

SYNCHRONIZING THE HOLY BIBLE (KJV) and JASHER

The story format is for easier reading. Duplications removed.

Abram-Birth of Isaac to Death of Sarah, Part 4

By Maralyn B. Dyck

Introduction: Where the Dead Sea Scrolls are the same as the Bible, I have, for the most part, used the Dead Sea Scrolls for this story. The Bible version, of course, you can read from the Bible. My comments are in brackets. The Holy Bible will be in black normal writing and the scrolls will be in Italics. Remember, the scrolls are not divine scripture, but they appear to be very accurate as far as history is concerned; they give more details which are very interesting. Various interpreters could have changed things a bit over the years.

Genesis 21:6, Jasher 21:4-17 *And the child grew up and he was weaned. Abraham made a great feast upon that day. All the important local people attended; Terah, his father, and brother also came down from Haran with all their people to celebrate.*

They remained there many days, feasting and fellowshiping together. It was at this time that Serug the son of Reu died. He had lived for 299 years.

By this time Ishmael son of Abraham was 14 years old. God was with Ishmael and as he grew up he learned to use the bow and arrow, becoming a great archer. When Isaac was five years old he was sitting with Ishmael at the door of the tent. He seated himself across from Isaac and armed his arrow in the bow, intending to slay Isaac. Sarah saw what was happening and ran to Abraham with the information. Abraham told her to cast out Hagar and Ishmael so that he would not become an heir along with Isaac because of this deed.

Early the next morning Abraham took twelve loaves and a bottle of water which he gave to Hagar, and sent her away with her son into the wilderness. They dwelt in the wilderness of Paran with the inhabitants of the wilderness. Ishmael was an archer, so they dwelt in the wilderness a long time. Later Ishmael and his mother moved to Egypt and dwelt there. Hagar took a wife for son from Egypt; her name was Meribath.

Genesis 21:15-21 The water was soon spent in the bottle. She placed Ishmael under a shrub to rest and she went a distance away. Ishmael was crying and so was she. God heard Ishmael's cry and called to Hagar from heaven, "What is ailing you, Hagar? Fear not, for God has heard the voice of Ishmael. Rise up and take his hand; for I will make him a great nation."

Hagar stopped crying and looked up and she saw a well of water. She gave Ishmael some water to drink. From that time God was with Ishmael because he was Abraham's seed.

Jasher 21:18-48 *Ishmael had four sons and two daughters. At this time they returned to the wilderness to live. They made tents in which they dwelt and continued to travel and then to rest monthly and yearly. God blessed Ishmael with flocks and herds and tents on account of his father Abraham. He increased greatly in cattle.*

After a period of time Abraham decided to go and find Ishmael and visit with him for a while to see how he was doing. Abraham went into the wilderness on a camel to seek for Ishmael. He finally found the wife of Ishmael and asked after Ishmael. She was sitting in the tent with her children, but Ishmael and Hagar were not with them.

Abraham asked her, "Where has Ishmael gone?" He was still sitting on his camel, for Sarah had asked him not to get off his camel. She did not want him staying there.

And Abraham said to Ishmael's wife, "My daughter, give me a little water to drink, for I am fatigued from the journey."

Ishmael's wife answered, "We have neither water nor bread" and continued sitting in the tent and did not notice Abraham, neither did she ask him who he was. She was beating her children and cursing them and she also cursed her husband and reproached him. Abraham heard her words and was very angry and displeased.

Abraham called out to her to come out to him at the camel to give her a message for Ishmael. "When Ishmael gets home say these words to him, "A very old man from the land of the Philistines came here looking for you and then describe me. Then say you did not ask him who he was. His message, pointing to a nail in the tent, "Tell Ishmael to get rid of this nail of the tent, and replace it with another nail in its stead." Abraham then finished his instructions to the woman and rode his camel back home again.

When Ishmael came back from hunting and returned to the tent, his wife described Abraham and gave him Abraham's message. He knew instantly that it was his father Abraham and that his wife did not honor him.

Ishmael hearkened to his father's words and cast off that woman and her children and she went on her way. [She was the bad peg!] Ishmael then went to the land of Canaan and took another wife and he brought her to his tent where he then dwelt.

At the end of three years Abraham decided to see Ishmael again. As before, he found and reached Ishmael's tent around noon.

He asked after Ishmael and his wife came immediately out of the tent to see him. Once again Ishmael was out hunting and Hagar was not around. She said to him, "Turn into my tent and eat something, for you must be weary after your long journey."

Abraham replied, "I cannot stay for I am in a hurry. Could you give me a glass of water to drink, for I am thirsty."

She immediately ran into the tent and she brought out water and bread to Abraham, which she placed before him and urged him to eat. He ate and drank and his heart was comforted.

