

## INTRODUCTION.

- A. Scripture texts: **Genesis 22:1-2; 22:9-10; 22:8, 13; 22:16-18.**
- B. Abraham is the “father figure” of the OT. He is also the type/anti-type of God. Abraham is the father of the Israelite nation and by Ishmael the father of many Gentile nations too.
- C. Abraham was a very good father, by looking at his greatest deed, we can find a valuable lesson for all fathers.
- D. This lesson is appropriate--Father's Day 1999.

## I. ABRAHAM LISTENED TO GOD.

- A. The text: **Gen. 22:1-2.**  
Now it came about after these things, that God tested Abraham, and said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” And He said, “Take now your son, your only son, whom you love, Isaac, and go to the land of Moriah; and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I will tell you.”
- B. Too many fathers today do not listen to God. They listen to everyone else but God.
- C. Blessings come to everyone (especially fathers) when they listen to God. The last two points of this sermon will bear this out.
- D. Many different things want our attention. They want us to listen to them. All kinds of media want to get their message across, and much of it is bad news, ungodly information, and sinful actions.
- E. What fills our ears, also fills our mind. Mental discipline by fathers to filter out the good from the bad is essential in raising a family (Phil. 4:8).  
Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, let your mind dwell on these things.
- F. Good fathers will be listened to. Isaac obeyed his father when told to go with him on a journey to worship. Godly fathers will have a message worth hearing (Eph. 6:4).  
And, fathers, do not provoke your children to anger; but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

## II. ABRAHAM OBEYED GOD.

- A. The text: **Gen. 22:9-10.**  
Then they came to the place of which God had told him; and Abraham built the altar there, and arranged the wood, and bound his son Isaac, and laid him on the altar on top of the wood. And Abraham stretched out his hand, and took the knife to slay his son.
- B. Such a command to obey! Even though Abraham may not have completely understood all that was involved, he knew that Father God knows best.
- C. Good advice is sometimes strange to our ears. As children grow-up they think that the wisdom of their father is anything but wisdom, “Foolishness is bound up in the heart of a child” and a good, godly father will obey God and set a good example for his family.
- D. Godly fathers are to be obeyed (Eph. 6:1).  
Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.
- E. We earthly fathers should be glad that God does not require of us, what He required of Abraham. Think of that next time life gets tough.

## III. GOD PROVIDED FOR ABRAHAM.

- A. The text: **Gen. 22:8, 13.**  
And Abraham said, “God will provide for Himself the lamb for the burnt offering, my son.” So the two of them walked on together. **13** Then Abraham raised his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him a ram caught in the thicket by his horns; and Abraham went and took the ram, and offered him up for a burnt offering in the place of his son.

- B. All good fathers want to provide for their families.
- C. Much time, labor, and money is put into the buying of clothes, food, school, braces (other medical needs), etc.
- D. God provided a ram to sacrifice. Abraham did not want to sacrifice Isaac, but would have if God had not provided. God will always provide what we need if we obey Him.
- E. Fathers must realize that when they put God first in their lives that He will take care of the family and provide all that is needed (Mt. 6:33; Mk. 10:27; Phil. 4:19).

(Mt 6:33) "But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added to you."

(Mk 10:27) Looking upon them, Jesus said, "With men it is impossible, but not with God; for all things are possible with God."

(Phil 4:19) And my God shall supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

#### IV. GOD BLESSED ABRAHAM.

- A. The text: **Gen. 22:16-18**.  
and (God) said, "By Myself I have sworn, declares the LORD, because you have done this thing, and have not withheld your son, your only son, indeed I will greatly bless you, and I will greatly multiply your seed as the stars of the heavens, and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your seed shall possess the gate of their enemies. "And in your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice."
- B. When people do right in the eyes of God, God gives an abundance of blessings.
- C. Look at the rich blessing that Abraham received.
- D. We are promised a hundred-fold in this life, and life to come for all eternity if we will follow Jesus (Mk. 10:29-30).  
Jesus said, "Truly I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or farms, for My sake and for the gospel's sake, but that he shall receive a hundred times as much now in the present age, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and farms, along with persecutions; and in the age to come, eternal life.
- E. Spiritual blessings are always to be desired. If they are with us, and given to us, the physical things will always be provided (Eph 1:3).  
Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,

#### CONCLUSION AND INVITATION.

- A. Let us look again, by way of review, at what happened to Abraham:
  - 1. He listened to God.
  - 2. He obeyed God.
  - 3. He was provided his needs by God.
  - 4. He was blessed by God.
- B. Today, we ask that all fathers look unto Abraham as an example of godliness. And that they seek to listen and obey, so that God may abundantly provide and bless.
- C. Plan of salvation for non-Xians, erring Xians.