

LAY YOUR ISAAC DOWN! Genesis 22:1-14

Int: This story gives readers two main problems. First, did God really tell Abraham to make this strange sacrifice. Liberal scholars say No. But the Bible makes it ever so clear that God ordered it. Second, modern people read the story backwards to say, “God never wanted Isaac to die. It was just a test.” But to start there is to make this less than a test. Abraham did not know God would stop him. He knew only what God told him to do with Isaac.

All his life Abraham faced tests but his supreme test came at Mount Moriah. God ever calls men to Moriahs where he tests a person’s

LOVE

At Moriah God tested the man to see whether Abraham loved him. God asked for the one thing dearest to him. The man would have given anything to save his son but nothing else would do. God asked for his Isaac, the one thing that meant more to him than anything else in the world. The binding of Isaac proved Abraham loved God most of all.

The most cherished love in your life is your Isaac. One day God will point to it and call you to Moriah. “Go up to the mountain and part with that thing for love of me!” Maybe God brought you here today to build an altar and bind your Isaac for burning.

Count on this! Somewhere on the map of your life is a Moriah where God tests you to find out whether you love him supremely! Lay your Isaac down!

OBEDIENCE

At Moriah God tested the man to see whether Abraham would obey him. “Sacrifice your son!” said God. Abraham obeyed promptly and precisely.

Sometime, some place God will come to you and order you to Moriah to do the hardest thing you have ever done. He wants to know if you will obey. To argue is to disobey. To hesitate is to disobey. To obey partially is to disobey. To offer an alternative is to disobey.

Count on this! Somewhere on the map of your life is a Moriah where God tests you to find out whether you will obey him! Lay your Isaac down!

TRUST

At Moriah God tested the man to see whether Abraham trusted him. “In Isaac shall your seed be called,” said God. Now God asked Abraham to put on the altar the very son through whom God said he would keep his promise. But Abraham had full faith God would raise the lad from the dead to keep his promise (Heb 11:19).

Count on this! Somewhere on the map of your life is a Moriah where God tests you to find out whether you trust him fully! Lay your Isaac down!

Con: The point? It is not your Isaac God wants. He wants YOU! He wants your love, obedience and trust!