

GOD KEEPS HIS PROMISE TO ABRAHAM & SARAH Genesis 17:1-19 & 18:14 & 21:1-20

(about 2000 B.C.)

17:1 When Abraham was 99 years old, God said to Abraham, “I am [Most-Powerful-God](#). 2 I will give you [many](#), many [descendants](#). 4 You will be the father of many [nations](#) – 6 and [kings](#) will come from you. 7 My promise to you is [forever](#) – my promise is to you and your descendants forever. Abraham, I will be your God – and I will be your descendants’ God. 8 [Now](#) you are a [stranger](#) in [Canaan](#) – [but](#) I give [all](#) of Canaan to you – and I give all of Canaan to your descendants forever. And I will be their God.”

[But Abraham’s [wife](#) Sarah [could](#) not have children.]

17:19 God said to Abraham, “Your wife Sarah will give you a son – and you [must name](#) your son [Isaac](#). [I made a [special](#) promise to you: “I will bless all the [peoples](#) in the [world through](#) you.”*] I will make the [same](#) promise to Isaac.† My promise to Isaac will be forever – and my promise will be to Isaac’s descendants forever.” 18:14 [Is anything too hard for God?](#)”

21:1 God was very [kind](#) to Sarah – and God did [for](#) Sarah what he promised. 2 Sarah became [pregnant](#). And the [next year](#) Sarah [gave birth](#) to a son for Abraham – the baby was [born exactly](#) when God promised. 3 Abraham named his son Isaac. 5 Abraham was 100 years old [and Sarah was 90 years old] when Isaac was born.

9 But [Ishmael](#) was [mocking](#) Isaac. Ishmael was Abraham and [Hagar’s](#) son. 14 [So](#) Abraham [sent away](#) Hagar his [slave](#) wife, and her son, Ishmael. 12 God said to Abraham, “Do not be [upset](#) about the boy Ishmael. Do not be upset about sending Ishmael away, [because](#) I will [count](#) your descendants through Isaac. 20 Ishmael [grew up](#) in the [desert](#) – and God was with Ishmael.

CREATOR GOD GIVES ABRAHAM A VERY HARD TEST Genesis 22:1-19

22:1 [Later](#), God tested Abraham – and God said, “Abraham!” And Abraham said, “Yes, [here](#) I am.” 2 [Then](#) God said to Abraham, “You [love](#) Isaac – you love your [only](#) son Isaac. But [take](#) your son Isaac, and go to a [mountain](#) in Moriah – and [sacrifice](#) Isaac to me on the mountain (on [Mt. Moriah](#)).”

3 Abraham got up [early](#) the next [morning](#) – and he [cut wood](#) for the sacrifice. Then Abraham took two [servants](#) and his son Isaac. He [got on](#) his [donkey](#) and they [started](#) going to the mountain.

4 On the [third day](#) Abraham [saw](#) the mountain – the mountain was [still far away](#). 5 Then Abraham said to the servants, “[Stay](#) here with the donkey. The boy and I will go to the mountain. We will [worship](#) God. Then we will [come back](#) to you.”

6 Abraham [put](#) the wood on Isaac – and Isaac [carried](#) the wood. And Abraham carried the [fire](#) and the [knife](#). And they started [walking](#) to the mountain. 7 But Isaac said, “Father?” “Yes, my son?” [answered](#) Abraham. Then Isaac [asked](#), “We [have](#) the fire, and we have the knife. But [where](#) is the [lamb](#)? Where is the lamb for the sacrifice?” 8 Abraham answered, “My son, God [provides](#) the lamb [for himself](#) – God provides the lamb for the sacrifice.” Then Abraham and Isaac walked to the mountain [together](#).

9Abraham and Isaac **came** to the mountain. And Abraham made an **altar** – and he put the wood on the altar. Then Abraham **tied** his son Isaac, and he **laid** Isaac on the altar. 10And Abraham **picked up** the knife to **kill** his son.

11But the **Angel of God called** to Abraham from **heaven**, “Abraham! Abraham!” “Yes, here I am,” Abraham answered. 12The Angel of God said, “Do not **touch** the boy. Do **nothing** to the boy.”

The Angel of God said, “Now I **know** that you **respect** God. Isaac is your only son – but you **were going to** give Isaac to me.”

13Then Abraham **looked behind** him. **There was** a **bush** behind him – and in the bush was a **sheep**. The sheep’s **horns** were **caught** in the bush. So Abraham went to the bush – and he took the sheep. And Abraham sacrificed the sheep **instead** of his son.

