

Some time later
Genesis 22:1



**Abraham can relax now
How old was Isaac by now ?**

Some time later God **tested** Abraham. He said to him,
"Abraham!" "Here I am," he replied. Genesis 22:1



Abraham will need to know it was God speaking

Then God said, "Take your son, your only son, whom you love-- Isaac--and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on a mountain I will show you." Genesis 22:2



Then God said, "Take your son, your only son, whom you love-- Isaac--and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on a mountain I will show you." Genesis 22:2

A multiple test:

On the human level -

your son (full details)

You alone must do it

You will have to travel to an unknown destination

On a spiritual level –

Abraham's future is invested in him
the future blessing for the world

The worst part of the test : psychological/spiritual -
one word of God against another

Early the next morning Abraham got up and loaded his donkey. He took with him two of his servants and his son Isaac. When he had cut enough wood for the burnt offering, he set out for the place God had told him about. Genesis 22:3



**The worst night of his life ?
Instant obedience**

On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place
in the distance.

Genesis 22:4



**Three days to think things through.
God shows him the place**

He said to his servants, "Stay here with the donkey while I and **the boy** go over there.

Genesis 22:5



Why did he tell the servants to stay ?

We will worship and then we will come back to you.” Genesis 22:5



Was it a cover-up ?

Abraham's solution to God's "contradictory command".

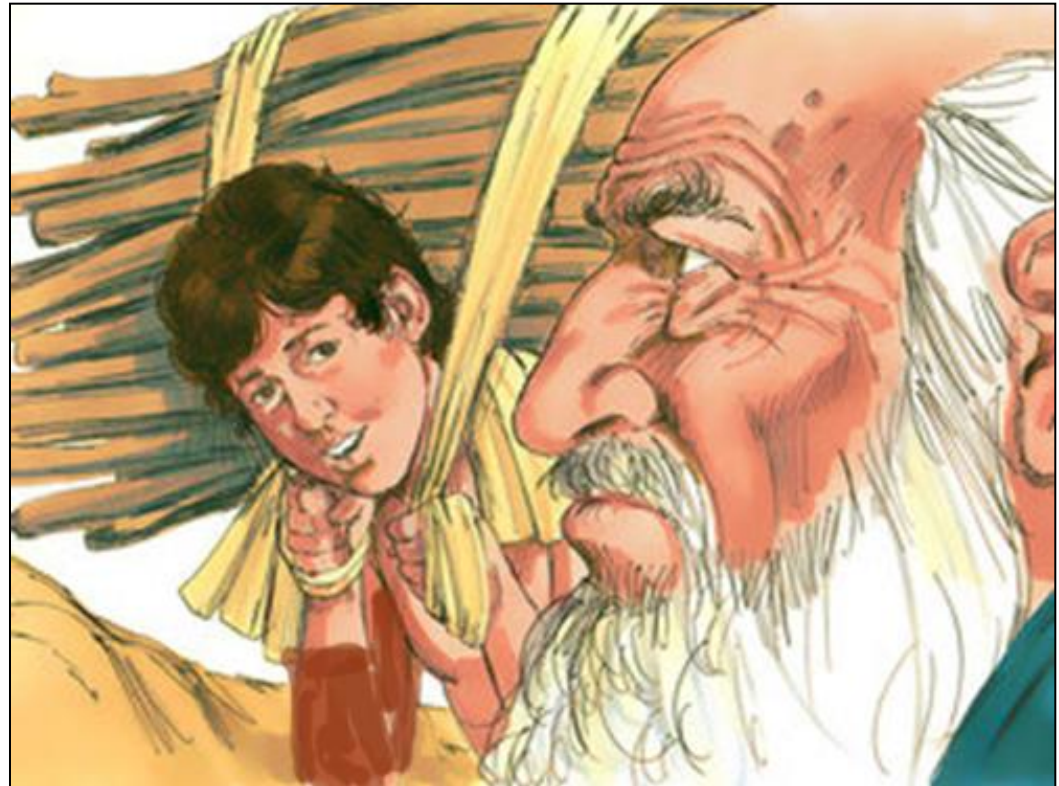
Hebrews 11:19 Abraham reasoned that God could even raise the dead, and so in a manner of speaking he did receive Isaac back from death.

Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and placed it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. As the two of them went on together, Isaac spoke up and said to his father Abraham, "Father?" "Yes, my son?" Abraham replied. "The fire and wood are here," Isaac said, "but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?"

Genesis 22:6 - 7

A 'cruel' question.

**Abraham hasn't
told him yet.**



Abraham answered, "God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son." And the two of them went on together.

Genesis 22:8



Isaac accepted the explanation !

When they reached the place God had told him about, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. Genesis 22:9



He bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar,
on top of the wood

Genesis 22:9



Did Isaac resist ?

Then he reached out his hand and took the knife to slay his son.

Genesis 22:10



“Blind” obedience !

But the angel of the LORD called out to him from heaven,
"Abraham! Abraham!" "Here I am," he replied. Genesis 22:11



He needed to be sure it was God speaking again

"Do not lay a hand on the boy," he said. "Do not do anything to him. **Now I know that you fear God**, because you have not withheld from me your son, your only son." Genesis 22:12



Everybody knows now !

Abraham looked up and there in a thicket he saw a ram caught by its horns. He went over and took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering instead of his son. Genesis 22:13



MERCY and GRACE
An offering of thanksgiving

So Abraham **called that place** The LORD Will Provide. And to this day it is said, "On the mountain of the LORD it will be provided."

Genesis 22:14

JEHOVAH-JIREH



“JEHOVAH, OUR PROVIDER”

HE IS THE ONE WHO SEES OUR NEEDS AND PROVIDES.

The **angel of the LORD** called to Abraham from heaven a second time and said, "I swear by myself, declares the LORD,
Genesis 22:15-16



When God made his promise to Abraham, since there was no one greater for him to swear by, he swore by himself, Hebrews 6:13

because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will take possession of the cities of their enemies,

Genesis 22:17



and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed,
because you have obeyed me."

Genesis 22:18



Then Abraham returned to his servants, and they set off **together** for Beersheba. And Abraham stayed in Beersheba.

Genesis 22:19



Back home, test completed !

What is the



of this account ?

It was Isaac who was offered NOT Ishmael

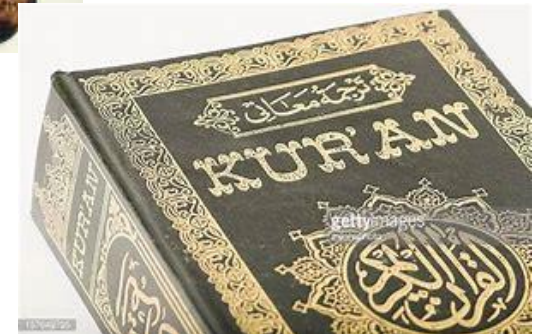


The Genesis account (1400BC), the Greek translation (third century BC), and the Dead Sea scroll copies (250 B.C. to 68 A.D.) all say Abraham offered **Isaac**

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The Koran 610 A.D. says Abraham offered **Ishmael**



God does not want human blood sacrifices



Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God--this is your true and proper worship. Romans 12:1

Only one perfect human sacrifice was possible !

It is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins. Hebrews 10:4

God calls for complete commitment to him



2. No Other Gods

Do you have an “Isaac” ?

The Prophetic Symbolism of Atonement

Father and Son

While he was still speaking, a bright cloud covered them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.

Listen to him!"

Matthew 17:5



The Prophetic Symbolism of Atonement

A willing sacrifice

Unlike the other high priests, he does not need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for the sins of the people. He sacrificed for their sins once for all when he offered himself.

Hebrews 7:27



The Prophetic Symbolism of Atonement

Moriah – the place (of vision / seeing)

Then the angel of the LORD ordered Gad to tell David to go up and build an altar to the LORD on the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite.

1Chronicles 21:18



We must trust God when we don't understand

Trust in the Lord with all your heart,
And lean not on your own understanding;
In all your ways acknowledge Him,
And He shall direct your paths.

~Proverbs 3:5-6

