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Unit 3: A New Hope: The Covenant with Abraham (Genesis 10-17, Genesis 20-22)

## Genesis

### Chapter 11

<sup>1</sup> Now the whole earth had one language and few words. <sup>2</sup> And as men migrated from the east, they found a plain in the land of Shinar and settled there. <sup>3</sup> And they said to one another, "Come, let us make bricks, and burn them thoroughly." And they had brick for stone, and bitumen for mortar. <sup>4</sup> Then they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city, and a tower with its top in the heavens, and let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth." <sup>5</sup> And the LORD came down to see the city and the tower, which the sons of men had built. <sup>6</sup> And the LORD said, "Behold, they are one people, and they have all one language; and this is only the beginning of what they will do; and nothing that they propose to do will now be impossible for them. <sup>7</sup> Come, let us go down, and there confuse their language, that they may not understand one another's speech." <sup>8</sup> So the LORD scattered them abroad from there over the face of all the earth, and they left off building the city. <sup>9</sup> Therefore its name was called Babel, because there the LORD confused the language of all the earth; and from there the LORD scattered them abroad over the face of all the earth.

<sup>10</sup> These are the descendants of Shem. When Shem was a hundred years old, he became the father of Arpachshad two years after the flood;... (Shortened)

<sup>27</sup> Now these are the descendants of Terah. Terah was the father of Abram, Nahor, and Haran; and Haran was the father of Lot. <sup>28</sup> Haran died before his father Terah in the land of his birth, in Ur of the Chaldeans.

<sup>29</sup> And Abram and Nahor took wives; the name of Abram's wife was Sarai, and the name of Nahor's wife, Milcah, the daughter of Haran the father of Milcah and Iscah. <sup>30</sup> Now Sarai was barren; she had no child.

<sup>31</sup> Terah took Abram his son and Lot the son of Haran, his grandson, and Sarai his daughter-in-law, his son Abram's wife, and they went forth together from Ur of the Chaldeans to go into the land of Canaan; but when they came to Haran, they settled there. <sup>32</sup> The days of Terah were two hundred and five years; and Terah died in Haran.

### Chapter 12

<sup>1</sup> Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup> And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup> I will bless those who bless you, and him who curses you I will curse; and by you all the families of the earth shall bless themselves."

<sup>4</sup> So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. <sup>5</sup> And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother's son, and all their possessions which they had gathered, and the persons that they had gotten in Haran; and they set forth to go to the land of Canaan. When they had come to the land of Canaan, <sup>6</sup> Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. <sup>7</sup> Then the LORD appeared to Abram, and said, "To your descendants I will give this land." So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him. <sup>8</sup> Thence he removed to the mountain on the east of Bethel, and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east; and there he built an altar to the LORD and called on the name of the LORD.

<sup>9</sup> And Abram journeyed on, still going toward the Negeb.

<sup>10</sup> Now there was a famine in the land. So Abram went down to Egypt to sojourn there, for the famine was severe in the land. <sup>11</sup> When he was about to enter Egypt, he said to Sarai his wife, "I know that you are a woman beautiful to behold; <sup>12</sup> and when the Egyptians see you, they will say, 'This is his wife'; then they will kill me, but they will let you live. <sup>13</sup> Say you are my sister, that it may go well with me because of you, and that my life

may be spared on your account.”<sup>14</sup> When Abram entered Egypt the Egyptians saw that the woman was very beautiful.<sup>15</sup> And when the princes of Pharaoh saw her, they praised her to Pharaoh. And the woman was taken into Pharaoh’s house.<sup>16</sup> And for her sake he dealt well with Abram; and he had sheep, oxen, he-asses, menservants, maidservants, she-asses, and camels.

<sup>17</sup> But the LORD afflicted Pharaoh and his house with great plagues because of Sarai, Abram’s wife.<sup>18</sup> So Pharaoh called Abram, and said, “What is this you have done to me? Why did you not tell me that she was your wife?<sup>19</sup> Why did you say, ‘She is my sister,’ so that I took her for my wife? Now then, here is your wife, take her, and be gone.”<sup>20</sup> And Pharaoh gave men orders concerning him; and they set him on the way, with his wife and all that he had.