14So Abraham named that **place**: God Will Provide. So **today** we say: “On God’s mountain, God will provide.”

15The Angel of God called to Abraham from heaven **again**, 16“**I swear by myself**. Because you “gave” me your son, your only son – 17I will **bless** you. I will make your descendants as many as the **stars** in the **sky**. 18And through your descendant all nations on earth will be blessed. I will do this because you **obeyed** me.”

19Then Abraham (and Isaac) went back to the two servants. And they all went home together.

* Genesis 12:3

† Genesis 26:2, 4 2**God said to Isaac, 4“I will bless all nations on earth through your descendant [Jesus Christ].”**

CONTENT QUESTIONS

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- After Isaac was born, what did Ishmael do? (Genesis 21:9)
 - So what did Abraham do? (verse 14)

- How did God test Abraham's **faith**? (Genesis 22:2)
 - How did Abraham **feel** about Isaac? (verse 2)

If Isaac died, could God bless all peoples in the world through Isaac (in 17:19)?
Could God keep his promise to Isaac?

- **How long** did Abraham **wait** to obey God? (verse 3)
- What did Abraham say to the servants – what did he **tell** them he and Isaac would do? (verse 5)

Why do you think Abraham said: "We will come back to you?"

- What 3 things did Abraham and Isaac carry to the mountain? (verse 6)
- What did they not carry to the mountain? (verse 7)
 - So what did Isaac ask his father? (verse 7)
- What did Abraham answer? (verse 8)
- What did Abraham do to his son Isaac on the mountain? (verse 9)
- Next, what did Abraham **plan** to do to Isaac? (verse 10)

Which was the most important to Abraham: God or his son?

How much faith in God did Abraham have?

#1. 11 Abraham was too old to have children – and his wife Sarah could never have children. But Abraham believed God – he had faith in God. So Abraham was able to become a father because Abraham thought: I know that God always keeps his promises. 12 So – even though Abraham's body was the same as dead – Abraham's descendants became as many as the stars in the sky.

Hebrews 11:11-12 [This was written about 2000 years after Abraham]

#2. 17-18 God tested Abraham, and Abraham believed God – he had faith in God. So Abraham gave Isaac to God – he sacrificed Isaac to God. God had promised Abraham, "I will count your descendants through Isaac." Yet, Abraham was going to give his only son to God – he was going to kill his only son. 19 Why? Because Abraham thought: God can make dead people alive again – God can make Isaac alive again. Symbolically, that is what happened for Abraham – symbolically, Isaac died and became alive again.

Hebrews 11:17-19 [This was written about 2000 years after Abraham]

What did Abraham believe that God could do?

- What did the Angel of God (**probably** God himself) tell Abraham not to do? (verse 12)

Did God **really** want Abraham to kill his son?
Or was God **just** testing Abraham's heart?

Later, God said to Israel:

When you go into Canaan, do not **copy the terrible things those nations do. Do not sacrifice your sons and daughters in the fire.**

Deuteronomy 18:9-10

- Why did the Angel of God test Abraham? (verse 12 – the second half)

What did God want most from Abraham? What was most important to God?

Abraham loved his son Isaac. But who was #1 for Abraham?

Of course, Jesus Christ wants us to love our families.
But he said:

37“Do you love your father or mother **more than you love me?** Yes? **Then you do not fit me. Do you love your son or daughter more than you love me?** Yes? **Then you do not fit me.** 38Do you want to **follow me?** Yes? **Then you must suffer for me.** 39Are you trying to **find your life?** Yes? **Then you will lose your life. But if you let go of your life for me, you will find your life!”**

Matthew 10:37-39

What does God want to know about us?

- What did God provide for Abraham and Isaac? (verse 13)

keep a promise	保つ、持つ、(約束や戒めを) 守る、取っておく
Abraham	アブラハム（イスラエルの父）（元の名前はアブラム）
Sarah	サラ（アブラハムの妻）
about	約、について
B.C.	紀元前
Most-Powerful-God	全能の神様
many	多くの、大勢の
descendant	子孫
nation	民族、国
king	王
forever	永久に、永遠に
now	今、もう、さて、それで
stranger	よそ者、他国者、他人
Canaan	カナン（地方）、（現代イスラエル辺り）
but	しかし
all	すべて
wife	妻
can - could	できる
must	しなければならない
name	名付ける
Isaac	イサク（アブラハムの息子）
special	特別、特別な、特徴ある、特殊、大事な、大切な
peoples	氏族、民族、国民
world	世、世界
through	を通して
same	同じ
anything	何でも
too	～すぎる、あまりに、も
hard / harder / hardest	難しい、やりにくい、硬い、一生懸命、激しい
kind	親切、親切にする
for	のために

