

A Systematic Study of the Word of God
Lesson 5: Isaac
“The Promised Seed and Covenant Son”
Congregational Worksheet – Wednesday, March 11, 2009

This worksheet was created by Pastor Phenis to help you complete and keep structured notes during the corresponding sermon. To fill in the blanks of this worksheet listen to the sermon from the date noted in the header of this worksheet. The sermon MP3 audio can be streamed or downloaded from the sermons page of the church website at <http://www.goshenfirstag.org/sermons.php> or a CD can be purchased (for \$0.50) from the church Media Ministry.

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I. ISAAC:

Last week we studied the life of Abraham who was called “The Father of Nations.” At the beginning of that study I told you that Abraham was one of three Covenant Fathers. Abraham’s son Isaac and Grandson Jacob are the other two Covenant Fathers and they are called this because God made this covenant with these three only. We find God’s covenant with Isaac in Genesis 26:1-5 and His Covenant with Jacob in Genesis 28:13-15. God’s Covenant or agreement with them was that he would multiply their seed and make from them a great nation that was great in number as the stars of heaven. The number was going to be so great that it couldn’t be counted.

THE MAIN FACTS OF ISAAC’S LIFE

1. HIS PROMISED BIRTH. (15:4; 17:19)
2. HIS APPARENT SUBMISSION to DEATH. (22:9)
3. ABRAHAM’S CHOICE of a BRIDE for HIM. (ch. 24)
4. THE RENEWAL of the COVENANT. (26:2-5)
5. ISAAC, THE WELL DIGGER. (26:6-33)
6. HIS DECEPTION by JACOB. (27:18-24)
7. HIS DEATH. (35:28,29)

(Taken from Old Testament Studies vol. 1 by Frank M. Boyd)

#1. “THE COVENANT SON”

We referred to Isaac last week as the Covenant Son, or the Son of _____.

Isaac was the _____ son born to Abraham and Sarah. He was a _____ and a gift from God. Sarah was barren and couldn’t have children but God told Abraham that He was going to give him a son and that he would make him a great nation and through his seed all the nations of the world would be blessed.

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Isaac’s name means “laughter” because when God told Abraham and Sarah that they would have a son they both laughed.

Gen 17:16 And I will bless her, and give thee a son also of her: yea, I will bless her, and she shall be a mother of nations; kings of people shall be of her.

*Gen 17:17 Then Abraham fell upon his face, and **laughed**, and said in his heart, Shall a child be born unto him that is an hundred years old? and shall Sarah, that is ninety years old, bear?*

Gen 17:19 ...And God said, Sarah thy wife shall bear thee a son indeed; and thou shalt call his name Isaac: and I will establish my covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his seed after him.

Gen 17:21 ...my covenant will I establish with Isaac, which Sarah shall bear unto thee at this set time in the next year.

Gen 18:9 And they said unto him, Where is Sarah thy wife? And he said, Behold, in the tent.

Gen 18:10 And he said, I will certainly return unto thee according to the time of life; and, lo, Sarah thy wife shall have a son. And Sarah heard it in the tent door, which was behind him.

Gen 18:11 Now Abraham and Sarah were old and well stricken in age; and it ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women.

*Gen 18:12 Therefore **Sarah laughed** within herself, saying, After I am waxed old shall I have pleasure, my lord being old also?*

*Gen 18:13 And the LORD said unto Abraham, Wherefore did **Sarah laugh**, saying, Shall I of a surety bear a child, which am old?*

Gen 18:14 Is any thing too hard for the LORD? At the time appointed I will return unto thee, according to the time of life, and Sarah shall have a son.

Obviously these verses show the omniscience of God. God knows everything about us. He knows more than who we are or where we came from but He knows even what we are

_____.

***Psa 139:2** Thou knowest my downsitting and mine uprising, thou understandest my thought afar off.*

The Bible says that Sarah laughed _____ herself.

“She appears to have been in the same spirit, and to have had the same feelings of those who, unexpectedly hearing of something of great consequence to themselves, smile and say, ‘The news is too good to be true;’” -- Adam Clarke

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Abraham and Sarah not only laughed for joy but they laughed because Abraham was _____ years old and Sarah was _____. Not only was she naturally too old to bear children but her womb was barren already. She was not able to have children and give her husband Abraham a child at all let alone a son.

However we know that God did perform this miracle and Isaac was born to Abraham and Sarah the very _____. They had their son of promise.

The covenant that God had made with Abraham was moving forward.

#1. A MAN OF FAITH and OBEDIENCE.

