



Abraham Father of Isaac and The Jewish Nation

Reader from
Genesis 15:1-2, 5, 12-16, 18:1-5,
9-11, 21:1-3, 22:1-13

By Felicia Mollohan

Af-ter these things¹
the word of the Lord
came to A-bram in a
vi-sion, say-ing,
"Do not fear, A-bram,
I am a shield to you;
Your re-ward shall be
ver-y great."

A-bram said, "O Lord
God, what will You give
me, since I am
child-less?"

2 And He took him
out-side and said,
"Now look to-ward
the hea-vens, and
count the stars, if
you are a-ble to
count them." And He
said to him, "So shall
your de-scen-dants
be."

3 Now when the sun
was go-ing down, a
deep sleep fell up-on
A-bram; and be-hold,
ter-ror *and* great
dark-ness fell upon
him.

⁴ God said to A-bram,
"Know for cer-tain
that your
de-scen-dants will be
stran-gers in a land
that is not theirs,
where they will be
en-slaved and
op-pressed four
hun-dred years.

But I will also judge ⁵
the na-tion whom
they will serve, and
af-ter-ward they will
come out with man-y
po-ses-sions. As for
you, you shall go to
your fa-thers in
peace; you will be
bur-ied at a good old
age.

6 Then in the fourth

gen-er-a-tion they will

re-turn here, for the

in-i-qui-ty of the

Am-or-ite is not yet

com-plete.

Now the Lord

7

ap-peared to him by

the oaks of Mam-re,

while he was sit-ting

at the tent door in

the heat of the day.

⁸When he lift-ed up his
eyes and looked,
be-hold, three men
were stand-ing
op-po-site him; and
when he saw *them*, he
ran from the tent
door to meet them
and bowed him-self
to the earth,

and said, "My Lord, if⁹
now I have found
fa-vor in Your sight,
please do not pass
Your ser-vant by.

¹⁰ Please let a lit-tle
wa-ter be brought
and wash your feet,
and rest your-selves
un-der the tree; and I
will bring a piece of
bread,

that you may ¹¹
re-fresh your-selves;
af-ter that you may
go on, since you have
vi-sit-ed your
ser-vant.” And they
said, “So do, as you
have said.”

12

Then they said to him,

“Where is Sar-ah your

wife?” And he said,

“There, in the tent.”

He said, “I will sure-ly
re-turn to you at this

time next year; and

be-hold, Sar-ah your

wife will have a son.”

13

And Sar-ah was

list-en-ing at the tent

door, which was

be-hind him. Now

A-bra-ham and

Sar-ah were old,

ad-vanced in age;

Sar-ah was past

child-bear-ing.

¹⁴ Then the Lord took
note of Sar-ah as He
had said, and the
Lord did for Sar-ah
as He had pro-mised.
So Sar-ah con-ceived
and bore a son to
A-bra-ham in his old
age,

¹⁵ at the ap-point-ed
time of which God
had spok-en to him.
A-bra-ham called the
name of his son who
was born to him,
whom Sar-ah bore
to him, I-saac.

¹⁶ Now it came about
af-ter these things,
that God test-ed
A-bra-ham, and said
to him, "A-bra-ham!"
And he said, "Here I
am."

¹⁷ He said, "Take now
your son, your on-ly
son, whom you love,
I-saac, and go to the
land of Mor-i-ah, and
off-er him there as a
burnt off-er-ing on
one of the
moun-tains of which I
will tell you."

18 So A-bra-ham rose ear-ly in the morn-ing and sad-dled his don-key, and took two of his young men with him and I-saac his son; and he split wood for the burnt off-er-ing, and a-rose and went to the place of which God had told him.

19 On the third day A-bra-ham raised his eyes and saw the place from a dis-tance. A-bra-ham said to his young men, "Stay here with the don-key, and I and the lad will go over there; and we will wor-ship and re-turn to you."

A-bra-ham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on I-saac his son, and he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on to-gether.

I-saac spoke to A-bra-ham his father and said, "My father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." And he said, "Be-hold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?"

²² A-bra-ham said, "God will pro-vide for Him-self the lamb for the burnt off-er-ing, my son." So the two of them walked on to-geth-er.

²³ Then they came to the place of which God had told him; and A-bra-ham built the al-tar there and ar-ranged the wood, and bound his son I-saac and laid him on the al-tar, on top of the wood.

²⁴A-bra-ham stretched out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. But the an-gel of the Lord called to him from heav-en and said, "A-bra-ham, A-bra-ham!" And he said, "Here I am."

He said, "Do not stretch out your hand a-against the lad, and do no-thing to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not with-held your son, your on-ly son, from Me."

26

Then A-bra-ham
raised his eyes and
looked, and be-hold,
be-hind *him* a ram
caught in the thick-et
by his horns;

27

and A-bra-ham went
and took the ram and
off-ered him up for a
burnt off-er-ing in
the place of his son.