

Genesis 22:1-15

Reflection

This Genesis reading tells of Abraham's faith being tested by God, tested not tempted, for God does not tempt, temptation to sin comes from Satan.

Obedience to God's will also plays a part in this story. Abraham is being asked to sacrifice his son whom he loves very much, a great joy of his life.

I have found many times that the suggested readings for any given Sunday are often very appropriate for what is going in our lives or what is going on around in the world. Today Christians are being tested, we live in time of division, hate, and a deadly pandemic that is asking all of us to make sacrifices to make the world around us safer for everyone.

Our comfortable lives are being challenged, disrupted, and restricted. Many are fighting against having their personal rights of "freedom and choice" denied. We are being asked to sacrifice and be obedience.

Last Sunday in the virtual service at St. James, our Bishop reminded us that in troubled times we have to 'tough it up.' As a young lad in the early 1940s I, and my family, toughed it up through the war years, and we and our country survived.

We together will survive this because, as God told Moses to tell the people in the wilderness, "Do not be afraid." God will test us--not to create fear, but trust in Him and His ever presence to protect us.

Abraham did not lose his son, but his faith and devotion to God is only paralleled by God's love to us as reflected in Christ's sacrifice on the cross for us.

Prayers and committed faith in Jesus will save and protect us also.

Be safe, God's Blessing and Peace.

Rev. John Dillon