## Chapter 13

<sup>1</sup> So Abram went up from Egypt, he and his wife, and all that he had, and Lot with him, into the Negeb.

<sup>2</sup> Now Abram was very rich in cattle, in silver, and in gold.<sup>3</sup> And he journeyed on from the Negeb as far as Bethel, to the place where his tent had been at the beginning, between Bethel and Ai,<sup>4</sup> to the place where he had made an altar at the first; and there Abram called on the name of the LORD.<sup>5</sup> And Lot, who went with Abram, also had flocks and herds and tents,<sup>6</sup> so that the land could not support both of them dwelling together; for their possessions were so great that they could not dwell together,<sup>7</sup> and there was strife between the herdsmen of Abram’s cattle and the herdsmen of Lot’s cattle. At that time the Canaanites and the Perizzites dwelt in the land.

<sup>8</sup> Then Abram said to Lot, “Let there be no strife between you and me, and between your herdsmen and my herdsmen; for we are kinsmen.<sup>9</sup> Is not the whole land before you? Separate yourself from me. If you take the left hand, then I will go to the right; or if you take the right hand, then I will go to the left.”<sup>10</sup> And Lot lifted up his eyes, and saw that the Jordan valley was well watered everywhere like the garden of the LORD, like the land of Egypt, in the direction of Zoar; this was before the LORD destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah.<sup>11</sup> So Lot chose for himself all the Jordan valley, and Lot journeyed east; thus they separated from each other.<sup>12</sup> Abram dwelt in the land of Canaan, while Lot dwelt among the cities of the valley and moved his tent as far as Sodom.<sup>13</sup> Now the men of Sodom were wicked, great sinners against the LORD.

<sup>14</sup> The LORD said to Abram, after Lot had separated from him, “Lift up your eyes, and look from the place where you are, northward and southward and eastward and westward;<sup>15</sup> for all the land which you see I will give to you and to your descendants for ever.<sup>16</sup> I will make your descendants as the dust of the earth; so that if one can count the dust of the earth, your descendants also can be counted.<sup>17</sup> Arise, walk through the length and the breadth of the land, for I will give it to you.”<sup>18</sup> So Abram moved his tent, and came and dwelt by the oaks of Mamre, which are at Hebron; and there he built an altar to the LORD.

## Chapter 14

<sup>1</sup> In the days of Amraphel king of Shinar, Arioch king of Ellasar, Ched-or-laomer king of Elam, and Tidal king of Goiim,<sup>2</sup> these kings made war with Bera king of Sodom, Birsha king of Gomorrah, Shinab king of Admah, Shemeber king of Zeboiim, and the king of Bela (that is, Zoar).<sup>3</sup> And all these joined forces in the Valley of Siddim (that is, the Salt Sea).<sup>4</sup> Twelve years they had served Ched-or-laomer, but in the thirteenth year they rebelled... (SHORTENED)<sup>11</sup> So the enemy took all the goods of Sodom and Gomorrah, and all their provisions, and went their way;<sup>12</sup> they also took Lot, the son of Abram’s brother, who dwelt in Sodom, and his goods, and departed.

<sup>13</sup> Then one who had escaped came, and told Abram the Hebrew, who was living by the oaks of Mamre the Amorite, brother of Eshcol and of Aner; these were allies of Abram.<sup>14</sup> When Abram heard that his kinsman had been taken captive, he led forth his trained men, born in his house, three hundred and eighteen of them, and went in pursuit as far as Dan.<sup>15</sup> And he divided his forces against them by night, he and his servants, and routed them and pursued them to Hobah, north of Damascus.<sup>16</sup> Then he brought back all the goods, and also brought back his kinsman Lot with his goods, and the women and the people.

