Faith Tests in the Life of Abraham... and in Our Lives too!

Sunday, May 3/20 – Genesis 22:1 – 14; Hebrews 11:17 – 19

After these things God <u>tested</u> Abraham and said to him, 'Abraham!' And he said 'Here I am'. He said, 'Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you. So Abraham rose early... Genesis 22:1 – 2

By faith Abraham, when he was <u>tested</u>, offered up Isaac... he considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back.

Hebrews 11:17

Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that <u>the testing</u> of your faith produces steadfastness.

James 1:3

The difficulties we face originate from one of three sources. Some are sent to us by the Lord <u>to test</u> our faith, others are the result of Satan's attacks, and still others are due to our own sinful choices. Charles Stanley

Faith is taking the first step even when you don't see the whole staircase. - Martin Luther King, Jr.

Part One: Faith Tests in the Life of Abraham (Genesis 22:1 – 14; Hebrews 11:17 – 19)

- i. <u>Abrahams Faith Tests: The Big Three</u> (Heb. 11:8ff)
- Tests that require Change (11:8 10)
- Tests that require Patience (11:11 12)
- Tests that require Sacrifice (11:17 19)
- ii. <u>Abraham's Jehovah-Jireh Faith: God will Provide</u> (Gen. 22:8; Heb. 11:13 19)
- Trusting in God's Promises
- Treating Tests as God's Problem
- Travelling as a Sojourner

Part Two: Faith Tests in Our Lives (Answering your Questions)

- i. Facing our Faith Tests
- ii. Strengthening our Faith Muscle
- iii. Treating Tests as God's Problems
- iv. Living as Sojourners on Earth

<u>Q:</u> What faith test are you facing? What has the Lord taught you about a 'Jehovah-Jireh' faith?