God's Gracious Reward for Obedience Genesis 22:15-24 June 14, 2020

How can we be sure of anything these days?

How can we be certain that someone loves us, and always will?

God is assuring Abraham of His present and future love.

God takes an Oath in his Own Name

Notice how the Angel of the Lord, is God.

What are the two immutable things? Hebrews 6:13-18

- 1) God's word
- 2) God's oath

How can we be sure of the promises of God?

Because God promised

Because God took an oath

Because God etches his name and his work in our lives

God is Giving Abraham Assurance.

This is the last time that God spoke to Abraham.

Many of us lack confidence in God. What do I mean by that?

Faith knows that God is proactively out to do you good. v 17

We don't seem to have the same faith for the present and future as we do for the past.

God is out to grow assurance in Abraham for the present and the future, not simply the past.

God Rewards Abraham's Obedience

"Because you have done this."

Abraham obeyed even in the dark.

Four promises

I will bless you

I will multiply your seed greatly

I will give your enemies into your hand

I will bless all nations through you

This assurance, this restatement of the promise, is a reward of grace.

Three sources of assurance of faith. WCF 18:2

- 1) the divine truth of the promises of salvation,
- 2) <u>the inward evidence of those graces unto which</u> these <u>promises are made</u>,
- 3) the testimony of the Spirit of adoption witnessing with our spirits that we are the children of God."

Our obedience can feed and fuel our assurance, as it did for Abraham here.

Faith alone saves, but saving faith is never alone.

Reward of grace, what does that mean?

Our actions respond and contribute to the love of God, but they do not cause it.

God prepares for the future of the promise

Nahor's sons - Isaac needs a wife.

God is telling his child, I love you, I promise, and I always will.