<sup>17</sup> After his return from the defeat of Ched-or-laomer and the kings who were with him, the king of Sodom went out to meet him at the Valley of Shaveh (that is, the King's Valley). <sup>18</sup> And Mel-chizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine; he was priest of God Most High. <sup>19</sup> And he blessed him and said,

“Blessed be Abram by God Most High,  
maker of heaven and earth;  
<sup>20</sup> and blessed be God Most High,  
who has delivered your enemies into your hand!”

And Abram gave him a tenth of everything. <sup>21</sup> And the king of Sodom said to Abram, “Give me the persons, but take the goods for yourself.” <sup>22</sup> But Abram said to the king of Sodom, “I have sworn to the LORD God Most High, maker of heaven and earth, <sup>23</sup> that I would not take a thread or a sandal-thong or anything that is yours, lest you should say, ‘I have made Abram rich.’ <sup>24</sup> I will take nothing but what the young men have eaten, and the share of the men who went with me; let Aner, Eshcol, and Mamre take their share.”

## Chapter 15

<sup>1</sup> After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, “Fear not, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.” <sup>2</sup> But Abram said, “O Lord GOD, what wilt thou give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?” <sup>3</sup> And Abram said, “Behold, thou hast given me no offspring; and a slave born in my house will be my heir.” <sup>4</sup> And behold, the word of the LORD came to him, “This man shall not be your heir; your own son shall be your heir.” <sup>5</sup> And he brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your descendants be.” <sup>6</sup> And he believed the LORD; and he reckoned it to him as righteousness.

<sup>7</sup> And he said to him, “I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess.” <sup>8</sup> But he said, “O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?” <sup>9</sup> He said to him, “Bring me a heifer three years old, a she-goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon.” <sup>10</sup> And he brought him all these, cut them in two, and laid each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. <sup>11</sup> And when birds of prey came down upon the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

<sup>12</sup> As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell on Abram; and lo, a dread and great darkness fell upon him. <sup>13</sup> Then the LORD said to Abram, “Know of a surety that your descendants will be sojourners in a land that is not theirs, and will be slaves there, and they will be oppressed for four hundred years; <sup>14</sup> but I will bring judgment on the nation which they serve, and afterward they shall come out with great possessions. <sup>15</sup> As for yourself, you shall go to your fathers in peace; you shall be buried in a good old age. <sup>16</sup> And they shall come back here in the fourth generation; for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet complete.”

<sup>17</sup> When the sun had gone down and it was dark, behold, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. <sup>18</sup> On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, “To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates, <sup>19</sup> the land of the Kenites, the Kenizzites, the Kadmonites, <sup>20</sup> the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Rephaim, <sup>21</sup> the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Girgashites and the Jebusites.”

## Chapter 16

<sup>1</sup> Now Sarai, Abram's wife, bore him no children. She had an Egyptian maid whose name was Hagar; <sup>2</sup> and Sarai said to Abram, “Behold now, the LORD has prevented me from bearing children; go in to my maid; it may be that I shall obtain children by her.” And Abram hearkened to the voice of Sarai. <sup>3</sup> So, after Abram had dwelt ten years in the land of Canaan, Sarai, Abram's wife, took Hagar the Egyptian, her maid, and gave her to Abram her husband as a wife. <sup>4</sup> And he went in to Hagar, and she conceived; and when she saw that she had conceived, she looked with contempt on her mistress. <sup>5</sup> And Sarai said to Abram, “May the wrong done to me be on you! I gave my maid to your embrace, and when she saw that she had conceived, she looked on me with contempt. May the LORD judge between you and me!” <sup>6</sup> But Abram said to Sarai, “Behold, your maid is in your power; do to her as you please.” Then Sarai dealt harshly with her, and she fled from her.