(become) pregnant	妊娠する、身ごもる
next	次
year	年
give birth - gave birth - given birth	産む
be born - was born - been born	生まれる
exactly	ちょうど
Ishmael	イシュマエル（アブラハムとハガルの息子）
mock	からかう
Hagar	ハガル（アブラハムの第二の妻、サラの奴隷）
so	だから、それで、それに従って、そのためには、そんなに
send away - sent away - sent away	送り出す、追い出す
slave	奴隷
upset	焦る、焦らせる
because	なぜなら、～のため、～のせい
count	みなす、計算する、数える
grow up - grew up - grown up	大きくなる、成長する
desert	砂漠、荒野
Creator God	創造者、創造主、天地創造の神様
test (noun)	試みる、試練、試し、試す
later	あとで、その後
here	ここ
then	そして、その場合、その時、そしたら
love	愛する、愛
only	だけ、のみ、ただ、ひとりの、ただ一人の、ただ一つの
take - took - taken	連れていく
mountain	山
sacrifice	(焼き尽くすいけにえとして) 献げる、いけにえ、犠牲、犠牲にする、犠牲を払う
Mt. Moriah	モリヤ山
early	早めに、（朝）早く
morning	朝
cut - cut - cut	切る

wood	木、木材、材木、板、薪
servant	しもべ、召し使い、従者、僕
get on - got on - gotten on	乗る
donkey	ろば
start	始める、始まる
third	第三、三番目
day	日
see - saw - seen	見る
still	まだ、今でも
far away	遠く離れてる
stay	いる、待つ、止まる、泊まる、滞在する、そのままだに、残る
worship	礼拝をする、拝む
come back - came back - come back	戻る、帰る
put - put - put	置く、入れる
carry	持っていく、運ぶ、背負う
fire	火
knife	ナイフ、包丁
walk	歩く
answer	答える、答え
ask	尋ねる
have - had - had	自分のものにする、持つ、～がある、～がいる
where	どこ
lamb	子羊 (God's Lamb = 世の救い主である「神の子羊」イエス・キリスト)
provide	備える
for himself	彼自身のため
together	合わせて、一緒に、一緒
come - came - come	来る
altar	祭壇
tie	縛る、結ぶ
lay - laid - laid	寝かす、置く
pick up	手に取る

kill	殺す
Angel of God	神様の天使（神様ご自身の現れだと考えられる）
call	呼ぶ、呼びかける
heaven	天国
touch	触る、触れる
nothing	何もない、何でもない、無
know - knew - known	知る
respect	敬う、尊敬する
were going to	するつもりだった
look	(わざと) 見る、～に見える
behind	後ろ、後ろに
there is - there was - there has been	～がある
bush	茂み
sheep	羊
horn	角
catch - caught - caught	引っ掛ける、つかむ
instead	の代わりに
place	場所、所
today	今日
again	また、もう一度
swear - swore - sworn	誓う
(swear) by myself	自分自身にかけて（誓う）
bless	祝福する
star	星
sky	空
obey	従う

faith	信仰（信仰＝信じること・神様を信じること）
feel - felt - felt	感じる
if	もし
die	死ぬ

how long	どのくらい（の長さ・の時間）
wait	待つ
tell - told - told	命じる、教える、伝える、戒める、話をする、見分ける、区別がつく
why	なぜ、どうして
think - thought - thought	思う、考える
plan	計画、計画を立てる
which	どっち、どれ
most	最も、一番
important	大切、重要な、大事な、重大、優れる、えらい（人）
how much	どれほど
old - older - oldest	年寄り、年を取った
never	決して、一度も～ない
believe	信じる
able	できる
always	いつも
even though	にもかかわらず
body	体
the same as	と同じ
dead	死んでる
as many as	...と同数の...、それほどの数
yet	まだ、それなのに
make - made - made	造る、作る、させる
alive again	再び生きる、復活する
symbolically	象徴的に
probably	多分
really	本当に、実に、とても
want	
just (only)	ただ、だけ
copy	真似する
terrible	大変な、ひどい、恐ろしい
of course	もちろん
family	家族
more than	～より、もっと

then	それなら、そしたら
fit - fit - fit	ふさわしい、合う
follow	従う、についていく
suffer	苦しむ
try	試みる、やろうとする、やってみる
find - found - found	見つける
life	命、人生
lose - lost - lost	失う
but if	しかし...ならば
let go	手放す、離す、捨てる