

Great Pictures of God

The God who Provides

Genesis 22:1-19

Intro to series "I don't believe in God"

Describe this God you do not believe in. All have an idea.

Over the next month we will look at 4 pictures of God

The God who Provides – **Genesis 22** *The God who Hears* – **Exodus 4**

The God who Guides – **Psalm 23** *The God who Loves* – **Luke 15**

Today's sermon - **Genesis 22** One of the most Difficult chapters of the Bible

I. The Test of Faith

1-2

A. God called to Abraham –

God tested (not tempted) his faith -First use of word tested
Abraham answered and presented himself

B. God's specific request

1. Take your specific son – only (he had two) loved son
First use of word love
2. Go to specific place – Moriah – mountain I will choose
3. Do a specific deed - Sacrifice him as burnt offering

II. The Response of Faith

3-8

A. Took what was needed

Early the next morning (maybe he did not sleep)
Took what was necessary – Son, wood, knife

C. Traveled 3 days – saw the God place

Left servants and donkey behind
Hint of Faith – we will go, worship, return

D. Answered the questions by Faith

We have no sheep for sacrifice
God will provide – He did not know how but believed
Hebrews 11:17-19 resurrection
They walked together – Abraham 100+, Isaac 30+

III. The Provision of Faith

9-14

A. The preparation for obedience

Steps taken – Build an altar – Bring a sacrifice
Abraham willing to kill - Isaac willing to die

B. Final commitment – he picked up the knife

C. The intervention of God

Call and response – same Yes, Here I am
True love manifest – giving of beloved son

(Isaac and Jesus -Miraculous birth, loved by their Father, Offered willingly, Carried wood for his own sacrifice, Delivered from death – 3rd day)

D. The provision

Seen - but there all the time
Offered as sacrifice in place of his son

E. The proclamation

Yahweh-Yireh, Jehovah-Jireh
Literally – to be seen – in this case to see before
God saw the need and provided
Abraham saw the sacrifice and obeyed
Later used to refer to the Temple in Old Testament

IV. The Promise of Faith

15-19

A. Confirmation of Covenant

In response to obedience in all (even son)
Established by God's name (no higher authority)

B. Covenant provisions

Great multiplication – stars and sand
Great success – rulers and conquerors
Great fulfillment of God's plan
All the Nations of the World blessed (Christ)

C. Returned by faith together and went on with life

What we are not to conclude

God contradicts Himself – promised son, sacrificed
God requires sacrifice of Children
Forbidden – **Deuteronomy 12:31, 18:10**
Not even imagined by God **Jeremiah 19:4-5**

What we do see in our God

One who must be worshipped before all

He is the only one worthy
His is a jealous God **Exodus 20:4-5, 2 Corinthians 11:2**
He alone can meet our needs and provide

One who meets all our needs

Daily needs – See **Matthew 6**
Spiritual needs through death of Christ and the Holy Spirit

One who "see before" and prepares His children

Not always from trouble – sometime in troubles
Sometime through troubles – But He always provides

Next Sunday – International Dinner!!!!!!