

TOO MUCH



LIVING WITH LESS IN THE LAND OF MORE

Lesson Learned

**Too Much—Living with Less in the Land of More
Lesson Learned
Genesis 22**

God wanted to test Abraham

Trust. Test. Tithe.

The question is: Do we bring God our tithes declaring Him to be our King?

Tithing is an act of obedience. *Malachi 3:8-12*

Offerings are over the tithe.
Offerings move us towards generosity.

Malachi 3:10 NLT Bring all the tithes into the storehouse so there will be enough food in my Temple. If you do," says the Lord of Heaven's Armies, "I will open the windows of heaven for you. I will pour out a blessing so great you won't have enough room to take it in! Try it! Put me to the test!

The word mercy in Hebrew (hadas) means "never before experienced." *Lamentations 3:22-23*

Slides

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Genesis 22

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Abraham.

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Genesis 22:1-2 NLT Some time later, God tested Abraham’s faith. “Abraham!” God called. “Yes,” he replied. “Here I am.”² “Take your son, your only son—yes, Isaac, whom you love so much—and go to the land of Moriah. Go and sacrifice him as a burnt offering on one of the mountains, which I will show you.”

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God wanted to test Abraham,
Did Abraham love the GIFT or did Abraham love the Giver of the gift?

Genesis 22:3 NLT The next morning Abraham got up early. He saddled his donkey and took two of his servants with him, along with his son, Isaac. Then he chopped wood for a fire for a burnt offering and set out for the place God had told him about.

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Genesis 22:4-5 NLT On the third day of their journey, Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance.⁵ “Stay here with the donkey,” Abraham told the servants. “The boy and I will travel a little farther. We will worship there, and then we will come right back.”

Genesis 22:4-5 NLT On the third day of their journey, Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance.⁵ “Stay here with the donkey,” Abraham told the servants. “The boy and I will travel a little farther. We will worship there, and then we will come right back.”

Genesis 22:6-8 NLT So Abraham placed the wood for the burnt offering on Isaac’s shoulders, while he himself carried the fire and the knife. As the two of them walked on together,⁷ Isaac turned to Abraham and said, “Father?” “Yes, my son?” Abraham replied. “We have the fire and the wood,” the boy said, “but where is the sheep for the burnt offering?”⁸ “God will provide a sheep for the burnt offering, my son,” Abraham answered. And they both walked on together.

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Genesis 22:9-10 NLT When they arrived at the place where God had told him to go, Abraham built an altar and arranged the wood on it. Then he tied his son, Isaac, and laid him on the altar on top of the wood.¹⁰ And Abraham picked up the knife to kill his son as a sacrifice.

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Genesis 22:11-12 NLT *At that moment the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven, “Abraham! Abraham!” “Yes,” Abraham replied. “Here I am!”¹² “Don’t lay a hand on the boy!” the angel said. “Do not hurt him in any way, for now I know that you truly fear God. You have not withheld from me even your son, your only son.”*

Test

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Trust

Genesis 12:1-4 NLT *The Lord had said to Abram, “Leave your native country, your relatives, and your father’s family, and go to the land that I will show you.² I will make you into a great nation. I will bless you and make you famous, and you will be a blessing to others.³ I will bless those who bless you and curse those who treat you with contempt. All the families on earth will be blessed through you.”⁴ So Abram departed as the Lord had instructed...*

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Genesis 16:1-6 NLT *Now Sarai, Abram’s wife, had not been able to bear children for him. But she had an Egyptian servant named Hagar.² So Sarai said to Abram, “The Lord has prevented me from having children. Go and sleep with my servant. Perhaps I can have children through her.” And Abram agreed with Sarai’s proposal.³ So Sarai, Abram’s wife, took Hagar the Egyptian servant and gave her to Abram as a wife. (This happened ten years after Abram had settled in the land of Canaan.)⁴ So Abram had sexual relations with Hagar, and she became pregnant. But when Hagar knew she was pregnant, she began to treat her mistress, Sarai, with contempt.⁵ Then Sarai said to Abram, “This is all your fault! I put my servant into your arms, but now that she’s pregnant she treats me with contempt. The Lord will show who’s wrong—you or me!”⁶ Abram replied, “Look, she is your servant, so deal with her as you see fit.” Then Sarai treated Hagar so harshly that she finally ran away.*

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Lesson learned

Genesis 14:17-20 NLT *After Abram returned from his victory over Kedorlaomer and all his allies, the king of Sodom went out to meet him in the valley of Shaveh (that is, the King’s Valley).¹⁸ And Melchizedek, the king of Salem and a priest of God Most High, brought Abram some bread and wine.¹⁹ Melchizedek blessed Abram with this blessing: “Blessed be Abram by God Most High, Creator of heaven and earth.²⁰ And blessed be God Most High, who has defeated your enemies for you.” Then Abram gave Melchizedek a tenth of all the goods he had recovered.*

Melchizedek was both king and priest of Salem.

Salem is the shortened version of Jerusalem, the city of God.

Melchizedek means king of righteousness

Melchizedek acknowledged God Most High, Creator of heaven and earth

Melchizedek brought out bread and wine because he wanted to Abraham to eat at his table

In response, Abraham gave Melchizedek a tenth of everything.

Trust. Test. Tithe.

The question is: do we bring God our tithes declaring Him to be our King?

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Tithing is an act of obedience.

Malachi 3:8-12 NLT “Should people cheat God? Yet you have cheated me! “But you ask, ‘What do you mean? When did we ever cheat you?’ “You have cheated me of the tithes and offerings due to me. ⁹ You are under a curse, for your whole nation has been cheating me. ¹⁰ Bring all the tithes into the storehouse so there will be enough food in my Temple. If you do,” says the Lord of Heaven’s Armies, “I will open the windows of heaven for you. I will pour out a blessing so great you won’t have enough room to take it in! Try it! Put me to the test! ¹¹ Your crops will be abundant, for I will guard them from insects and disease. Your grapes will not fall from the vine before they are ripe,” says the Lord of Heaven’s Armies. ¹² “Then all nations will call you blessed, for your land will be such a delight,” says the Lord of Heaven’s Armies.

Offerings are over the tithe.

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Offerings move us towards generosity.

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The Jewish people tithed to: 1) pay the tribe of Levi, 2) do repairs on the Temple, 3) provide help for the widows and orphans, and 4) send prophets out on the road.

Christians Today tithe to: 1) pays the staff, 2) does repairs on the building, 3) provides help for various ministries, and 4) sends missionaries out.

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Is our trust in God falling from year-to-year, even day-to-day?



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“In our program, the truth is the basis of all that we do. There is nothing more important than the truth because there’s nothing more powerful than the truth. Consequently, on our team, we always tell one another the truth. We must be honest with one another. There is no other way.” Coach Mike Krzyzewski

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Lamentations 3:22-23 NLT The faithful love of the Lord never ends! His mercies never cease. ²³ Great is His faithfulness; His mercies begin afresh each morning.

The word mercy in Hebrew (hadas) means “never before experienced.”

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Lesson learned?