

Brynmawr Family Church Sermon

The Binding of Isaac (Gen 22:1-19)
Stuart Wheatman, Sunday 21st Sep 2008

1. Abraham knew how to trust God when things were crazy (v1-3). Ever said the words 'Lord what is going on?'

Context- What's going on?

- Gen 21:1-7 Promise fulfilled in birth of Isaac. Promise=offspring, land and blessing
- Gen 21:8-21 Abraham sorts out distractions to the promise- Ishmael sent to fulfil his own destiny
- Gen 21:22-34 Abraham sorts out resistance to the promise- makes peace treaty with those in the land
- All going so well, then God does His part-'sacrifice your son'. It seemed crazy, and it wasn't politically correct, seeker friendly and didn't pass the usual tests of edification and peace etc.
- From God's perspective one of the greatest moments in man's history- greater than first man on moon- God had been waiting patiently for this moment because this situation was God-ordained to display to mankind God's rescue plan. When God would put plan into action they would not understand-but later they would- death of Messiah seemed to make no sense- road to Emmaus- time brings God's perspective- some things only with eternity.

APPLICATION- Trust God even when don't understand

- Abraham hadn't sinned- God brought the test to strengthen & confirm God's plans for Abraham.

'Only' son Isaac- only begotten-take your beloved

- Jesus the 'only begotten' of the Father
- A mountain I will show you-Mount Moriah- centre, navel of the earth-place of future temple-God's residence on earth-place of future sacrificial system

2. Abraham knew the real meaning of worship=a costly sacrifice (v5)

- Rom 12:1. Job 1:19-22. Arunah's threshing floor was the same location as this incident 2Sam 24:24-this very spot years later bought by David-another who understood the real meaning of worship, and refused to give to the Lord something that cost him nothing.
- John A's funeral

3. Abraham had faith for God's provision (v8, 14)

- Abraham in v8 said they would BOTH come back (faith to raise the dead)
- Same Spirit that raised Christ from dead in us
- Lamb provided. Cross=God's place of provision of all that we could not
- How is our faith for God's provision
- Faith is rewarded- reward v16-18- I will SURELY bless you & multiply you-as stars and sand and gates of enemies- in seed all nations blesses BECAUSE you have obeyed my voice
- Baroness Cox- provision of car parts when broken down in middle of nowhere

APPLICATION-Recession faith- as Isaac in Gen 26:1-6,12