

Communion Meditation – Jesus in Genesis

Genesis 22.15-19

Faith Rewarded

August 15th, 2010

v1-14 ~ Review

1. God tested Abraham's faith by commanding him to sacrifice Isaac
2. Abraham passed the test with flying colors
3. And now he is promised the reward for his success

v15-16 ~ "Angel of the LORD"

- We are fairly certain this is Jesus ~ theophany (*pre-incarnate appearance*)
 - In v12 the Angel referred to Himself as God – "*not withheld . . . from Me*"

v17 ~ "stars and sand"

- Both spiritual and physical descendants promised
- "*Your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies*"
 - Victory – in this world and the next is promised

v18a ~ "In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed"

- We are clearly told in the New Testament that this refers to Jesus
 - **Rom 9.7, Gal 3.16** and **Heb 11.18**

v18b ~ "because you have obeyed My voice"

- Abraham's obedience blessed the entire world
- Sinfulness leads to selfishness, selfishness leads to meaninglessness
- Ill: Josiah visited co-workers house ~ *meaninglessness palpable*
- The rewards for obedience expand way beyond ourselves
- *Who does your obedience bless?*
 - *yourself* (of course) ~ *family, friends, neighbors*

Can your obedience bless the entire world? ~ Collectively, yes . . .

We are the salt and light of the world . . .

Our obedience to God blesses the world

Our disobedience diminishes it

Obedience begins at this table . . . *Will you serve God? Will you obey?*

If you do so, you will be blessed – and you will be a blessing to the world