

TORAH, GOD'S INSTRUCTIONS  
GENESIS 21 - BIRTH OF ISAAC  
GENESIS 22 - SACRIFICE OF ISAAC

Say - Welcome to Sabbath School class. Let's bow our head and ask God for understanding as we continue our study of the great story of Abraham, Sarah and Isaac.

**Genesis 21**

Say - Verses 1-3 below is of the birth and naming of Isaac. Verse 4 is the circumcision of Isaac on the 8th day.

<sup>1</sup>And the LORD visited Sarah as he had said, and the LORD did unto Sarah as he had spoken. For Sarah conceived, and bare Abraham a son in his old age, at the set time (exact time) of which God had spoken to him (remember Isaac is from the "freewoman" or a child of the Promise, Galatians 4:22, 28).

<sup>3</sup>And Abraham called the name of his son that was born unto him, whom Sarah bare to him, Isaac (Isaac means "laughter" also Isaac was the first person circumcised, the seal of the covenant, on the 8th day, remember Ishmael was 13 years old when he was circumcised).

<sup>4</sup>And Abraham circumcised his son Isaac being eight days old, as God had commanded him. <sup>5</sup>And Abraham was an hundred years old, when his son Isaac was born unto him.

Say - Verses 6-7 below is how Isaac got his name for his name means laughter. Verse 8 is when Isaac is weaned from his mother's milk.

<sup>6</sup>And Sarah said, God hath made me to laugh, so that all that hear will laugh with me. <sup>7</sup>And she said, Who would have said unto Abraham, that Sarah should have given children suck (God had renewed Sarah's youth so she could breast feed Isaac)? for I have born him a son in his old age. <sup>8</sup>And the child grew, and was weaned: and Abraham made a great feast the same day that Isaac was weaned (It was common custom up until the 2nd Temple to give the child at the age of three to the father to teach him the Law of God.).

<sup>9</sup>And Sarah saw the son (Ishmael) of Hagar the Egyptian, which she had born unto Abraham, mocking (teasing) (Hagar should have taught her son not to make fun of anyone).

<sup>10</sup>Wherefore she said unto Abraham, Cast out this bondwoman and her son: for the son of this bondwoman shall not be heir with my son, even with Isaac (this was the only way to establish peace in the family). <sup>11</sup>And the thing was very grievous in Abraham's sight because of his son.

Say - Verses 12-13 shows God's intervention for Abraham between Ishmael and Isaac.

<sup>12</sup>And God said unto Abraham, Let it not be grievous in thy sight because of the lad, and because of thy bondwoman (There would be no peace until Ishmael left); in all that Sarah hath said unto thee, hearken unto her voice; for in Isaac (not Ishmael) shall thy seed be called. <sup>13</sup>And also of the son of the bondwoman will I make a nation, because he is thy seed.

Say - Verses 14, 15, 16-21 below shows Hagar and Ishmael leaving Abraham and Sarah, her trial in the wilderness of Beersheba and how God intervened for Hagar and Ishmael.

<sup>14</sup>And Abraham rose up early in the morning, and took bread (food of all types), and a bottle of water, and gave it unto Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, and the child, and sent her away: and she departed, and wandered in the wilderness of Beersheba (Abraham didn't linger or procrastinate because that is doubt not faith. Ishmael was 17 years old.).

<sup>15</sup>And the water was spent in the bottle, and she cast the child under one of the shrubs (They were worn out in the desert and Hagar had forgotten God's promise, Genesis 16:11, 17:20.). <sup>16</sup>And she went, and sat her down over against him a good way off, as it were a bow shot: for she said, Let me not see the death of the child. And she sat over against him, and lift up her voice, and wept (actually the boy, Ishmael wept, see verse 17 below).

