

Blood Covenant Truths: Lesson 5 – New Covenant Preparation

At this point, you have an understanding of the covenant ceremony and have seen how God set up a covenant with Abraham in this natural world and also a covenant with Jesus in the real world. The judicial requirements of heaven made these parallel covenants necessary. God had to have a covenant with man to be able to redeem him, but He also had to have a perfect man as the representative for an eternal covenant. Abraham did not meet the perfection requirement, only Jesus did. But before God could send the perfect representative as a man, He had to get into covenant with a man who would totally trust Him and do what He asked without question. God saw this man in Abraham and proceeded to prepare the way for Jesus to come to earth and give His life as the payment for sin. This is why a large section of Genesis (chapters 11-25) is about the life of Abraham and why he is called the father of our faith and we are all called children of Abraham (Galatians 3:7).

Read Genesis 17:1-10 and 23-27 again and answer the following questions.

What was the sign of the Abrahamic Covenant? _____.

How quickly did Abraham obey God in performing this act? _____.

Could this be a major reason why God picked Abraham as His covenant partner? _____

It would be interesting to know how many men would obey God in this way simply because he asked them to.

Was Ishmael part of God's plan? _____. Ishmael was the result of human effort. Yet God uses this mistake to illustrate vital truths for us. Paul states that Ishmael is a type of the Old Covenant and Isaac is a type of the New Covenant. That said, we will be looking in more detail at the relationship between Isaac and Ishmael in the first lesson on New Covenant Lifestyle where we compare the old and new covenants. Now read Genesis 17:15-19. Why did God wait until Sarai was old before He gave her a son? _____

Having established the natural covenant with Abraham God proceeds to lead Abraham through the events that will enable God to fulfill the real world covenant. As we saw briefly in the last lesson, Genesis 18 covers the events leading up to the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah. Because of God's covenant with Abraham, he could not destroy Sodom until He has discussed it with Abraham. I suspect that if Abraham had better understood his covenant he would have negotiated God down to just one righteous person and that would have spared Sodom. That is how powerful the influence and relationship is between blood covenant partners.

Then in Genesis 19 we read how God had to remove the sole righteous person from Sodom before He could destroy the city. So Lot was rescued and then judgment came.

Genesis 20 is the story of one of Abraham's big mistakes. He lied to Abimelech about his wife to save his own skin. Yet, because of the covenant he had with God, it was Abimelech that got punished by God and not Abraham. Oh how powerful a blood covenant is!

Then in Genesis 21 Isaac the son of promise arrives. The relationship between Ishmael and Isaac illustrates the relationship between the Old and New Covenants. God is very clear in Genesis 21:12-14 that the Law (Ishmael) and Grace (Isaac) cannot abide together in the same house. Our inheritance is only received by grace.

Now that God has established blood covenants in both the real (Genesis 15) and natural (Genesis 17) worlds, it is time for Him to use the natural world covenant with Abraham to prepare the way for the fulfillment of the

real world covenant. Genesis 22 is the record of how this was done. One of the aspects of a blood covenant is the fact that if one party does something for the other party, then it enables the receiving party to reciprocate and do the same thing in return. God uses this principle to connect the natural world covenant with Abraham to the real world covenant with Jesus. Abraham’s obedience “in sacrificing” his promised son for God in this natural world gave God the right to actually sacrifice His son for Abraham (man) in this natural world. This chapter is one of the foundational events in the ratification of the New Covenant. This is another reason why God waited until “He found Abram” before He established the natural world covenant – He needed the man who would do what was asked of him without question or doubt. Because Abraham did so, he is called the father of our faith. Let’s now look at the key points of the event.

Write out **Genesis 22:1** _____

The KJV uses the phrase “that God did tempt Abraham”. The Hebrew word for tempt is nashah, which Strong’s concordance defines as – *adventure, prove, to attempt*. Best translation is God came to Abraham and requested they go on an adventure together. The word nashah consists of three Hebrew letters ‘nun, samech, heh’. From your Hebrew meanings sheet fill in the pictogram meanings of these letters:

nun: _____ Samech: _____ Heh: _____

What is the pictogram meaning of nashah (an “adventure” with God)? _____

Abraham’s response to God calling his name is one Hebrew word, Hineh – *behold, lo* (surprised but attentive response) or in modern English maybe “yes sir?”. The Hebrew pictograms for ‘heh, nun, heh’ are grace, Jesus/believer, grace. Our response to God should be like Abraham: within the abundant grace of Jesus.

In the Hebrew text there is a two letter word that is never translated in English, but it adds huge significance to the scriptures where it is used. This word is made up of the letters ‘Aleph’ and ‘Taph’ (H853). It appears 7302 times in 5650 verses in the Old Testament. The precise meaning of Aleph Taph is self and it is used in Hebrew to point out more definitely the object of the verb. Furthermore, Aleph and Taph are the first and last letters of the Hebrew alphabet. This means it is equivalent to Alpha and Omega in Greek. Who calls himself the Alpha and Omega (Revelations 1:8)? _____. So whenever Aleph Taph appears in the Old Testament, it can be read as being the signature of Jesus – He puts His signature on the verse because it is about Him.

