

Notes for Lesson 5

Yahweh Yireh

The Lord who (fore)sees and provides

God promises that He will ALWAYS provide for your needs!

Phil. 4:19 - God will supply your every need according to his glorious riches in Christ.

Matt. 6:31 - Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink, or about your body, what you will wear... Look at the birds in the sky. They do not sow, or reap, or gather into barns, yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Aren't you more valuable than they are?

Yahweh Yireh = Jehovah Jireh

Yireh = Hebrew: form of the verb, "to see"

His Prevision leads to Provision

Provision = Latin: "to see beforehand"

Conjunctive names = God's covenant name (Yahweh) + a part of his character or a function he *promises* to perform for us

- Yahweh-Yireh, the Lord our Provider
- Yahweh-Shammah, the Lord (who) is Present
- Yahweh-Rapha, The Lord our Healer
- Yahweh-Nissi, the Lord our Banner [or Refuge]
- Yahweh-Tsidkenu, the Lord (who is) our Righteousness
- Yahweh-Shalom, the Lord our Peace

These functions are part of WHO HE IS!

He cannot, not be these ways!

Genesis 22:1-19 (NET - New English Translation)

1 Some time after these things God *tested* Abraham.

A note about God “testing” us: The purpose of His tests is to show us what is in our hearts. He wants to gently bring it all to the surface, even the unpretty things, so he can lovingly refine us. Tests are for our good!

*Deut 8:2 (NIV) - Remember how the LORD your God led you all the way in the wilderness these forty years, to **humble and test you in order to know what was in your heart**, whether or not you would keep his commands.*

*1 Pet. 1:7 (NLT) - These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is **being tested as fire tests and purifies gold**—though your faith is far more precious than mere gold. So when your faith remains strong through many trials, it will bring you much praise and glory on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world.*

He said to him, “Abraham!” “Here I am!” Abraham replied.

2 God said, “**{Please}** take **your son—your only son, whom you love**, Isaac—and go to the land of Moriah!

*John 3:16 (NIV) – For God so loved the world, that he gave **his one and only son**, so that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.*

{Please} Hebrew: “na”

Very few English translations include the “please.”

Hebrew article of entreaty – sometimes translated “now” but more often translated “please.”

Offer him up there as a **burnt offering** on one of the mountains which I will indicate to you.”

Burnt offerings:

-voluntary sacrifices (vs. mandatory)

-unblemished male animal

-Signified complete surrender, devotion, and commitment to God

-the entire animal was cut apart then burned

3 Early in the morning Abraham got up and saddled his donkey. He took two of his young servants with him, along with his son Isaac. When he had cut the wood for the burnt offering, he started out for the place God had spoken to him about.

4 On the **third day** Abraham caught sight of the place in the distance.

Three days - a common Biblical time of preparation for something important.

-Joseph puts his brothers in prison (Gen. 42:17)

-Dinah's brothers' wait to attack all the men in the city (Gen 34:25)

-The Israelites journey to the mountain (Ex. 3:18, 5:3)

-Jesus death to resurrection!

“The delay made Abraham’s ordeal the more painful. God does not require him to put his son immediately to death, but compels him to revolve this execution in his mind during three whole days, that in preparing to sacrifice his son, he may still more severely torture all his own senses.” (Word Biblical Commentary)

5 So he said to his servants, “You two stay here with the donkey while the boy and I go up there. We will worship and then [we will] return to you.”

What was Abraham thinking?

Heb. 11:17-19 (NET): By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac. He had received the promises, yet he was ready to offer up his only son. God had told him, “Through Isaac descendants will carry on your name,” and he reasoned that God could even raise him from the dead, and in a sense he received him back from there.

6 Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and put it on his son Isaac. Then he took the fire and the knife in his hand, and the two of them walked on together.

Isaac carried the wood on his own back (similar to Jesus’ carrying his cross)

7 Isaac said to his father Abraham, “My father?” “What is it, my son?” he replied. “Here is the fire and the wood,” Isaac said, “but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?”

8 “God **will provide for himself the lamb** for the burnt offering, my son,” Abraham replied. The two of them continued on together.

9 When they came to the place God had told him about, Abraham built the altar there and arranged the wood on it.

Next he tied up his son Isaac and placed him on the altar on top of the wood.

Was Isaac submitting/obeying his father?

He was a (strong) young man and Abraham was very elderly.

10 Then Abraham reached out his hand, took the knife, and prepared to slaughter his son.

11 But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven, “Abraham! Abraham!”

The name change from God (Elohim) to LORD (Yahweh) in v. 11 is significant—Yahweh, the covenant keeper, stops the act.

“He who requires from Abraham the surrender of Isaac is God the creator... but it is Yahweh who forbids the extreme act, for the son of promise cannot perish.” (Word Biblical Commentary)

*Genesis 12: God promises to make Abraham the father of a great nation
Genesis 17: God promises to give Abraham & Sarah a son*

“Here I am!” he answered.

12 “Do not harm the boy!” the angel said. “Do not do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God because you did not withhold **your son, your only son**, from me.”

13 Abraham looked up and saw behind him a ram **caught in the bushes by its horns**. So he went over and got the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son.

14 (NIV) 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.”

15 The angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven 16 and said, “I solemnly swear by my own name, decrees the LORD, that because you have done this and have not withheld **your son, your only son**, 17 I will indeed bless you, and I will greatly multiply your descendants so that they will be as countless as the stars in the sky or the grains of sand on the seashore. Your descendants will take possession of the strongholds of their enemies. 18 Because you have obeyed me, all the nations of the earth will pronounce blessings on one another using the name of your descendants.”

19 Then Abraham returned to his servants, and they set out together for Beer Sheba where Abraham stayed.