<sup>17</sup>And God heard the voice of the lad (Remember Ishmael means "God will hear" and this is fulfillment of that.); and the angel of God called to Hagar out of heaven, and said unto her, What aileth thee, Hagar? fear not; for God hath heard the voice of the lad where he is. <sup>18</sup>Arise, lift up the lad, and hold him in thine hand; for I will make him a great nation. <sup>19</sup>And God opened her eyes, and she saw a well of water; and she went, and filled the bottle with water, and gave the lad drink (God never forsook Ishmael for he said he would be blessed because he was of the seed of Abraham. In the future the Bible tells us, "For the Lamb (Jesus) shall lead them unto living fountains of waters and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes" Revelation 7:17. Never forget this promise from God).

<sup>20</sup>And God was with the lad; and he grew, and dwelt in the wilderness, and became an archer (so Ishmael could get food and make a living). <sup>21</sup>And he dwelt in the wilderness of Paran: and his mother took him a wife out of the land of Egypt (probably one of her relatives).

<sup>22</sup>And it came to pass at that time, that Abimelech (was a good king) and Phichol the chief captain of his host spake unto Abraham, saying, God is with thee in all that thou doest: <sup>23</sup>Now therefore swear unto me here by God that thou wilt not deal falsely with me, nor with my son, nor with my son's son: but according to the kindness that I have done unto thee, thou shalt do unto me, and to the land wherein thou hast sojourned.

<sup>24</sup>And Abraham said, I will swear.

Say - Verses 25-26 is when the well of water was taken by Abimelech and verse 27 is the covenant they made.

<sup>25</sup>And Abraham reprov'd (corrected) Abimelech because of a well of water, which Abimelech's servants had violently taken away (wells in the desert land were of great importance for their animals). <sup>26</sup>And Abimelech said, I wot not (means I know not) who hath done this thing; neither didst thou tell me, neither yet heard I of it, but to day (means first time I have heard of this). <sup>27</sup>And Abraham took sheep and oxen, and gave them unto Abimelech; and both of them made a covenant (they cut a deal or agreed on certain things).

Say - In verses 28- 31, a new well is dug and in verses 32-33, a new covenant is made between Abraham and Abimelech.

<sup>28</sup>And Abraham set seven ewe lambs of the flock by themselves (Now the problem is cleared up and they had a party for all was forgiven. Abraham was a man of love and knew the way of peace for we are to live at peace with all men as much as possible). <sup>29</sup>And Abimelech said unto Abraham, What mean these seven ewe lambs which thou hast set by themselves? <sup>30</sup>And he said, For these seven ewe lambs shalt thou take of my hand, that they may be a witness unto me, that I have digged this well. <sup>31</sup>Wherefore he called that place Beersheba (means well of 7 because he gave 7 ewe lambs.); because there they sware both of them.

<sup>32</sup>Thus they made a covenant at Beersheba: then Abimelech rose up, and Phichol the chief captain of his host, and they returned into the land of the Philistines (Actually the land of the Philistines should be Judah but it was changed to the land of the Philistines. Philistines means "invaders" and changed to the Palestinians in 137 A. D. Where did the Philistines come from; read Genesis 10:6-14? ). <sup>33</sup>And Abraham planted a grove in Beersheba ("Grove" means trees were planted for shade to gather and sacrifice to God; it does not mean Asherah, the female Canaanite goddesses.), and called there on the name of the LORD, the everlasting God ("Everlasting God" means the Divine definition of Jehovah). <sup>34</sup>And Abraham sojourned in the Philistines' (really Judah) land many days.

## **Genesis 22**

Say - Verses 1-19 below is the trial of Abraham. Verse 1-2 is the command of God, verses 3-10 is Abraham's journey,

<sup>1</sup>And it came to pass after these things, that God did tempt (proved his faith) Abraham, and said unto him, Abraham: and he said, Behold (Me), here I am. <sup>2</sup>And he said, Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee into the land of Moriah (Christ was crucified on one of these mountains, "And when they were come unto a place called Golgotha, that is to say a place of a skull" Matthew

27:33. Also Moriah is the territory that later had the Temple in the days of Solomon.); and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of (means "raise him up as to God; love God more than anything else which is the ultimate sacrifice).

