

# I Shall Be Back

When a Bible student thinks of this phrase, he may think of the words spoken by Abraham to his servants in Gen. 22:5

Abide ye here with the ass; and I and the lad will go yonder and worship, and come again to you.

The Lord had instructed Abraham to:

Gen. 22:2 Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee into the land of Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of.

Abraham obeyed God.

Gen 22:9 And they came to the place which God had told him of; and 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. 10 And Abraham stretched forth his hand, and took the knife to slay his son...11 And the angel of the LORD called unto him out of heaven, and said...12 Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou any thing unto him: for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me.

We know that God was testing Abraham's faith in God's word. God provided Abraham an opportunity to redeem himself from his earlier shortcoming of faith regarding the incident with Hagar. God renewed His covenant with Abraham which God made with him in Genesis Chapter 15. From this event accounted, we attribute to Abraham the title "Father of our Faith" (Rom. 4:1-16).

## God Tests our Faith

Lucifer had rebelled in heaven. Lucifer attempted to "exalt his throne above God, ascend

above the heights of heaven, to be like the Most High" (Isaiah 14:12-14). The universe has witnessed the untold misery that has resulted from Lucifer's rebellion. The universe needed an assurance that this rebellion would never be repeated. Therefore, we know that it was God's purpose from the beginning to test man's faith regarding obedience to His word.

Psalms 11:5 The LORD trieth the righteous: but the wicked and him that loveth violence his soul hateth. See also Psalm 105:16-22, Psalm 7:9, Prov. 17:3.

The Bible accounts the sad history of man's failure to exercise faith in God's word. This history began when Adam and Eve ate of the fruit of the tree which God forbade them to eat off of. However there have been a faithful few who have been faithful to the word of God and overcomers like Abraham. The book of Hebrews Chapter 11, which many call the faith chapter, enumerates an account of the many faithful ones.

## The Faithful One

While many attribute the phrase "I shall be back" to Abraham, there is a greater account, witness, association than that of Abraham which is seldom thought of. This account is concerning Jesus. Just before the Father, through the Holy Spirit, begot Jesus into the womb of Mary, Jesus assured all of heaven with the words "I Shall Be Back."

Heb. 2:16 For verily he took not on him the nature of angels; but he took on him the seed of Abraham. 17 Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people.

Heb. 4:15 For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. See also Phil 2:5-10, Rom. 1:3

We know that Jesus emptied Himself of his divinity, (some say all but Love), and became man in all points as we are, in sinful flesh. He was tempted (above in all points) as a man, just like we are tempted, yet never sinned, nor yielded to the temptations of the devil. Jesus, who is God, in becoming a man demonstrated the ultimate in humility and love; condescending to become a man in sinful flesh, not sinless flesh, an ultimate humiliation. All this he did for the joy to redeem fallen man (Heb. 12:1-4).

Deut. 30:19 I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live: (See also Josh 24:15, Gen 4:6, 1 Sam 8:7)

Isaiah 65:12 Therefore will I number you to the sword, and ye shall all bow down to the slaughter: because when I called, ye did not answer; when I spake, ye did not hear; but did evil before mine eyes, and did choose that wherein I delighted not. See also Isaiah 66:3-4, 2 Chron. 36, Genesis Chpt 6

God gave man the power of choice. True, when one is tempted, the possibility always exists that in excising his power of choice one may freely choose to yield to the devil's temptation and freely choose to violate God's law. Many people today hold the belief that Jesus, being made as a man in sinful flesh, subject to the same temptations as man, took a huge risk. They contend that if Jesus had sinned, He and the whole human race would have been lost forever; destined to suffer the sentence of

death for man's violation of God's law (Rom. 6:23, Exo. 34:7).

But, does this fact mean that Jesus took a risk? How can one conclude from all the previous suppositions stated, that Jesus took no risk when He came to the earth in sinful flesh and to be subject to the same temptations as a man? The answer is:

## THE WORD OF GOD

Mt.4:4 But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

Psalms 12:6 The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times. See Psalm 119

Josh 21:45 There failed not ought of any good thing which the LORD had spoken unto the house of Israel; all came to pass...23:14 ye know in all your hearts and in all your souls, that not one thing hath failed of all the good things which the LORD your God spake concerning you; all are come to pass unto you, and not one thing hath failed thereof.

Isa. 42:4 **He shall not fail** nor be discouraged, till he have set judgment in the earth: and the isles shall wait for his law. See also Gen 49:10, Num. 24:17

The word of God is faithful and true (Rev.21:5). The Word of God cannot fail. The word of God itself prophesied that Jesus would not fail (Isaiah 9:6-7, Psalm 16:7-11).

John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God...The same was in the beginning with God...14 And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth...

Jn.17:4 I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do...8 For I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came out from thee, and they have believed that thou didst send me...14 I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them...17 Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

Jesus lived solely by the word of God. Jesus, being God, became the reality of the words prophesied concerning Him in the Word, things which angels desired to look into. The faith of Jesus was, and was verily in, the Word of God (1 Peter 1:23, Job 23:10-12).

## “I Shall Return”, Repeated

The One who said “I shall return” in heaven, also stated the same wonderful words:

John 14:3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, **I will come again**, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, [there] ye may be also.

But, we do not have to wait for Jesus' physical return to be with us? NO. Jesus gave us the Word. The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth...

Matt. 28:20...lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen. See Romans 10:1-13

John 14:16 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; 17 Even the Spirit of truth...but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. 18 I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you. See also 1 John 4:4, Col 1:27

Josh. 1:5 There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life: as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee (see also Deut. 31:8).

Jesus is with us today through The Holy Spirit.

Acts 1:8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost (whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you) is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me (John 14:26). See Luke 24:49

Isa.59:19...When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the LORD shall lift up a standard against him...21 As for me, this is my covenant with them, saith the LORD; My spirit that is upon thee, and my words which I have put in thy mouth, shall not depart out of thy mouth, nor out of the mouth of thy seed, nor out of the mouth of thy seed's seed, saith the LORD, from henceforth and for ever. See also Isaiah 51:16, Heb. 4:12

1 Thess. 1:5 For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost,

There is Power in the Word. There is no excuse for anyone today to commit sin. The same Word, by and through which Jesus overcame is available to us, TODAY. There is power in the Word, The Word of God is faithful. Jesus, Our High Priest, the Word of God (Rev. 19:13) is the source of this power. By Him dwelling in us by faith through the Holy Spirit, we cannot fail; we are more than conquerors, (Rom. 8:37, 2 Cor. 2:14). Let us reveal this faith to the world foretold in the three angels messages (Rev. 14:6-12). May each one of us be in that company on the sea of glass, of which it can be said: Here are they that keep the commandments of God and have the faith of Jesus. God be with you toward this end.