



## **THE GREATEST TEST PART 3 - FOLLOWING GOD'S INSTRUCTIONS**

In part 2 we looked at 'whom do we love the most', where we unpacked the first half of verse 2. In part 3, I want us to look at the second part of verse 2, which is the test of following God's exact instructions and the reason why this is so critical.

***Genesis 22:2 "He said, "Take now your son, your only son, whom you love, Isaac, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I will tell you.""***

This entire illustration between God, Abraham and Isaac, is the exact same illustration and is a direct reflection of the Father and the ultimate sacrifice of His own Son, for our redemption and reformation. The synergies are amazing, and we are to comprehend each and every aspect of this truth.

Let's read the second part of this verse.

***"and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I will tell you."***

God gives Abraham a specific instruction and it is imperative Abraham is obedient to this instruction. This is a test on its own. There are tests among the test which we will constantly face in God and our obedience to what He says is the key to overcome all things.

He says offer Isaac up as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I will tell you.

Why was it essential that Abraham take Isaac to the mountain God specifies, not just any mountain?

Because it was this mountain which the ram was going to be on as the substitute for Isaac.

The Father had already provided the sacrifice before they even arrived there. The ram was not on any mountain but on THE MOUNTAIN God had specified.



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God always provides for everything He requires and asks of us. This is why there cannot be any excuses before God and why there are tests to overcome by faith.

***2 Peter 1:2-3 "Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord; seeing that His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence."***

It is our obedience to what the Father says that has us entering into the life He has for us or not.

We must do everything the way the Father instructs. We must follow exactly as He says without any deviation from His Word and voice. To fail to do what God says or add to what God says or put our spin on what God says is detrimental to the life we can know. It is to sabotage and put in jeopardy the life He died for us to experience in Him. It is utter and complete foolishness to be and live like this.

Abraham did exactly as God instructed.

***Genesis 22:3-4 "So Abraham rose early in the morning and saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him and Isaac his son; and he split wood for the burnt offering, and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. On the third day Abraham raised his eyes and saw the place from a distance."***

When you and I are tested do we do exactly what God says, or do we come up with our own plan's thoughts and strategies? Do we come up with what we believe is right, exerting all our time, energy and resource into finding our own solutions? Once again this is utter foolishness.

Abraham did exactly as God said in this test and so must we, which means we must be able to hear two things and live in accordance with this. We must be able to hear...

1. His Word for the formation of His eternal life in us.
2. His voice for what He calls us to accomplish.



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The combination of both of these together is all part of the accomplishment of the Father's will, which is the purpose of the church. To glorify the Father through the accomplishment of His will on earth as it is in heaven.

When we hear in these ways and do as God instructs, we hit the mark and get to live the life of the overcomer by faith. We pass the tests and in turn get to receive the reward of our inheritance.

***Colossians 3:23-24 "Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance. It is the Lord Christ whom you serve."***

The one who doesn't pass the tests unfortunately, is left empty handed and although still justified by His blood, relinquishes and forfeits their inheritance in Christ.

***Colossians 3:25 "For he who does wrong will receive the consequences of the wrong which he has done, and that without partiality."***

Let's all be found being the one's who receive all that the Father has for them through doing exactly as the Father instructs.

## QUESTIONS

1. Why is following God's clear instructions the key to Life?
2. Why does the Father always provide for what He asks of us to become and do?
3. What does this tell you about God and His way?
4. Why is being able to hear His Word for formation and His voice for function so essential to overcoming all the tests God sends our way and allows?
5. Where would you say you are at with being obedient to both His Word and His voice?

Watch the accompanying You Tube video here: <https://youtu.be/4UMRqgYiCsQ>