

“Here Am I”

(07/23/17)

I. Gen 22:1-14- God tempts Abraham

A) James 1:13-15- God does not tempt man to sin

B) Heb 11:17- Abraham was “tried”

1) Tempt- Heb *nacah* also translated “prove”, “assay”, “try”

i. Why would God need to “test” anyone? For His understanding or theirs?

a) Job 34:21- God seeth all man’s goings

b) Psa 1:6- The Lord knoweth the way of the righteous

c) Psa 119:168- All our ways are before Him

d) Psa 139:3- God acquainted with all our ways

e) Psa 142:3- God knows our path

f) Prov 3:5-6- God can direct our paths (He must know them then)

g) Prov 5:21- Man’s ways are before God’s eyes

h) Jer 16:17- Nothing is hid from God

i) Jer 32:19- All man’s ways are open to God’s eyes

j) John 2:25- Jesus knew what was in man

ii. So why would an All-Knowing God need to try man if He already knows all about man?

a) Rom 8:28- All things for our good (includes testing)

1. Deut 8:2 & 16- Prove you and do good at latter end

2. 1 Pet 1:6-9- Trial of our faith

3. 1 Pet 4:12-16- Fiery trial which IS to try you

4. James 1:1-4- Faith perfected in trial

(a) Rom 5:1-5- Tribulation perfects faith

(b) 2 Cor 1:9-10- Must be taught not to trust self but the Lord

5. James 1:12- Temptation and crown

6. James 2:14-21- Abraham’s faith perfected

(a) Think of God as hammering out our faith in the fire of trial

(b) Faith is increased by experiencing the power and immutability of the one who makes the promise

7. Prov 17:3- Lord tries the hearts in refiner’s fire

(a) The heart tried is the new heart, there is no need to try or perfect that which has already been declared incurable and dead

(1) Jer 17:9- Heart of man incurable

- (2) Mark 7:18-23- Thirteen evil things in heart of man
 - (b) Psa 26:1-2- Trying of faith is trying of new heart
 - (c) John 6:5-6- Jesus “tries” Philip for his edification
- 2) 1 Cor 10:13- God will not test above your faith’s ability
 - i. Heb 4:16- Come to throne for grace in time of need
 - ii. There is no scripture that says “God did tempt Lot”
- II. “Here am I”
 - A) Gen 31:11-13- Jacob is taught God’s power and grace
 - B) Gen 37:13- Joseph submits to the fiery trial and rises to #2 in Egypt
 - C) Gen 46:1-4- Jacob submits to God’s will and Israel becomes a nation
 - D) Ex 3:4- Moses answers the call and is used to deliver Israel
 - E) 1 Sam 3:4- Samuel answers God’s call and becomes the prophet of Israel
 - F) Isa 6:8- Isaiah answers the call and is used of God till this day
 - 1) Think of all the things these men witnessed because they simply had the attitude “here am I Lord”
 - 2) “Here am I Lord” should be the attitude of every saved person
- III. Revelation and testing go hand-n-hand
 - A) John 7:17- Submit to His will and then His will will be revealed
 - 1) Abraham’s life from “called” to “perfected”
 - i. Gen 12:1-3- All the promises of God are in these 7 statements in germ form
 - a) The Lord slowly and steadily opens Abraham’s understanding of the promises and all they entail in 7 appearances
 - 1. Gen 12:1-3
 - 2. Gen 12:7
 - 3. Gen 13:14-17
 - 4. Gen 15:1-21
 - 5. Gen 17:1-14
 - 6. Gen 18:19
 - 7. Gen 22:1-16 (v.16)
 - b) Compare the 7-fold promise of God to the 7-fold action of Abraham in Gen 22:3 (he did not have the servants do any of these chores)
 - c) Rom 8:28-30- Abraham’s a pattern for all saved (called to perfected)
 - 1. Heb 6:13-18- God swore by Himself he would perform the promises and man must be taught that God alone can do it
 - (a) Phil 1:6- He that begun a good work in you will perform it
 - d) Abraham’s children by faith can expect the same process seen in Abraham’s life if we will only answer “Here am I Lord”
 - 1. Heb 2:9-11- Sons perfected through suffering
 - 2. 2 Cor 3:18- Being changed into the same image

3. Phil 2:5-8- Be of the same mind as Christ in sufferings
4. Phil 3:10-16- Paul's desire to be as He was
5. Phil 3:21- Fashioned like unto His glorious body
6. 2 Pet 1:4- Partakers of the divine nature
7. 1 John 3:2- We shall be like Him when He appears
 - (a) All of the epistle of James is about this very subject: true faith and the work of love which is to accompany it
 - (1) Gal 5:6- Faith which worketh by love