Isaac’s life was fairly uneventful when you compare it to his father Abraham. However there are a few things that took place in his life that need to be covered. One of those events is his faithfulness and obedience to his father.

Many scholars believe that not only did Abraham know that he was taking his son up Mt. Moriah to offer him as a sacrifice to God but so did Isaac.

Gen 22:9 And they came to the place which God had told him of; and Abraham built an altar there, and laid the wood in order, and bound Isaac his son, and laid him on the altar upon the wood.

Had not the patriarch been sustained by the full consciousness of acting in obedience to God’s will, the effort would have been too great for human endurance; and had not Isaac, then upwards of twenty years of age displayed equal faith in submitting, this great trial could not have gone through. -- Jamieson Fausset and Brown Commentary

Isaac, most likely over _____ years old, displayed great obedience and faith in letting his father bind him and place him on the altar.

We all know that a 20 year old man would be able to conquer a 120 year old man.

Obviously Isaac displayed great faith and obedience in his submission to his father even when he _____ it would result in his death.

Isaac’s silent act of _____ is by far the ultimate picture of “A Living Sacrifice.”

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#2. MARRIAGE and the RENEWAL of the COVENANT.

Abraham had his servant _____ him to choose a wife for his son Isaac from his country of Mesopotamia where he had dwelt many years with his family before following the call of God.

Abraham did not want Isaac to marry a _____ woman.

The servant promised Abraham that he would go and find a wife for Isaac from his country.

Abraham said if no one was willing to go with him to be Isaac’s wife than he was free from the promise he made to Abraham.

Gen 24:8 And if the woman will not be willing to follow thee, then thou shalt be clear from this my oath...

The servant goes to Abraham’s country and _____ and asks God to send a woman that would draw water from the well and give him a drink and his camels.

Gen 24:12 And he said, O LORD God of my master Abraham, I pray thee, send me good speed this day, and shew kindness unto my master Abraham.

Gen 24:13 Behold, I stand here by the well of water; and the daughters of the men of the city come out to draw water:

Gen 24:14 And let it come to pass, that the damsel to whom I shall say, Let down thy pitcher, I pray thee, that I may drink; and she shall say, Drink, and I will give thy camels drink also: let the same be she that thou hast appointed for thy servant Isaac; and thereby shall I know that thou hast shewed kindness unto my master.

Gen 24:15 And it came to pass, before he had done speaking, that, behold, Rebekah came out, who was born to Bethuel, son of Milcah, the wife of Nahor, Abraham's brother, with her pitcher upon her shoulder.

Rebekah not only let down her pitcher to give him a drink but also went and got water for his camels to drink. She got the camels water until they weren’t thirsty anymore.

Now, Rebekah was the daughter of Bethuel Abraham’s _____. He was the son of Milcah and Nahor. Nahor was Abraham’s _____.

Abraham’s servant then goes to the family and tells them the story of how he is desiring to take a wife to Abraham’s son Isaac.

Rebekah is willing to go and her family consents to let her go.

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So Isaac and Rebekah meet and get married.

This is where the Lord confirms His Covenant to Abraham and passes it on to Isaac.

Gen 26:1 *And there was a famine in the land, beside the first famine that was in the days of Abraham. And Isaac went unto Abimelech king of the Philistines unto Gerar.*
Gen 26:2 *And the LORD appeared unto him, and said, Go not down into Egypt; dwell in the land which I shall tell thee of:*
Gen 26:3 *Sojourn in this land, and I will be with thee, and will bless thee; for unto thee, and unto thy seed, I will give all these countries, and I will perform the oath which I sware unto Abraham thy father;*
Gen 26:4 *And I will make thy seed to multiply as the stars of heaven, and will give unto thy seed all these countries; and in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed;*
Gen 26:5 *Because that Abraham obeyed my voice, and kept my charge, my commandments, my statutes, and my laws.*

The Covenant made with Isaac is the same Covenant that was made with his father Abraham.

#3. ISAAC and REBEKAH HAVE TWINS

Gen 25:20 *And Isaac was forty years old when he took Rebekah to wife, the daughter of Bethuel the Syrian of Padanaram, the sister to Laban the Syrian.*
Gen 25:21 *And Isaac intreated the LORD for his wife, because she was barren: and the LORD was intreated of him, and Rebekah his wife conceived.*

There was a source of contention and strife between these twins even in the womb.