<sup>3</sup>And Abraham rose up early in the morning, and saddled his ass, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son, and clave (split) the wood for the burnt offering, and rose up, and went unto the place of which God had told him (We can see Abraham's obedience and faith in God. Also from Beersheba to Moriah was a two-day journey.).

<sup>4</sup>Then on the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes, and saw the place afar off.

<sup>5</sup>And Abraham said unto his young men, Abide ye here with the ass; and I and the lad will go yonder and worship, and come again to you (this statement by Abraham shows his faith).

<sup>6</sup>And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering, and laid it upon Isaac his son; and he took the fire in his hand (used a couple of stones to start the fire), and a knife; and they went both of them together.

<sup>7</sup>And Isaac spake unto Abraham his father, and said, My father: and he said, Here am I, my son. And he said, Behold the fire and the wood: but where is the lamb for a burnt offering? <sup>8</sup>And Abraham said, My son, God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering: so they went both of them together.

<sup>9</sup>And they came to the place which God had told him of; and Abraham built an altar there (piled stones on top of the other), and laid the wood in order, and bound Isaac his son, and laid him on the altar upon the wood (When an animal is used for sacrifice, they are dead; do you see this was a "living sacrifice" just as Christ was a "living sacrifice" for each of us so that when we repent of sin and are baptized and receive God's spirit, we may have eternal life.) Are we willing to give up our life for God? Also Abraham showed his faith by his works as the Bible tells us, ...show me thy faith without thy works, and I will show thee my faith by my works" James 1:18.)

<sup>10</sup>And Abraham stretched forth his hand, and took the knife to slay his son.

Say - Verses 11-12 is God's first call to Abraham, verses 13-14 is the offering.

<sup>11</sup>And the angel of the LORD (Christ) called unto him out of heaven, and said, Abraham, Abraham: and he said, Here am I. <sup>12</sup>And he said, Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou any thing unto him: for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me (Abraham totally fulfilled the royal law, love God with all your heart and mind and soul. Also Paul in Hebrews 11:17 expresses the sacrifice of Isaac as actually made.).

<sup>13</sup>And Abraham lifted up his eyes, and looked, and behold behind him a ram caught in a thicket by his horns: and Abraham went and took the ram, and offered him up for a burnt offering in the stead of his son (with this sacrifice it was the normal procedure). <sup>14</sup>And Abraham called the name of that place Jehovahjireh (means Johavah will see or provide): as it is said to this day, In the mount of the LORD it shall be seen.

Say - Verses 15-18 is the second call of God.

<sup>15</sup>And the angel of the LORD (Christ) called unto Abraham out of heaven the second time, <sup>16</sup>And said, By myself have I sworn, saith the LORD, for because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only son (Abraham typified God the Father not withholding His only Son, Jesus Christ and Christ was the "Passover Lamb" which taketh away the sins of the world, John 1:29, I Corinthians 5:7.): <sup>17</sup>That in blessing I will bless thee, (How?) and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed (descendants) as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies; <sup>18</sup>And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice (obey all God says; it means life.).

Say - Verse 19 is Abraham's return.

<sup>19</sup>So Abraham returned unto his young men, and they rose up and went together to Beersheba; and Abraham dwelt at Beersheba.

Say - Verses 20 below we turn to Nahor, who had twelve children, which will lead up to Rebekah, the future wife of Isaac.

<sup>20</sup>And it came to pass after these things, that it was told Abraham, saying, Behold, Milcah, she hath also born children unto thy brother Nahor; <sup>21</sup>Huz his firstborn (Job comes from here), and Buz his brother, and Kemuel the father of Aram, <sup>22</sup>And Chesed, and Hazo, and Pildash, and Jidlaph, and Bethuel. <sup>23</sup>And Bethuel begat Rebekah: these eight Milcah did bear to Nahor, Abraham's brother. <sup>24</sup>And his concubine, whose name was Reumah, she bare also Tebah, and Gaham, and Thahash, and Maachah.

#### MEMORY VERSE

And the angel of the LORD (Christ) called unto him out of heaven,  
and said, Abraham, Abraham: and he said, Here am I.  
And he said, Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou any thing  
unto him:for now I know that thou fearest God,  
seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me.

