

## The Promised Son

Has anyone ever broken a promise to you? People often break promises, either out of carelessness or disregard for the truth. Have you ever had to wait a long time for a promise to be kept?

God promised to give Abraham and Sarah a son. God repeated that promise many times, and even promised that Abraham's descendants would become a great and large nation. Read the following verses to refresh your memory about those promises: Genesis 12:2; 13:16; 15:4-5; 17:2, 4, 6, 9, 16; and 18:10. Still, after 25 years of waiting, Abraham and Sarah had no son.

In this lesson you will find out if God kept His promise. You will also learn that God told Abraham to do a very strange thing.

**Gen. 21:1** “And the \_\_\_\_\_ visited Sarah as He had \_\_\_\_\_, and the LORD did unto Sarah as He had \_\_\_\_\_.”

**Gen. 21:2** What happened?

**Gen. 21:3** What did Abraham name the baby (see Gen. 17:19)?

**Gen. 21:4** Why did he circumcise the baby (Gen. 17:12)?

**Gen. 21:5** How old was Abraham when Isaac was born?

**Gen. 21:6-8** Abraham and Sarah rejoiced about their new baby.

God kept His promise! After 25 years of waiting Abraham and Sarah finally had their promised son – a gift of grace. They no doubt gave this special child everything he needed and protected him from harm. Sarah and Abraham sent Hagar and Ishmael away for good, but God still cared for them and blessed them.

**Gen. 22:1** The word **tempt** here means to test, try, or prove.

**Gen. 22:2** “And He said, Take now thy \_\_\_\_\_, thine \_\_\_\_\_ son Isaac, whom thou \_\_\_\_\_, and get thee into the land of \_\_\_\_\_; and offer him there for a \_\_\_\_\_ upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of.” What a test of faith!

**Gen. 22:3** How did Abraham respond to this strange order?

**Gen. 22:5** What did Abraham tell his servants?

**Gen. 22:6** What did he take up the mountain?

- Gen. 22:7**      What did Isaac ask?
- Gen. 22:8**      How did Abraham answer?
- Gen. 22:9**      What did Abraham do with Isaac?
- Gen. 22:10**     “And Abraham stretched forth his hand, and took the \_\_\_\_\_ to  
\_\_\_\_\_ his \_\_\_\_\_.”
- Gen. 22:11**     What stopped Abraham from killing Isaac?

Remember that the **angel of the LORD** was a pre-incarnate appearance of the Lord Jesus Christ.

- Gen. 22:12**     What did the Lord tell Abraham?
- What did He now know about Abraham?
- Gen. 22:13**     What did Abraham see?

Abraham freed Isaac and offered the ram in his place. He called the place **Jehovah-jireh** – “*the LORD will provide.*”

- Gen. 22:15-16**    God was pleased that Abraham had proved his faith.
- Gen. 22:17**      The Lord again promised to bless and multiply Abraham’s seed (see Gen. 12:2; 13:16; and 15:5). How numerous did He say they would become?
- Gen. 22:18**      “And in thy seed shall all the \_\_\_\_\_ of the earth be \_\_\_\_\_;  
because thou hast obeyed my voice.”

God made this promise on two previous occasions, in Genesis 12:3 and 18:18. The Lord Jesus Christ is a direct descendant of Abraham. People of all tribes, tongues, and nations have received Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. Thus, all nations truly have been blessed through Abraham.

**Concluding Thoughts:** Isaac was a type (representation or symbol) of Jesus Christ. God promised to give Abraham and Sarah a son, but they had to wait a long time before that promise was fulfilled. God promised to send His Son into the world, but centuries passed before He was born in Bethlehem. Jesus was born of a virgin, while Isaac came from the dead womb of a ninety-year-old woman. Isaac was the son through whom God’s promises were passed down to the Jews and Jesus is the One through whom the promise of redemption is fulfilled for all who believe. Isaac was placed on a sacrificial altar, while Jesus was the perfect and final sacrifice. Jesus arose from the dead, and Abraham figuratively received Isaac back from the dead (Heb. 11:19).

God kept His promise to Abraham and He kept His promise to us. In an act of grace He sent his Son into the world to die on the cross to pay the price for our sin. Men often break their promises, but God always keeps His promises; **He cannot lie** (Titus 1:2).

Here's a great promise: "*For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved*" (Rom. 10:13). Have you called on the name of the Lord Jesus Christ for salvation? If you do He will save you by His grace. Thank God for keeping His promises.

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**Project:** Memorize **Genesis 22:8**. Find some promises in the Bible. Memorize them and believe them.