Gen 25:22 *And the children struggled together within her; and she said, If it be so, why am I thus? And she went to enquire of the LORD.*
Gen 25:23 *And the LORD said unto her, Two nations are in thy womb, and two manner of people shall be separated from thy bowels; and the one people shall be stronger than the other people; and the elder shall serve the younger.*

God told Rebekah that she was going to have twins and the one would fight with the other and the _____ would serve the younger.

Now it was the natural order of things that the oldest son received the birthright.

The birthright consisted of the oldest son receiving a _____ portion of all that his father had to leave whether that be lands, flocks, or whatever he had.

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The firstborn became head of the family and thus succeeded to the charge of the family property, becoming responsible for the maintenance of the younger sons, the widow or widows, and the unmarried daughters. He also, as head, succeeded to a considerable amount of authority over the other members. Further, he generally received the blessing, which placed him in close and favored covenant-relationship with Yahweh.

-- I.S.B.E.

In God's foreknowledge He knew what was going to happen between Jacob and Esau.

#4. WELL DIGGER

Isaac goes down to Gerar and dwells there because there is a _____ in his land and God specifically tells him not to go to Egypt but to go to Gerar.

While he is there he commits the same _____ that his father Abraham did two times before him.

He tells the men of Gerar that Rebekah is just his sister because he is afraid that they will kill him and take her to be their wife.

Gen 26:7 And the men of the place asked him of his wife; and he said, She is my sister: for he feared to say, She is my wife; lest, said he, the men of the place should kill me for Rebekah; because she was fair to look upon.

26:8 And it came to pass, when he had been there a long time, that Abimelech king of the Philistines looked out at a window, and saw, and, behold, Isaac was sporting with Rebekah his wife.

26:9 And Abimelech called Isaac, and said, Behold, of a surety she is thy wife: and how saidst thou, She is my sister? And Isaac said unto him, Because I said, Lest I die for her.

King Abimelech gave orders that if anyone touched Rebekah then they should be put to _____.

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After much time Isaac became very wealthy and was _____ because of his wealth that the Lord had blessed him with.

Gen 26:12 Then Isaac sowed in that land, and received in the same year an hundredfold: and the LORD blessed him.

Gen 26:13 And the man waxed great, and went forward, and grew until he became very great:

Gen 26:14 For he had possession of flocks, and possession of herds, and great store of servants: and the Philistines envied him.

Gen 26:15 For all the wells which his father's servants had digged in the days of Abraham his father, the Philistines had stopped them, and filled them with earth.

Gen 26:16 And Abimelech said unto Isaac, Go from us; for thou art much mightier than we.

So Isaac left and went and dwelt in the valley of Gerar and began to _____ the wells that his father Abraham had dug.

Wells obviously offer water and water sustains life and was usually the central focus of a community in those days.

However several of the wells that Isaac dug became a source of _____ with the people.

Gen 26:19 And Isaac's servants digged in the valley, and found there a well of springing water.

Gen 26:20 *And the herdmen of Gerar did strive with Isaac's herdmen, saying, The water is ours: and he called the name of the well Esek; because they strove with him.*

Gen 26:21 And they digged another well, and strove for that also: and he called the name of it Sitnah.

Esek means contention and Sitnah means strife.

One of the things that we see about Isaac is that he was a man who liked to make peace.

Never did any man more completely follow the Divine command, Resist not evil, than Isaac; whenever he found that his work was likely to be a subject of strife and contention, he gave place, and rather chose to suffer wrong than to have his own peace of mind disturbed. Thus he overcame evil with good. -- Adam Clarke

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May we ever endeavor to be as Isaac was and be submissive no matter what comes our way.

Jesus Himself said,

Mat 5:38 Ye have heard that it hath been said, An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth:

*Mat 5:39 But I say unto you, That **ye resist not evil**: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also.*

Mat 5:40 And if any man will sue thee at the law, and take away thy coat, let him have thy cloke also.

Mat 5:41 And whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him twain.

Resist not Evil: “Do not repel one outrage by another.” He that does so makes himself precisely what the other is, a wicked person.

Remember as kids we were always told that two _____ don’t make a right, and it’s still the same today.

The “Golden Rule” is “Do unto others what you would have them do unto you.”

Unfortunately the way of the world is “Do unto others **before** they do it to you.”

So, Isaac then dug another well and called it Rehoboth, which means “_____ spaces.”

Gen 26:22 *And he removed from thence, and digged another well; and for that they strove not: and he called the name of it Rehoboth; and he said, For now the LORD hath made room for us, and we shall be fruitful in the land.*

Isaac finally finds a place that they called Beersheba that he can dwell in and they dig another well.

