abraham's journey, we learn that God never tests us beyond what we can endure with His help, and that immediate obedience to God's word is essential. The sermon teaches that God is "Jehovah-Jireh" - the God who sees and provides - watching over both our physical circumstances and spiritual development. Abraham's willingness to obey, even when asked to do the seemingly impossible, demonstrates a faith that believes God can raise the dead and keep His promises. The message challenges believers to develop an intimate, personal relationship with God that surpasses all earthly loves and attachments, including family. This relationship comes through walking in the Spirit rather than the flesh, learning from past mistakes without being bound by them, and responding to God's call with "Here I am" - complete surrender and availability.

Key Points:

- A person's faith is not real until it has been tested; God tests us not for His knowledge but for ours
- God never tests believers beyond what they can endure with His help
- Abraham's past experiences and mistakes prepared him for this ultimate test
- Anything less than immediate obedience to God's will is sin
- God requires first place in our hearts; anything that comes between us and God becomes an idol
- Abraham believed God could raise Isaac from the dead because God's promises required Isaac to be alive
- "Jehovah-Jireh" means the God who sees and provides - He sees our struggles and provides what we need

- Walking in the Spirit rather than the flesh brings unshakable joy that transcends circumstances
- The Christian life is a journey of mountaintops and valleys that continues until we reach heaven
- God desires an intimate, personal relationship with each believer

Scripture Reference:

- Genesis 22:1-19 (primary passage)
- Genesis 21:22-34 (context setting)
- Isaiah 6 (Isaiah's response: "Send me")
- 1 John (regarding hatred of brothers)
- Hebrews (Abraham's faith that God could raise Isaac from the dead)

Stories:

- The account of Abraham being commanded to sacrifice Isaac on Mount Moriah
- Abraham's covenant with Abimelech at Beersheba and the naming of the well
- Abraham planting a tamarisk tree and calling on "the everlasting God"
- The journey to Moriah with Isaac carrying the wood and asking about the sacrifice lamb
- The comparison between Abraham's faith walk and Lot's fleshly walk throughout their journeys
- The worship of Molech by surrounding nations, requiring child sacrifice as a demonic counterfeit
- Pastor Bruce Gordon's personal testimony of conducting funerals for family members, including his own parents, with joy because of eternal hope
- Pastor Bruce Gordon's experience of God speaking to him in the middle of the night about areas needing change in his life