<sup>7</sup> The angel of the LORD found her by a spring of water in the wilderness, the spring on the way to Shur. <sup>8</sup> And he said, "Hagar, maid of Sarai, where have you come from and where are you going?" She said, "I am fleeing from my mistress Sarai." <sup>9</sup> The angel of the LORD said to her, "Return to your mistress, and submit to her." <sup>10</sup> The angel of the LORD also said to her, "I will so greatly multiply your descendants that they cannot be numbered for multitude." <sup>11</sup> And the angel of the LORD said to her, "Behold, you are with child, and shall bear a son; you shall call his name Ishmael; because the LORD has given heed to your affliction. <sup>12</sup> He shall be a wild ass of a man, his hand against every man and every man's hand against him; and he shall dwell over against all his kinsmen." <sup>13</sup> So she called the name of the LORD who spoke to her, "Thou art a God of seeing"; for she said, "Have I really seen God and remained alive after seeing him?" <sup>14</sup> Therefore the well was called Beer-lahai-roi; it lies between Kadesh and Bered.

<sup>15</sup> And Hagar bore Abram a son; and Abram called the name of his son, whom Hagar bore, Ishmael.

<sup>16</sup> Abram was eighty-six years old when Hagar bore Ishmael to Abram.

## Chapter 17

<sup>1</sup> When Abram was ninety-nine years old the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. <sup>2</sup> And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will multiply you exceedingly." <sup>3</sup> Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, <sup>4</sup> "Behold, my covenant is with you, and you shall be the father of a multitude of nations. <sup>5</sup> No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the father of a multitude of nations. <sup>6</sup> I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come forth from you. <sup>7</sup> And I will establish my covenant between me and you and your descendants after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your descendants after you. <sup>8</sup> And I will give to you, and to your descendants after you, the land of your sojournings, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession; and I will be their God."

<sup>9</sup> And God said to Abraham, "As for you, you shall keep my covenant, you and your descendants after you throughout their generations. <sup>10</sup> This is my covenant, which you shall keep, between me and you and your descendants after you: Every male among you shall be circumcised. <sup>11</sup> You shall be circumcised in the flesh of your foreskins, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and you. <sup>12</sup> He that is eight days old among you shall be circumcised; every male throughout your generations, whether born in your house, or bought with your money from any foreigner who is not of your offspring, <sup>13</sup> both he that is born in your house and he that is bought with your money, shall be circumcised. So shall my covenant be in your flesh an everlasting covenant. <sup>14</sup> Any uncircumcised male who is not circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin shall be cut off from his people; he has broken my covenant."

<sup>15</sup> And God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her name Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. <sup>16</sup> I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her; I will bless her, and she shall be a mother of nations; kings of peoples shall come from her." <sup>17</sup> Then Abraham fell on his face and laughed, and said to himself, "Shall a child be born to a man who is a hundred years old? Shall Sarah, who is ninety years old, bear a child?" <sup>18</sup> And Abraham said to God, "O that Ishmael might live in thy sight!" <sup>19</sup> God said, "No, but Sarah your wife shall bear you a son, and you shall call his name Isaac. I will establish my covenant with him as an everlasting covenant for his descendants after him. <sup>20</sup> As for Ishmael, I have heard you; behold, I will bless him and make him fruitful and multiply him exceedingly; he shall be the father of twelve princes, and I will make him a great nation. <sup>21</sup> But I will establish my covenant with Isaac, whom Sarah shall bear to you at this season next year."

<sup>22</sup> When he had finished talking with him, God went up from Abraham. <sup>23</sup> Then Abraham took Ishmael his son and all the slaves born in his house or bought with his money, every male among the men of Abraham's house, and he circumcised the flesh of their foreskins that very day, as God had said to him. <sup>24</sup> Abraham was ninety-nine years old when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin. <sup>25</sup> And Ishmael his son was thirteen years old when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin. <sup>26</sup> That very day Abraham and his son Ishmael were circumcised; <sup>27</sup> and all the men of his house, those born in the house and those bought with money from a foreigner, were circumcised with him.

