

A Father's Sacrifice

Gen. 22:1-14

Genesis 22:6 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.

7 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?

8 And Abraham said, My son, God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering: so they went both of them together.

9 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.

10 And Abraham stretched forth his hand and took the knife to slay his son.

11 And the angel of the LORD called unto him out of heaven, and said, Abraham, Abraham: and he said, Here *am* I.

12 And he said, “**Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou anything unto him: for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me.**”

- Today we celebrate Father's Day.
 - In my office hangs a painting done by my baby Kelsey LeAnn.
 - It has a silhouette of a daddy and his ponytailed daughter walking hand in hand with this definition of a father painted on: a man who carries pictures where his money used to be.
- A father is one who must make sacrifices daily for those he cares about.

- Every father makes a sacrifice every day...but
- Who is the sacrifice
- Who is the sacrifice for
- Sadly, today too many fathers don't even realize that they are being very much like OT people who would offer their children to false gods
 - God warned the children of Israel that if they didn't completely cast out all of the Canaanites that they would influence them to do perverse things
 - **Leviticus 20:1** And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,
 - 2** Again, thou shalt say to the children of Israel, Whosoever *he* be of the children of Israel, or of the strangers that sojourn in Israel, that giveth *any* of his seed unto Molech; he shall surely be put to death: the people of the land shall stone him with stones.
 - 3** And I will set my face against that man and will cut him off from among his people; because he hath given of his seed unto Molech, to defile my sanctuary, and to profane my holy name.
 - 4** And if the people of the land do any ways hide their eyes from the man, when he giveth of his seed unto Molech, and kill him not:
 - 5** Then I will set my face against that man, and against his family, and will cut him off, and all that go a whoring after him, to commit whoredom with Molech, from among their people.
 - 6** And the soul that turneth after such as have familiar spirits, and after wizards, to go a whoring

after them, I will even set my face against that soul, and will cut him off from among his people.

7 Sanctify yourselves therefore and be ye holy: for I *am* the LORD your God.

- You might be thinking, “Dads don’t do that. They don’t kill their kids for false gods today!”
- We talked last week about having a veil over our eyes keeping us from seeing truth...
 - We offer our children as a sacrifice on many different altars today
 - I know this is going to sound harsh to some, but I have to do what God wants and say what God tells us
 - The truth is that when we aren’t actively giving ourselves as the sacrifice so that our children KNOW Christ, we are actively giving them to some false god
 - The god of our vocation
 - The god of our greed
 - The god of our selfishness
 - The god of our recreation
 - The god of popular opinion
- If we as fathers are not being the living sacrifice we are called to be then chances are that we are offering our children up to some false god and are blinded by our pride
- Now let’s get back to the heart of the message, A father is one who must make sacrifices daily for those he cares about.
- Mothers and fathers couldn’t be more different!

- A mother is given to nurture and nourish children with love and care,
- while a father is given to protect and provide.
- These are our basest of instincts.
- **Neither of these happen without great sacrifice by both parents.**
- I want to take a few minutes to look at a father's sacrifice this morning.
- Talk about the Story of Abraham & Isaac's obedience.
- A Father Will Sacrifice His Past Life
 - Abraham had another son
 - Ishmael represented a bad decision
 - Past decisions can disturb good direction
- A Father Will Sacrifice His Present Leisure
 - Abraham was comfortable where he was
 - Isaac needed to see Abraham's obedience
 - How can our children know obedience that's not seen?
- A Father Will Sacrifice His Potential Love
 - Isaac was the sole heir of all God's blessings on Abraham
 - Isaac was a promise given by God
 - If our children aren't God's children, we've lost them anyway
- Abraham was so close to God that whatever God asked for was His.
 - This is an intimacy that all godly men should desire.
 - It takes a strong relationship with God to have the faith that Abraham displays in verse 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.”***

- Hebrews 11 tells us...

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

- 18** Of whom it was said, That in Isaac shall thy seed be called:

- 19** Accounting that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead; from whence also he received him in a figure.

- God, the Heavenly Father rewarded Abraham greatly.
- Abraham was a picture of the Heavenly Father, Isaac was a type Christ.
- Give the Gospel