While they are there King Abimelech comes and makes a covenant with him that he would not war with them for Isaac was very mighty and they were afraid of his strength.

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#5. ISAAC DECEIVED by JACOB

Isaac’s children Esau and Jacob were about _____ years old at this time.

Isaac calls his son Esau in to him and asks him to go and kill a deer and bring him back some venison and cook it up just the way he likes it because he was getting ready to hand over the birthright to Esau.

_____ hears what is taking place and she goes to Jacob and convinces him to trick his father into giving him the birthright.

They concoct or come up with a wild plan together.

Gen 27:11 And Jacob said to Rebekah his mother, Behold, Esau my brother is a hairy man, and I am a smooth man:
Gen 27:12 My father peradventure will feel me, and I shall seem to him as a deceiver; and I shall bring a curse upon me, and not a blessing.
Gen 27:13 And his mother said unto him, Upon me be thy curse, my son: only obey my voice, and go fetch me them.

So Jacob goes and gets the two young goats that Rebekah told him to get so she can cook them up just like Isaac likes it.

Gen 27:15 And Rebekah took goodly raiment of her eldest son Esau, which were with her in the house, and put them upon Jacob her younger son:
Gen 27:16 And she put the skins of the kids of the goats upon his hands, and upon the smooth of his neck:

So Jacob goes in to see his father Isaac and Isaac asks him how he came back so soon with the venison.

Jacob’s deception goes even deeper when he brings _____ into the mix. He tells his father that God had delivered the venison into his hand.

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Isaac asks Jacob to come a little closer so he can feel him and see if it is really his son Esau or not.

Gen 27:21 And Isaac said unto Jacob, Come near, I pray thee, that I may feel thee, my son, whether thou be my very son Esau or not.
Gen 27:22 And Jacob went near unto Isaac his father; and he felt him, and said, The voice is Jacob's voice, but the hands are the hands of Esau.
Gen 27:23 And he discerned him not, because his hands were hairy, as his brother Esau's hands: so he blessed him.

Unfortunately there are many around us like this today.

They may have the hands of Esau but their voice is the voice of Jacob.

In other words they _____ to be genuine but underneath the false exterior is the _____ man.

Deception is all around us in the day and the hour we are living in and the worst part of it all is, it's also in the church and increasing at an alarming rate.

So Isaac is deceived by Jacob and gives him his brother's blessing.

#6. ISAAC'S DEATH

Gen 35:27 And Jacob came unto Isaac his father unto Mamre, unto the city of Arbah, which is Hebron, where Abraham and Isaac sojourned.
Gen 35:28 And the days of Isaac were an hundred and fourscore years.
Gen 35:29 And Isaac gave up the ghost, and died, and was gathered unto his people, being old and full of days: and his sons Esau and Jacob buried him.

So Isaac was _____ years old when he married Rebekah and he was _____ when Rebekah had Jacob and Esau and he died when he was _____ years old.

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INTERESTING THINGS to THINK ABOUT

Isaac has sometimes been called a type of Christ.

For example:

1. What was the nature of his birth? How does this compare with Jesus birth?
2. Who gave Isaac to be offered as a burnt offering? Compare Genesis 22:9,10 with John 3:16 and Isaiah 53:10

*Gen 22:9 And they came to the place which **God had told him of**; and Abraham built an altar there, and laid the wood in order, and bound Isaac his son, and laid him on the altar upon the wood.*

Gen 22:10 And Abraham stretched forth his hand, and took the knife to slay his son.

*Joh 3:16 **For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son**, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.*

*Isa 53:10 **Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him**; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.*

Note: (Isaac did not die but in the mind and intent of his father he was offered and received back from the dead.)

3. What does the submission of Isaac typify? Compare Isaiah 53:7; Hebrews 10:5-7; Luke 22:42

Isa 53:7 He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth.

Heb 10:5 Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldst not, but a body hast thou prepared me:

Heb 10:6 In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin thou hast had no pleasure.

Heb 10:7 Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God.

Luk 22:42 Saying, Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done.

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4. What does Isaac’s restoration to life typify? Compare Romans 1:4; Hebrews 11:17-19

Rom 1:4 And declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead:

Heb 11:17 By faith Abraham, when he was tried, offered up Isaac: and he that had received the promises offered up his only begotten son,

Heb 11:18 Of whom it was said, That in Isaac shall thy seed be called:

Heb 11:19 Accounting that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead; from whence also he received him in a figure.

(Taken from Frank M. Boyd Old Testament Studies vol. 1)