## Chapter 20

<sup>1</sup> From there Abraham journeyed toward the territory of the Negeb, and dwelt between Kadesh and Shur; and he sojourned in Gerar. <sup>2</sup> And Abraham said of Sarah his wife, "She is my sister." And Abimelech king of Gerar sent and took Sarah. <sup>3</sup> But God came to Abimelech in a dream by night, and said to him, "Behold, you are a dead man, because of the woman whom you have taken; for she is a man's wife." <sup>4</sup> Now Abimelech had not approached her; so he said, "Lord, wilt thou slay an innocent people? <sup>5</sup> Did he not himself say to me, 'She is my sister'? And she herself said, 'He is my brother.' In the integrity of my heart and the innocence of my hands I have done this." <sup>6</sup> Then God said to him in the dream, "Yes, I know that you have done this in the integrity of your heart, and it was I who kept you from sinning against me; therefore I did not let you touch her. <sup>7</sup> Now then restore the man's wife; for he is a prophet, and he will pray for you, and you shall live. But if you do not restore her, know that you shall surely die, you, and all that are yours."

<sup>8</sup> So Abimelech rose early in the morning, and called all his servants, and told them all these things; and the men were very much afraid. <sup>9</sup> Then Abimelech called Abraham, and said to him, "What have you done to us? And how have I sinned against you, that you have brought on me and my kingdom a great sin? You have done to me things that ought not to be done." <sup>10</sup> And Abimelech said to Abraham, "What were you thinking of, that you did this thing?" <sup>11</sup> Abraham said, "I did it because I thought, There is no fear of God at all in this place, and they will kill me because of my wife. <sup>12</sup> Besides she is indeed my sister, the daughter of my father but not the daughter of my mother; and she became my wife. <sup>13</sup> And when God caused me to wander from my father's house, I said to her, 'This is the kindness you must do me: at every place to which we come, say of me, He is my brother.' " <sup>14</sup> Then Abimelech took sheep and oxen, and male and female slaves, and gave them to Abraham, and restored Sarah his wife to him. <sup>15</sup> And Abimelech said, "Behold, my land is before you; dwell where it pleases you." <sup>16</sup> To Sarah he said, "Behold, I have given your brother a thousand pieces of silver; it is your vindication in the eyes of all who are with you; and before every one you are righted." <sup>17</sup> Then Abraham prayed to God; and God healed Abimelech, and also healed his wife and female slaves so that they bore children. <sup>18</sup> For the LORD had closed all the wombs of the house of Abimelech because of Sarah, Abraham's wife.

## Chapter 21

<sup>1</sup> The LORD visited Sarah as he had said, and the LORD did to Sarah as he had promised. <sup>2</sup> And Sarah conceived, and bore Abraham a son in his old age at the time of which God had spoken to him. <sup>3</sup> Abraham called the name of his son who was born to him, whom Sarah bore him, Isaac. <sup>4</sup> And Abraham circumcised his son Isaac when he was eight days old, as God had commanded him. <sup>5</sup> Abraham was a hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him. <sup>6</sup> And Sarah said, "God has made laughter for me; every one who hears will laugh over me." <sup>7</sup> And she said, "Who would have said to Abraham that Sarah would suckle children? Yet I have borne him a son in his old age."

<sup>8</sup> And the child grew, and was weaned; and Abraham made a great feast on the day that Isaac was weaned. <sup>9</sup> But Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, playing with her son Isaac. <sup>10</sup> So she said to Abraham, "Cast out this slave woman with her son; for the son of this slave woman shall not be heir with my son Isaac." <sup>11</sup> And the thing was very displeasing to Abraham on account of his son. <sup>12</sup> But God said to Abraham, "Be not displeased because of the lad and because of your slave woman; whatever Sarah says to you, do as she tells you, for through Isaac shall your descendants be named. <sup>13</sup> And I will make a nation of the son of the slave woman also, because he is your offspring." <sup>14</sup> So Abraham rose early in the morning, and took bread and a skin of water, and gave it to Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, along with the child, and sent her away. And she departed, and wandered in the wilderness of Beer-sheba.

