



THE GREATEST TEST PART 7 - THE POWER OF THE PROMISES REVEALED

In part 7 we will unpack verses 15-17 which like all the other verses to date, are profoundly impactful and testify of a reality which we are all to live out by faith as sons of God.

We will also dive into Hebrews 11:17-19 as part of these verses in Genesis 22.

Genesis 22:15-17 Then the angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven, and said, "By Myself I have sworn, declares the Lord, because you have done this thing and have not withheld your son, your only son, indeed I will greatly bless you, and I will greatly multiply your seed as the stars of the heavens and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your seed shall possess the gate of their enemies."

It's amazing who spoke to Abraham and confirmed the way he had lived. The confirmation isn't coming from man but the confirmation is coming from heaven itself. It's the angel of the Lord who testifies to the wisdom which Abraham had lived by faith.

By not withholding Isaac, the son of promise, Abraham demonstrated the wisdom of God for all of heaven and earth to witness. We are called to demonstrate this same eternal wisdom, living it out by faith.

What was this faith that Abraham possessed which empowered him to demonstrate this eternal wisdom? What did Abraham have an unwavering hope and conviction of, due to his faith, which empowered him to lay Isaac down as a living sacrifice unto the Lord? Remember at this time, Isaac was Abraham's only son from Sarah.

Let's look at Hebrews 11:17-19 in relation to this and see what we can learn about the kind of faith Abraham had.

Hebrews 11:17-19 By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was offering up his only begotten son; it was he to whom it



THE GREATEST TEST

was said, "In Isaac your descendants shall be called." He considered that God is able to raise people even from the dead, from which he also received him back as a type.

The key in these verses are the words, 'he who had received the promises'. What promises had Abraham received from God which birthed, formed and established a kind of faith, which freed Abraham to lay his only son down as a living sacrifice?

What were these revealed promises that Abraham carried an absolute assurance and conviction of in the unseen seen realm, called the spirit?

1. Abraham knew God would provide a lamb for the sacrifice.

Genesis 22:8 Abraham said, "God will provide for Himself the lamb for the burnt offering, my son." So the two of them walked on together.

2. God had promised Abraham that Isaac would be the seed which the nation of Israel would come through.

Genesis 15:4 Then behold, the word of the Lord came to him, saying, "This man will not be your heir; but one who will come forth from your own body, he shall be your heir."

3. Abraham considered that God is able to raise people even from the dead, from which he also received him back as a type.

These are the three promises Abraham received, which empowered him to demonstrate this eternal wisdom, to which the angel testified.

It was this demonstration of wisdom, due to the revealed knowledge of these eternal promises, that was the evidence of Abraham's faith, which released the blessing of God upon Abraham's life.

The book of James talks about having faith and deeds. This is a classic example of what faith and deeds look like working together. The deed of Abraham to offer up his only son



is a work birthed, established and accomplished by Abraham's faith. This is what God describes as a righteous act of the saints. It's an act or a deed, which gets rewarded now as we can see from these verses and also in the future, in relation to the receiving of the wedding fine linen garment of the bride.

Revelation 19:7-8 "Let us rejoice and be glad and give the glory to Him, for the marriage of the Lamb has come and His bride has made herself ready." It was given to her to clothe herself in fine linen, bright and clean; for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.

The blessings upon Abraham's life due to this demonstration of wisdom were a hundred fold.

"Indeed I will greatly bless you, and I will greatly multiply your seed as the stars of the heavens and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your seed shall possess the gate of their enemies."

Not only did Abraham pass the test of whom he loved the most and whom he was living for, but he also got to receive the outpouring of God's richest blessings upon his life. All of this would count towards his reward in the future kingdom of heaven in the new heaven and earth.

It is the receiving of the promises of God within us, through the revelation of the Holy Spirit, that empowers us to demonstrate the wisdom of God in our own lives today. This is why it is imperative that we are receiving His promises, which will not only release the blessings of God upon our lives today but will also see His blessing poured out upon us in the coming Kingdom of Heaven and in the new heaven and earth.

QUESTIONS

1. How important have you considered the promises of God in your life to date?
2. What connection is there between knowing these revealed promises and the true measure of spiritual faith we possess?



3. Why must every deed accomplished be of this kind of faith and not of flesh?
4. How many eternal promises that are concealed in Jesus do you know and how are these promises impacting the demonstration of your life?
5. What is your life telling you in relation to the faith you hold?

Watch the accompanying You Tube video here: <https://youtu.be/wWtRpPnDV4g>