

Mar 04, 2018



# Oaks Early Risers Bible Class

**The Oaks Baptist Church**  
Grand Prairie, Texas

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## The Lord Will Provide Gen 22:1-14

### Aim and Application of the Lesson

The lesson reviews how Abraham responded to his son about the sacrificial lamb that **The Lord Will Provide**. The **study's aim** is to teach us to shape our thinking and reactions to life's circumstances in relation to God. The **study's application** is to make it a habit of life and thought to watch for the God's provision in everything.

*(Adapted from the Bible Expositor and Illuminator Commentary)*

### Lesson Introduction and Background

When we read of the ultimate test that God put His servant Abraham through, we feel both dismay and admiration. We cringe at the thought that God might put us through a similar trial, but we admire the great faith that Abraham showed throughout his.

Nowhere does his faith shine more brightly than in the statement recorded in our text. Short of when he had to actually take knife in hand (Gen. 22:10), this was possibly the most painful moment in Abraham's ordeal. Isaac knew that they were on their way to offer a special sacrifice to the Lord. He may have only now worked up the courage to ask about the lack of a sacrificial animal (vs. 7). Abraham had undoubtedly been dreading the moment when Isaac would find out that he was to be the sacrifice, and quite naturally would have put off disclosing that fact. His answer may sound evasive to us, but in reality it demonstrates the great faith that he was exercising. Hebrews 11:17-19 tells us that Abraham acted in faith when he set out to obey God's command to offer up his son. He believed that God would keep His promise regarding the blessing through Isaac and would, if necessary, even raise him from the dead. This faith was seen earlier in Abraham's instructions to the servants to remain at the foot of the mountain: "I and the lad will go yonder and worship, and come again to you" (Gen. 22:5). Abraham voiced the same faith in his answer to Isaac, stating it in different terms: "God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering." It is true that when Isaac was laid bound on the altar, he would have thought he was the provided lamb and may have considered the answer disingenuous. But Abraham was not merely putting him off. From the other statements in this passage and in Hebrews, we must assume that he genuinely believed the assurance he gave his son. Of course, Abraham did not know the actual outcome in advance. He could not have known about the ram (Gen. 22:13). He did not know that the Lord was merely testing him. But he knew that God would ultimately provide, no matter what the two of them might have to go through. But we cannot read this text without realizing that Abraham spoke truly of a far greater provision than he knew—or could have known even after the provision of the substitute for Isaac. When we read "God will provide himself a lamb," we encounter one of the earliest and clearest foreshadowings in all the Old Testament of the greater Sacrifice to come. God, who spared Abraham from going through with this most difficult test, did not spare Himself from putting His own Son through the full measure of grief. "He spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all" (Rom. 8:32). God provided a Lamb, and it was costlier to Him than any cost He has ever asked any of His servants—or any human being anywhere—to bear. Isaac was spared through the substitution of a ram; we have been saved eternally through the substitution of the Lamb of God.

*(Adapted from the Bible Expositor and Illuminator Commentary)*

### FOOD FOR THOUGHT

**THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:**  
God has unlimited power

**PRAYER FOR THE WEEK:**  
Dear Lord, forgive me for overlooking Your power and trying to live in my own strength. I can't do it. Thank You for providing everything I need

**SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK:**  
*His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue*  
(2 Peter 1:3 NKJV)

*(from "Our Daily Bread", July 9, 2016)*

### **Series: Acknowledging God**

**UNIT: Follow in My Ways**

### NEXT WEEK

**A Prayer of Dedication**  
(2 Chron 6:12-21)

## NOTES AND CROSS-REFERENCES

### God's Call to Faithfulness (22:1-2)

#### *Calls of testing (1)*

Testing to humble and teach us spiritual truths (Deut. 8:2)

Testing to strengthen our faith (John 6:5-6)

#### *Calls of sacrifice (2)*

Sacrifice of obedience (1 Samuel 15:22)

Sacrifice of self (Romans 12:1)

#### *Calls of action (2)*

Action accompanied by faith (James 2:17-19)

Action based on obedience (1 John 2:3)

### Provisions through Obedience (22:3-6)

#### *Immediate obedience (3)*

When God calls, immediate response is necessary (Matthew 4:21-22)

When we respond to God's call, our family must also be obedient (Acts 16:29-33)

#### *Prepared obedience (3)*

Preparation is important because we don't know when we will be called (Genesis 41:14)

Preparation can take time, so we must not put off what we can do today (Galatians 1:15-19)

#### *Discerning obedience (4)*

Discernment in obedience so that we are sure we are following God's Word (Philip 1:9-10)

Discernment in obedience through constant practice of following God (Hebrews 5:14)

#### *Hopeful obedience (5)*

Hopeful in obedience through faith in God's power (Hebrews 11:19)

Hopeful in obedience based on blind faith in God (Romans 8:24)

#### *Working obedience (6)*

Work based on God's plan (Proverbs 14:22-24)

Work so that we will have the respect of others and not dependent on anyone but God (1 Thes. 4:11-12)

### Provisions through Trust (22:7-8)

#### *Trust in spite of questions (7)*

If we have questions, we are relying on our own understanding (Proverbs 3:5)

Our questions many times turn into worry (Matthew 6:34)

#### *Trust in God's plans (8)*

Know that God's plans are best because He is able to carry them out (2 Tim. 1:12)

Trust in God's plans because He has never failed (Psalm 9:10)

### Provisions for Action (22:9-10)

#### *Action of duty (9)*

A duty to obey (Rom 8:12-13)

A duty to teach the next generation (Ps 71:18)

#### *Action regardless of understanding (10)*

Action despite understanding by action and faith working together (James 2:21-22)

Action despite understanding because human understanding is foolishness in God's sight (1 Cor 3:18-19)

### God's Intervention of His Provisions (22:11-12)

#### *God's intervention using Angels (11)*

God hears our cries and dispatches Angels to minister to us (Genesis 21:15-17)

God provides angels to encamp around us (Psalm 34:7)

#### *God Intervenes "just in time" (12)*

God is not slow in providing His intervention (2 Peter 3:3-9)

God intervenes when He knows it is the right time (Deut 32:35-36)

### God's Provision because of Faithfulness (22:13-14)

#### *God's physical provisions (13)*

We should never worry about food or clothing, God knows we need them (Matthew 6:30-32)

God has the resources to supply all our physical needs (Philip. 4:19)

#### *God's spiritual provisions (14)*

God provides spiritual peace by guarding our mind (Philip. 4:7)

God provides the destiny of our soul (Matthew 10:28)