

## Lesson III.

## ABRAHAM GIVING ISAAC TO GOD October 20, 1918

**BETWEEN THE LESSONS**—The principal events between the lessons are, the renewal of the divine covenant with Abraham, the change of Abram's name to Abraham, "Father of a Multitude," the institution of circumcision, the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah, the birth of a son Isaac. Gen. chs. 15-22.

**GOLDEN TEXT**—I will give him unto the Lord all the days of his life.—1 Samuel 1:11.

\*Memorize Matt. 25:34.

**THE LESSON PASSAGE**—Genesis 22:1-14.

1 And it came to pass after these things, that God did tempt Abraham, and said unto him, Abraham: and he said, Behold, here I am.

2 And he said, 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 upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of.

3 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 the wood for the burnt offering, and rose up, and went unto the place of which God had told him.

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

5 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.

6 And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering, and laid it upon Isaac his son; and he took the fire in his hand, and a knife; and they went both of them together.

7 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?

Revised Version.—1 prove; 2 Here am I; 3 son, whom thou lovest, even Isaac; 4 Omit up; 5 he; 6 Omit Then; 7 we will worship; 8 in his hand the fire and the knife; 9 Omit My son; 10 the; 11 my son; 12 provided.

## HOME DAILY BIBLE READINGS

M.—Isaac given to Abraham, Gen. 21:1-12.

T.—Abraham giving Isaac to God, Gen. 22:1-14.

W.—God blessing Abraham, Gen. 15:4-6; 22:15-19.

S.—Taking up our cross, Luke 14:25-35.

Th.—Giving God our best, Matt. 10:37-42.

F.—Hannah prays for a son, 1 Sam. 1:9-18.

S.—Hannah giving Samuel to God, 1 Sam. 1:19-28.

## THE LESSON EXPLAINED

**I. FAITH TESTED.**—1, 2. God did tempt; put to the test. God's temptations develop the good to overcome the evil. Satan's develop the evil to overcome the good. Said unto him; probably in a dream. Here am I; ready to listen to God. Thy son. Abraham had been called upon to sacrifice material possessions. Now it is heart possessions he is called upon to give up. Thine only son. It is also a sacrifice of hopes, for the fulfilment of God's promises seem to depend on Isaac. Whom thou lovest; a sacrifice also of happiness, for Isaac is a part of Abraham's life. The repetition,—"thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest" serves to bring out the sternness of the demand. Into the



"ABRAHAM BUILT AN ALTAR THERE"

land of Moriah. See Geography lesson. Offer... for a burnt offering. Human sacrifices were common in Abraham's time. This lesson condemns these, for though it begins by commanding such a sacrifice, it ends by preventing it.

**II. FAITH VICTORIOUS.**—3. Abraham rose up early; to start as is the Eastern custom, before the sun became hot. He had made a decision finally but not easily. We see the decision. The writer leaves us to imagine the struggle and agony of Abraham's soul. God has demanded the most precious, Abraham surrenders it. Saddled his ass; and makes all necessary preparations. The beast was girded for carrying articles of travel, not persons. Clave the wood. The place of the sacrifice was treeless. Unto the place... which God had told. Abraham goes as obediently to the land of sacrifice as to the land of promise.

4-6. On the third day; a journey of 30 or 40 miles. Saw the place afar off; because a hill. It is generally easy to see the place of trouble afar off. I and the lad... come again. Abraham does not tell the young men all, for, in spite of all, he cannot help hoping the dreadful sacrifice he will not shirk, will be averted. Laid it upon Isaac. Isaac carries the wood for his sacrifice as Christ carried his cross. Took... fire. For the purpose of kindling fires, glowing coals were

\* For the recitation of the Scripture Memory Passages in either Part of List IV., a Red Seal is added to the Diploma in Colors given for List III., and a Gold Seal for the verses of the other Part. For Form of Application, apply to Rev. J. C. Robertson, D.D., our General Secretary for Sabbath Schools, Confederation Life Bldg., Toronto,