

Faith: Assurance, Hope & Certainty from Believing God

Abraham & Sons

Heb 11:17-22

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Abraham's Act of Faith: Faithful Amid Apparent Contradictions

- God's clear (conflicting?) commands
 - In Isaac Your Descendants Shall be Called!
 - Now take your son and offer him as a burnt offering!
- God's character regarding testing
 - God does not tempt people to sin
 - God does test people to discipline them
- Abraham "considered" what God could do
 - Abraham reasoned upon God's word, not man's
 - Abraham acted upon God's clear command

Isaac's Act of Faith: Faithful to Promises of the Future

- God's will revealed
 - The promises to continue
 - The older shall serve the younger
- Isaac's will revered
 - To Bless his (favorite) first-born

Isaac's Act of Faith: Faithful to Promises of the Future

- God's will retained
 - Isaac still kept the faith given about the future
 - Isaac ended up blessing the younger (as prophesied)
- Isaac's will resigned
 - Isaac does not reverse, nor amend the blessing
 - Isaac realized what had been done was God's will

Jacob's Act of Faith: Planning with the Future in Mind

- Presented a double-blessing: Joseph's sons as co-tribes in the promised land
- Worshipped God

Joseph's Act of Faith: Keeping the Promises Alive!

- God will bring you up to Canaan!
- Don't forget my bones!

Additional Encouragement

- James 1:2-4

Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. And let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

Our own Walking in Faith

- Implications

- Assurance, Hope, & Confidence are lasting only when built upon “What hath God said”
- Your faith will be tested! But know that it is for your spiritual growth in preparation for your heavenly home!
- All believers share in the responsibility to strengthen the faith of other believers