

Watch what you say!

Isaac the son of Abraham was growing up in those days, and Abraham his father taught him the way of the Lord to know the Lord, and the Lord was with him. When Isaac was thirty-seven years old, Ishmael his brother was going about with him in the tent. And Ishmael boasted of himself to Isaac, saying, I was thirteen years old when the Lord spoke to my father to circumcise us, and I did according to the word of the Lord which He spoke to my father, and I gave my soul to the Lord, and I did not go contrary to His word which He commanded my father. Isaac answered Ishmael, saying, Why do you boast to me about this, about a little bit of your flesh which you did take from your body, concerning which the Lord commanded you? As the Lord lives, the God of my father Abraham, if the Lord should say to my father, Take now your son Isaac and bring him up an offering before me, I would not refrain but I would joyfully accede to it. And the Lord heard the word that Isaac spoke to Ishmael, and it seemed good in the sight of the Lord, and he thought to try Abraham in this matter. (Jasher 22:40-45)

At that time the word of the Lord came to Abraham, and said to him, Abraham. And Abraham said, Here I am. He said to him, Take now your son, your only son whom you love, even Isaac, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there for a burnt offering on one of the mountains which shall be shown to you, for there you will see a cloud and the glory of the Lord. (Jasher 23:1-2)

Sarah said to Abraham, O my lord, I pray you take care of your son, and watch over him, for I have no other son or daughter but him. Turn not away from him. If he is hungry give him bread, and if he is thirsty give him water to drink; do not let him go on foot, neither let him sit in the sun. Neither let him go by himself in the road, neither force him from whatever he may desire, but do to him as he may say to you. (Jasher 23:10-12)

And Abraham went with Isaac his son to bring him up as an offering before the Lord, as He had commanded him. Abraham took two of his young men with him, Ishmael the son of Hagar and Eliezer his servant, and they went together with them. (Jasher 23:20-21)

And on the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place at a distance which God had told him of. A pillar of fire appeared to him that reached from the earth to heaven, and a cloud of glory on the mountain, and the glory of the Lord was seen in the cloud. And Abraham said to Isaac, My son, do you see in that mountain, which we perceive at a distance, that which I see on it? And Isaac answered and said to his father, I see and there is a pillar of fire and a cloud, and the glory of the Lord is seen on the cloud. And Abraham knew that his son Isaac was accepted before the Lord for a burnt offering.

Abraham said to Eliezer and to Ishmael his son, Do you also see that which we see on the mountain which is at a distance? And they answered and said, We see nothing more than like the other mountains of the earth. Abraham knew that they were not accepted before the Lord to go with them, and Abraham said to them, Stay here with the ass while I and Isaac my son will go to yonder mount and worship there before the Lord and then return to you. Eliezer and Ishmael remained in that place, as Abraham had commanded. (Jasher 23:41-48)

And Abraham took wood for a burnt offering and placed it on his son Isaac, and he took the fire and the knife, and they both went to that place. When they were on the way Isaac said to his father, Behold, I see here the fire and the wood, and where then is the lamb that is to be the burnt offering before the Lord? And Abraham answered his son Isaac, saying, The Lord has made choice of you my son, to be a perfect burnt offering instead of the lamb. And Isaac said to his father, I will do all that the Lord spoke to you with joy and cheerfulness of heart. Abraham again said to Isaac his son, Is there in your heart any thought or counsel concerning this, which is not proper? Tell me my son, I pray you, O my son conceal it not from me. And Isaac answered his father Abraham and said to him, O my father, as the Lord lives and as your soul lives, there is nothing in my heart to cause me to deviate either to the right or to the left from the word that He has spoken to you. Neither limb nor muscle has moved or stirred at this, nor is there in my heart any thought or evil counsel concerning this. But I am of joyful and cheerful heart in this matter, and I say, Blessed is the Lord who has this day chosen me to be a burnt offering before Him. (Jasher 23:49-56)

Abraham greatly rejoiced at the words of Isaac, and they went on and came together to that place that the Lord had spoken of. Abraham approached to build the altar in that place, and Abraham was weeping. Isaac took stones and mortar until they had finished building the altar. And Abraham took the wood and placed it in order on the altar which he had built. He took his son Isaac and bound him in order to place him on the wood which was on the altar, to kill him for a burnt offering before the Lord. Isaac said to his father, Bind me securely and then place me on the altar that I should not turn and move, and break loose from the force of the knife on my flesh and thereof profane the burnt offering; and Abraham did so. (Jasher 23:58-61)

