

Adult Bible Study 2024  
Week Twelve Notes  
10/6/Sunday  
Genesis 22

Main Ideas

- After looking at Genesis 12, 15, 17, we now arrive at Genesis 22
- Gen 22 is the Testing of Abraham
- *Where there is an encounter, there is a promise*
  - God fulfills His promises
  - The question is whether we believe Him
- God tests our faith. Do we accept it?
  - Consider the story of Job
- “Hineni” in Hebrew means - Behold, here I am
- God aims toward those things which are most precious to us
  - Will we let Him have those things which are most precious?
- Go! God says
  - In Gen 12, God began with Go!
  - In Gen 22, God says Go! To sacrifice Abraham’s son
- What’s the PROBLEM?
  - God doesn’t believe in murder!
  - This is the Only Son motif, the First Son motif
  - It’s a pagan belief to murder children for the sake
  - Also, Isaac is the promise of the encounter that Abraham had earlier in life. What is going on?
  - CONSIDER THIS
    - God is seeking the Ultimate gift from us, rather than the Comparative gift.
    - He does not intend to do something evil. He wants to see if we will give Him our best, our very best
    - God has our best in mind at all times
- What is going on in Abraham’s mind?
  - We don’t know
  - He simply trusts and acts
  - **The heart of worship is sacrifice**, and Abraham is not only sacrificing his son Isaac but also his desire to control and know all which God is doing
- ‘āqāq - To bind in Hebrew
  - Isaac carried all the wood up the mountain
  - Isaac could overtake his father by his strength
  - Isaac trusts his father Abraham and humbly submits to his father’s will
- THE BINDING OF ISAAC

- This is the Mass!
- **The heart of worship is sacrifice**
- Climax of the Abrahamic Covenant
- This scene looks forward to a fulfillment in the Only Son, Jesus Christ
- Jesus will carry His Cross up Mt. Calvary to fulfill the covenant
- Every Mass, we are at Calvary with Jesus lifted high upon the Cross
- Anamnesis - Remembrance - not a memory of the mind “Do this in memory of Me” - but a living remembrance of us being at Calvary in that very moment 2000 years ago!
- The past looked forward to Jesus on the Cross and we in the present and in the future look back to Jesus on the Cross
- The Crux of the matter is Christ’s Paschal Mystery - His Passion, Death, Resurrection, and Ascension into Heaven
- “Now, I know” says God
  - Does God need to know?
  - No, rather, Abraham needed to know his own trust in God
  - Everything pivots here in Scripture
    - God accepts the ram in the bushes - He accepts a gift of comparative value instead of something of ultimate value
      - God accepts the offering of Abraham’s heart
- Prefall Attitude | Prefall action
  - Adam and Eve
  - No trust
- Postfall Attitude | Postfall action
  - Abraham and Isaac
  - Trust
- Genesis 22:15 - fulfillment of the promise
  - The angel swears by himself
- God never asks something He is unwilling to do Himself