

Genesis 22:1-19 -- The Angel of Jehovah (6)

Introduction

“Jehovah-jireh”

I. Proving Abraham's faith

A. The difficult test

1. Very literal -- kill your son; not a temptation, but a test or trial
2. The test was difficult because Isaac was so dear to him (v. 2)
 - a. He was the son of promise
 - b. He was a wonder child
 - c. He was the child of Abraham and Sarah's old age

B. Abraham's Faith and Obedience

1. Abraham responds in obedience, immediately, without hesitation or argument.
2. But, there's a process, a period of reasoning that finally reaches these conclusions.
 - a. V. 5, we (I and the lad) will return
 - b. V. 8, God will provide a lamb
 - c. Hebrews 11, God will raise Isaac from the dead

C. What was the secret to the strength of Abraham's faith?

1. His closeness to God -- “the friend of God”
2. His eye was on Christ

D. The Angel of Jehovah is the one trying Abraham

II. Providing a Lamb for Sacrifice

- A. When Abraham is ready to kill, the Angel of Jehovah spares Isaac and provides a lamb
- B. This is the central event in the chapter -- Jehovah will provide a Lamb, a substitute for sinners
- C. The Angel of Jehovah is the one making this provision

III. Promising Great Things in Isaac

A. The elements of the promise

1. I will multiply thee exceedingly
2. Thy seed shall possess the gates of his enemy
3. In thee shall all the nations of the earth be blessed

B. The assurance in the promise

1. God swears by himself -- to confirm the faith of His people
2. The way of assurance
 - a. Obedience
 - b. Believing the promises of God