

The Password To Receive God's Blessings

"¹ Some time later God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!" "Here I am," he replied. ² Then God said, "Take your son, your only son, Isaac, whom you love, and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains I will tell you about." ³ Early the next morning Abraham got up and saddled his donkey. He took with him two of his servants and his son Isaac. When he had cut enough wood for the burnt offering, he set out for the place God had told him about. ⁴ On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance. ⁵ He said to his servants, "Stay here with the donkey while I and the boy go over there. We will worship and then we will come back to you." ⁶ Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and placed it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. As the two of them went on together, ⁷ Isaac spoke up and said to his father Abraham, "Father?" "Yes, my son?" Abraham replied. "The fire and wood are here," Isaac said, "but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?" ⁸ Abraham answered, "God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son." And the two of them went on together. ⁹ When they reached the place God had told him about, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. He bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. ¹⁰ Then he reached out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. ¹¹ But the angel of the LORD called out to him from heaven, "Abraham! Abraham!" "Here I am," he replied. ¹² "Do not lay a hand on the boy," he said. "Do not do anything to him. Now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld from me your son, your only son." ¹³ Abraham looked up and there in a thicket he saw a ram caught by its horns. He went over and took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering instead of his son. ¹⁴ 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 from heaven a second time ¹⁶ and said, "I swear by myself, declares the LORD, that because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, ¹⁷ I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will take possession of the cities of their enemies, ¹⁸ and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed me." (Genesis 22:1-18)

God is awesome in His ways, and as HE calls people He perfect them and sustain them to live an acceptable life unto Him. God had called Abraham when he was 75 years old (his wife was 66 years old) He called him out from Ur, then Abraham moved to Harran, then finally settled in Canaan. Abraham walk with God was the journey of his salvation. God corrected him, directed him, watched over him, and provided for him so he can obey God and do what God wants him to do and to be.

He is the same God who will do with us the same when He calls us. Our journey with Him is the journey of salvation, where we found God near to us, supporting us and helping us to obey Him and perfecting us to receive all His blessings and enjoy all what He had planned for us. Walking with God is the journey for eternity as well as is the journey of obedient life to enjoy all His blessings, His precious promises and the rewards that we have from Him.

God had promised Abraham when He called him that He will make him a great nation and He will make his name great. But Abraham and Sarah had no son. Therefore at the age of 86 Abraham, after Sarah advice, he resorted to sleep with Hajar, Sarah maid, and they got Ishmail. But that was not the promise of God, and troubles started in their lives because of that wrong decision. But God was still with them, helping them in their weaknesses. When Abraham became 99 years old and His wife Sarah 90 she got pregnant with Isaac, and they received the beginning of God's promise to them after 25 years from God's call.

At the age of 101 years old God requested Abraham to get rid of Hajar and Ishmail because His promise to him will be fulfilled through Isaac. That was a painful request but Abraham obeyed the Lord and sent them away. Such things and events might happen in our lives, God every now and then will request us to get rid of certain things and wrong doings in our lives in order for God to perfect us.

Now when Isaac grown and was around 10-15 years old boy, Abraham was around 110-115 the Lord visited the family, Abraham, Sarah and Isaac. God asked Abraham to offer to Him his one and only son that he loves as a sacrifice. Abraham agreed and did what God requested Him to do because he had the following criteria, and these are the password to receive God's blessings:-

1- Faith: The word of God tells us, ***"Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness."*** (Romans 4:3) Abraham and his family were able to offer the best to God and what was asking them to give because they have faith in God; He who called them is faithful and He did it to them. Abraham was sure that God is able to raise Isaac even from death and that is why he told his two servants, ***"Stay here with the donkey while I and the boy go over there. We will worship and then we will come back to you."***

2- Fear of God: God tested the intention of Abraham and He noticed how willingly the family offered to God the requested sacrifice. Therefore just before Abraham put the knife on Isaac the Lord stopped him to do that telling him the following: ***"Do not do anything to him. Now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld from me your son, your only son."*** At the same mountain that Abraham offered Isaac, God offered His Son the Lord Jesus Christ for our sins. To receive Christ and eternal life is to have faith in God, fearing Him and obeying His commands.

3- Obedience: At the conclusion of that event and how Abraham responded to God's call and His commands, the Lord confirmed to Abraham that He will make Him a great nation as He told Him, ***"I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will take possession of the cities of their enemies, ¹⁸ and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed me."***

My dear and beloved: Read and meditate on what you had read and sit with God and listen to Him and do what he asks you to do, as you agree to pray.

My Prayer: *Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins to give me eternal life. Lord speaks to me and guides me into the whole truth. Lord gives me more faith, makes me fearing you and live in obedience and compliance with your Word and commands. This is my prayer in Jesus name, Amen.*