Write out **Genesis 22:2**. _____

In this verse Aleph Taph (AT) appears 3 times. The interlinear Hebrew translation to English reads “...*take now AT son of you AT only of you whom you love AT Isaac and go ...*”. Who do you think God is really talking about when He makes this statement? _____. Note that Abraham actually had 2 sons at this point in time, which is why God said “Isaac” to Abraham while actually declaring what He would do on the mountains of

Moriah. Moriah is the range of mountains that run through the middle of the land of Israel and Jerusalem is built on that mountain range. It is understood that the “*mountain I will tell you of*” is where Jerusalem now stands.

Why do you think God sent Abraham to a specific mountain in Moriah? _____

The beginning of verse 3 indicates that God spoke to Abraham during the night. Given this, how soon after God spoke to him did Abraham obey? _____

Who did Abraham take with him? _____

List the things that chapter 22 shows Abraham took with him? _____

How many days journey was it from Beersheba to the designated mountain? _____

At what point did Abraham leave the servants and baggage train behind? _____

How did Abraham know it was the right mountain? _____

Interestingly, God only used the name of the mountain range when He gave Abraham the adventure instructions, He did not name the specific mountain. Therefore, there is significance in the name Moriah that we can search out. The Hebrew letters for Moriah are: Heh, mem, resh, yud, heh. Using your Hebrew Pictogram sheet, write out what these letters show: _____. Write down what you think these could mean regarding spiritual truth (**do this before you carry on reading!!!**) _____

Here are some suggested meanings for Moriah: 1. The three part being of man: spirit, soul (head) and body (hand), are encompassed (surrounded, redeemed, delivered) by grace because of the sacrifice on the mountain. 2. The Grace (divine Favor) of the Spirit (God the Holy Spirit) is on the Head (man, the head on the natural world) because of the Hand (of Jesus) that supplies the abundant Grace. 3. The sacrifice of Jesus (Spirit, Head, Hand) on this mountain is what released the abundance of grace into the earth.

Write out Genesis 22:8. _____

A key here is that the phrase “*God provides Himself a lamb*” is in the present tense. I think Abraham was remembering the gospel in the stars. He was looking forward to “the seed” that God had promised. The Hebrew word for provide is haraah consisting of 4 letters – yud, resh, aleph, heh (hand, head, strength, grace). Now look at Genesis 22:14 and you will see the word Jireh in English. This is also haraah in Hebrew – yud, resh, aleph, heh (hand, head, strength, grace). The word Jehovah is Yahweh - yud heh vav heh (hand, grace, nailed, grace). The phrase Jehovah-Jireh is commonly translated as God provides. The pictograms add the richness of the truth that Jesus’ death released the strength (power) of grace (divine favor) to man. Now read 2 Peter 1:3. What has power given to you? _____. In this verse the Greek word translated as “*has*

given” is in the perfect tense. From your Greek Tense sheet, what does this mean for you? _____
_____. This means that the day Jesus rose again
God’s power released everything I need to live successfully and I have that full supply every day of my life.

Now read Genesis 22:9-10. Aleph Taph (AT) appears 6 times in these two verses. “*Abraham built AT an altar there, laid the wood in order AT, and bound AT Isaac his son.....Abraham stretched forth AT his hand, and took AT the knife to slay AT his son.*” What is this passage really saying? _____

Now read Genesis 22:11-12. Why did God stop Abraham from killing Isaac? Because Isaac’s blood could do nothing to redeem mankind. God needed the real world to see that Abraham was totally willing to give up His son for God, He did not need Abraham to actually shed the blood. But Abraham’s obedience gave God the right to put Jesus on the altar and actually complete the work of shedding the blood that made us righteous.

Now read Hebrews 11:17-19. Abraham willingly “sacrificed” Isaac because God had promised, via blood covenant, that the seed would come through Isaac. So Abraham absolutely knew that Isaac would live to get married and have children. So what was Abraham expecting? _____

Why do you think Isaac allowed Abraham to bind him and put him on the altar to kill him? _____
_____. So Isaac knew that God was going to do something great and became a willing participant in this adventure. How does this parallel with Jesus’ obedience to God in the garden of Gethsemane? _____

In Genesis 22:12 Aleph Taph appears 2 times: “*....not withheld AT thy son AT, thine only from me.*”

In Genesis 22:8 Abraham told Isaac that God would supply the sacrifice. Now read Genesis 22:13-14. With what did God fulfill this statement of Abraham? On this day: _____
And In the fullness of time: _____

The last phrase of verse 13 states that Abraham sacrificed the ram in place of his son. How does this phrase apply to your life? _____

Now read Genesis 22:15-18. God reiterates his blessing on Abraham in this natural world because of his obedience and at the same time He is declaring the blessing on Jesus in the real world. In verse 17, twice the word ‘seed’ is used and both times it is singular and has AT beside it. Father God is telling Jesus that through His obedience in death and resurrection, His life would multiply and bless. The result would be that untold numbers of men would be delivered from the kingdom of darkness and that they, with him, would possess the gate (destroy the power) of his enemies – i.e. all the spiritual forces of wickedness. That is the power that is available to flow through every Christian who stands on their blood covenant and enforces the victory that Jesus won. Paul expounds on this in Galatians 3:13-18. What event gave you the right to receive the promise of the Spirit?

Today we are partakers of that promise through blood covenant that God made with The Seed, Jesus Christ.