<sup>15</sup> When the water in the skin was gone, she cast the child under one of the bushes. <sup>16</sup> Then she went, and sat down over against him a good way off, about the distance of a bowshot; for she said, "Let me not look upon the death of the child." And as she sat over against him, the child lifted up his voice and wept. <sup>17</sup> And God heard the voice of the lad; and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven, and said to her, "What troubles you, Hagar? Fear not; for God has heard the voice of the lad where he is. <sup>18</sup> Arise, lift up the lad, and hold him fast with your hand; for I will make him a great nation." <sup>19</sup> Then God opened her eyes, and she saw a well of water; and she went, and filled the skin with water, and gave the lad a drink. <sup>20</sup> And God was with the lad, and he grew up; he

lived in the wilderness, and became an expert with the bow. <sup>21</sup> He lived in the wilderness of Paran; and his mother took a wife for him from the land of Egypt.

<sup>22</sup> At that time Abimelech and Phicol the commander of his army said to Abraham, “God is with you in all that you do; <sup>23</sup> now therefore swear to me here by God that you will not deal falsely with me or with my offspring or with my posterity, but as I have dealt loyally with you, you will deal with me and with the land where you have sojourned.” <sup>24</sup> And Abraham said, “I will swear.”

<sup>25</sup> When Abraham complained to Abimelech about a well of water which Abimelech’s servants had seized, <sup>26</sup> Abimelech said, “I do not know who has done this thing; you did not tell me, and I have not heard of it until today.” <sup>27</sup> So Abraham took sheep and oxen and gave them to Abimelech, and the two men made a covenant. <sup>28</sup> Abraham set seven ewe lambs of the flock apart. <sup>29</sup> And Abimelech said to Abraham, “What is the meaning of these seven ewe lambs which you have set apart?” <sup>30</sup> He said, “These seven ewe lambs you will take from my hand, that you may be a witness for me that I dug this well.” <sup>31</sup> Therefore that place was called Beer-sheba; because there both of them swore an oath. <sup>32</sup> So they made a covenant at Beer-sheba. Then Abimelech and Phicol the commander of his army rose up and returned to the land of the Philistines. <sup>33</sup> Abraham planted a tamarisk tree in Beer-sheba, and called there on the name of the LORD, the Everlasting God. <sup>34</sup> And Abraham sojourned many days in the land of the Philistines.

## Chapter 22

<sup>1</sup> After these things God tested Abraham, and said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here am I.” <sup>2</sup> 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 upon one of the mountains of which I shall tell you.” <sup>3</sup> So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his ass, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac; and he cut the wood for the burnt offering, and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. <sup>4</sup> On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place afar off. <sup>5</sup> Then Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the ass; I and the lad will go yonder and worship, and come again to you.” <sup>6</sup> And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering, and laid it on Isaac his son; and he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together. <sup>7</sup> And Isaac said to his father Abraham, “My father!” And he said, “Here am I, my son.” He said, “Behold, the fire and the wood; but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?” <sup>8</sup> Abraham said, “God will provide himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son.” So they went both of them together.

<sup>9</sup> When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built an altar there, and laid the wood in order, and bound Isaac his son, and laid him on the altar, upon the wood. <sup>10</sup> Then Abraham put forth his hand, and took the knife to slay his son. <sup>11</sup> But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven, and said, “Abraham, Abraham!” And he said, “Here am I.” <sup>12</sup> He said, “Do not lay your hand on the lad or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me.” <sup>13</sup> And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns; and Abraham went and took the ram, and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. <sup>14</sup> So Abraham called the name of that place The LORD will provide; as it is said to this day, “On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided.”

<sup>15</sup> And the angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven, <sup>16</sup> and said, “By myself I have sworn, says the LORD, because you have done this, and have not withheld your son, your only son, <sup>17</sup> I will indeed bless you, and I will multiply your descendants as the stars of heaven and as the sand which is on the seashore. And your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies, <sup>18</sup> and by your descendants shall all the nations of the earth bless themselves, because you have obeyed my voice.” <sup>19</sup> So Abraham returned to his young men, and they arose and went together to Beer-sheba; and Abraham dwelt at Beer-sheba... (Shortened)