GENESIS 22:11-12

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON FOR TOTS BELOW

## BIRTH OF ISAAC AND HIS NEAR SACRIFICE

FINALLY SARAH, NOW 90 AND ABRAHAM 100 YEARS OLD, HAD A SON  
AND THEY CALLED HIM ISAAC;

SOON THERE WAS TROUBLE FROM ISHMAEL FOR HE WAS TEASING  
ISAAC SO HAGAR AND ISHMAEL HAD TO LEAVE FOR EGYPT.

BUT IN THE DESERT, HAGAR AND ISHMAEL BECAME WORN OUT FROM  
THE HOT SUN AND UNDER A SHADE TREE THEY SAT;  
ISHMAEL WEPT, SHE HAD FORGOTTEN THE PROMISE FROM GOD AND  
SOON GOD CALLED OUT TO HER AND SHE LIFTED HER EYES AND  
SAW A WELL OF WATER.

NOW ABRAHAM WOULD BE TESTED BY GOD TO PROVE HIS FAITH FOR  
HIM. "TAKE YOUR SON, ISAAC, WHOM YOU LOVE AND GO TO  
MT. MORIAH AND OFFER HIM FOR A BURNT OFFERING";  
ABRAHAM ROSE UP EARLY IN THE MORNING TOOK HIS DONKEY AND  
ISAAC AND THE WOOD FOR THE BURNT OFFERING.

ISAAC ASKED HIS FATHER, ABRAHAM, "WE HAVE THE WOOD FOR THE  
SACRIFICE BUT WHERE IS THE LAMB?" ABRAHAM SAID, "GOD  
WILL PROVIDE".

FINALLY, AFTER TWO DAYS JOURNEY, THEY ARRIVED AT MT.  
MORIAH. "ABRAHAM BUILT AN ALTER OF STONES, LAID THE  
WOOD ON THE ALTER AND BOUND ISAAC HIS SON AND  
LAID HIM ON THE ALTER".

ABRAHAM STRETCHED FORTH HIS HAND TO SLAY HIS SON AND GOD  
CALLED OUT FROM HEAVEN, "LAY NOT THINE HAND UPON THE  
LAD";

NOW I KNOW YOU FEAR OR RESPECT GOD MORE THAN ANYTHING  
SEEING YOU HAVE NOT WITHHELD YOUR ONLY SON FROM ME.

YES, GOD HAD PROVIDED FOR ABRAHAM FOR THERE IN THE THICKET  
OF THORNS WAS A RAM;  
ABRAHAM TOOK THE RAM AND OFFERED HIM FOR THE BURNT  
OFFERING INSTEAD OF HIS SON.

YOU SEE, ABRAHAM WAS SYMBOLIC OF GOD THE FATHER GIVING HIS ONLY SON, JESUS CHRIST, SO WE COULD HAVE ETERNAL LIFE. NOW "ABRAHAM THROUGH HIS DESCENDANTS WOULD BE MULTIPLIED AS THE STARS OF HEAVEN AND THE SAND UPON THE SEA SHORE".

THE GOOD NEWS IS YOU ARE ONE OF HIS DESCENDANTS IF WE STAY TRUE TO GOD AS ABRAHAM DID.

BY B. R. B.

*...GOD SAID TO ABRAHAM... TAKE NOW THY SON, THINE ONLY SON,  
ISAAC, WHOM THOU LOVEST, AND GET THEE INTO THE LAND OF  
MORIAH AND OFFER HIM THERE FOR A BURNT  
OFFERING...*

*GENESIS 22:1, 2*



*AND ABRAHAM ROSE UP  
EARLY IN THE MORNING  
AND SADDLED HIS ASS...*

*AND ISAAC HIS SON AND CLAVE (SPLIT) THE WOOD  
FOR THE BURN OFFERING... AND WENT UNTO THE  
PLACE GOD HAD TOLD HIM.*

*GENESIS 22:3*