And Abraham bound his son Isaac and placed him on the altar on the wood, and Isaac stretched forth his neck on the altar before his father. Abraham stretched forth his hand to take the knife to kill his son as a burnt offering before the Lord. (Jasher 23:65)

At that time the Lord appeared to Abraham and called to him from heaven, and said to him, Lay not your hand on the lad, neither do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God in performing this act, and in not withholding your son, your only son, from me. And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, a ram was caught in a thicket by his horns; that was the ram which the Lord God had created in the earth in the day that He made earth and heaven. For the Lord had prepared this ram from that day, to be a burnt offering instead of Isaac. (Jasher 23:69-71)

Abraham sprinkled some of the blood of the ram on the altar, and he exclaimed and said, This is in the place of my son, and may it be considered this day as the blood of my son before the Lord. And all that Abraham did on this occasion by the altar, he would exclaim and say, This is in place of my son, and may it this day be considered before the Lord in the place of my son; and Abraham finished the whole service by the altar, and the service was accepted before the Lord, and was accounted as if it had been Isaac; and the Lord blessed Abraham and his descendants on that day. (Jasher 23:74-75) *Also read this account in Gen 22:1-18*

Don't babble, speak clearly!

Now the whole earth had one language and one speech. And it came to pass, as they journeyed from the east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar, and they dwelt there. Then they said to one another, "Come, let us make bricks and bake them thoroughly."

They had brick for stone, and they had asphalt for mortar. And they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city, and a tower whose top is in the heavens; let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth."

But the Lord came down to see the city and the tower which the sons of men had built. And the Lord said, "Indeed the people are one and they all have one language, and this is what they begin to do; now nothing that they propose to do will be withheld from them. Come, let Us go down and there confuse their language, that they may not understand one another's speech."

So the Lord scattered them abroad from there over the face of all the earth, and they ceased building the city. Therefore its name is 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. (Gen 11:1-9)

Well! You said it?

Then Caleb quieted the people before Moses, and said, "Let us go up at once and take possession, for we are well able to overcome it." But the men who had gone up with him said, "We are not able to go up against the people, for they are stronger than we." (Num 13:30-31)

So all the congregation lifted up their voices and cried, and the people wept that night. And all the children of Israel complained against Moses and Aaron, and the whole congregation said to them, "If only we had died in the land of Egypt! Or if only we had died in this wilderness! Why has the Lord brought us to this land to fall by the sword, that our wives and children should become victims? Would it not be better for us to return to Egypt?" So they said to one another, "Let us select a leader and return to Egypt." (Num 14:1-4)

And the Lord spoke to Moses and Aaron, saying,
"How long shall I bear with this evil congregation who complain against Me?
I have heard the complaints which the children of Israel make against Me. Say to them,
'As I live,' says the Lord, 'just as you have spoken in My hearing, so I will do to you:
The carcasses of you who have complained against Me shall fall in this wilderness, all of you
who were numbered, according to your entire number, from twenty years old and above.
Except for Caleb the son of Jephunneh and Joshua the son of Nun, you shall by no means
enter the land which I swore I would make you dwell in. But your little ones, whom you said
would be victims, I will bring in, and they shall know the land which you have despised. But as
for you, your carcasses shall fall in this wilderness. And your sons shall be shepherds in the
wilderness forty years, and bear the brunt of your infidelity, until your carcasses are
consumed in the wilderness. According to the number of the days in which you spied out the
land, forty days, for each day you shall bear your guilt one year, namely forty years, and you
shall know My rejection. I the Lord have spoken this.
I will surely do so to all this evil congregation who are gathered together against Me.
In this wilderness they shall be consumed, and there they shall die.' "

Now the men whom Moses sent to spy out the land, who returned and made all the
congregation complain against him by bringing a bad report of the land, those very men who
brought the evil report about the land, died by the plague before the Lord. But Joshua the son
of Nun and Caleb the son of Jephunneh remained alive, of the men who went to spy out the
land. (Num 14:26-38)

Solomon said :

These six things the Lord hates, Yes, seven are an abomination to Him: A proud look, A lying
tongue, Hands that shed innocent blood, A heart that devises wicked plans, Feet that are
swift in running to evil, A false witness who speaks lies, and one who sows discord among
brethren. (Pro 6:16-19)

A fools mouth is his destruction, and his lips are the snare of his soul. He who answers a
matter before he hears it, it is folly and shame to him. Death and life are in the power of the
tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit. (Pro 18:7, 13, 21)

To do righteousness and justice is more acceptable to the Lord than sacrifice. He who follows
righteousness and mercy finds life, righteousness, and honor. Whoever guards his mouth and
tongue keeps his soul from troubles. (Pro 21:3, 21, 23)

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