"I have a message for Ishmael if you will please give it to him. When he gets home, say these words to him, 'A very old man from the land of the Philistines came here looking for you and then describe me. Tell him that the nail he has in the tent is very good, do not put it away from the tent.'" Abraham finished by giving the woman instructions and rode off to his home in the land of the Philistines.

When Ishmael came home, his wife came out cheerful and joyful to meet him and gave him all the information and the message that Abraham had instructed her to tell him. She did not know who he was so described him the same way as the first wife had done. However, the message about the nail was different!

Instantly, he knew it was his father Abraham. He knew that his wife had honoured him and the Lord blessed Ishmael.

Jasher 22 *Ishmael rose up and took his wife and children and his cattle and all belonging to him, and he journeyed from there and he went to his father in the land of the Philistines. Abraham reminded him about what took place between him and his first wife, according to all that she did.*

They dwelt with Abraham for many days in the land of the Philistines for many years. Twenty-six years later Abraham took his family and all his belongings and moved a great distance away to Hebron. Abraham and his servants dug wells of water for themselves, their flocks and their herds. Abimelech's servants heard about them and reported to Abimelech that Abraham and his servants were digging wells on the border of the land that belonged to the Philistines.

Meanwhile, Abimelech's servants seized the biggest well belonging to Abraham, claiming it belonged to them!

When Abimelech king of the Philistines heard of this affair, he took Phicol the captain of his army and twenty of his men and went to visit Abraham concerning the fight between his servants and those of Abraham. Abraham claimed the well was his. Abimelech declared to Abraham he had not heard of any of this until now. He rebuked his servants.

Abraham took seven ewe lambs and gave them to Abimelech, saying, Take these, I pray thee, from my hands that they may be a testimony for me that I dug this well.

Abimelech took the seven lambs which Abraham had given to him, for he had also given him cattle and herds in abundance, and Abimelech swore to Abraham concerning the well, therefore he called that well Beersheba, for there they both swore concerning it.

Once the covenant was made Abimelech and his men returned to the land of the Philistines, and Abraham and all his people and belongings dwelt in Beersheba and he was in that land a long time.

Abraham planted a large grove in Beersheba with gates on all four sides. Any traveller passing through by roads from any direction were given drinks to refresh them on their way. Many also stayed to eat and drink with Abraham at his home. If anyone came naked to his home, he clothed and fed them. He also gave them some silver and gold, then he made known to them all about the Lord who had created them. He did this all his life!

His tents were pitched from Beersheba as far as Hebron, a vast territory. At this time Abraham's brother Nahor and his father still dwelt in Haran. They did not travel with him to Canaan. At this point Jasher lists all the descendants of Nahor while in Haran. [This is mentioned because the last ones mentioned were the children of Bethuel, Sechar, Laban and their sister Rebecca. The scroll gives all the details for those interested. You can buy the book of Jasher on Amazon. See end of article. Later, this article returns to that of Laban and Rebecca.]

When Isaac was thirty-five years old, his father died in Haran. His descendants were many and built cities all over the place up in the northern area and to the east.

One day when Isaac was thirty-seven, Ishmael boasted that he had been circumcised because God had told Abraham to circumcise all the, including Ishmael and himself. He said, "I did according to the word of the Lord which he spoke to my father, and I gave my soul unto the Lord, and I did not transgress his word which he commanded my father." [He was thirteen at the time he was circumcised.]

Isaac answered Ishmael, "Why do you boast to me about this about a little bit of thy flesh which thou dost take from thy body, concerning which the Lord commanded thee? As the Lord liveth, the God of my father Abraham, if the Lord should say unto my father, take thou thy son Isaac and bring him up an offering before me I would not refrain but I would joyfully accede to it."

The Lord heard the words that Isaac spoke to Ishmael, and it seemed good in the sight of the Lord, and he thought to test Abraham in this matter.

Genesis 22 and Jasher 22, 23 *The day arrived [See Job 2. Satan has done this before!] when the sons of God came and placed themselves before the Lord. Satan also came with the sons of God before the Lord.*

And the Lord said unto Satan, "Where are you coming from?" and Satan answered the Lord and said, From going to and fro in the earth and from walking up and down in it.

Then the Lord said to Satan, "What is your word to me concerning the children of the earth?"

Satan responded, "I have seen all the children of the earth who serve you and remember you when they require anything from you. When you give them the thing they require from you, they sit at their ease and forsake you and remember you no more.

"Have you seen Abraham the son of Terah, who at first had no children, and he served thee and set up altars wherever he went. He brought you offerings on them and he proclaimed your name to all the children of the earth. Now that his son Isaac is born to him, he has forsaken you. He made a great feast for all the inhabitants of the Land, and the Lord he has forgotten.

"For amidst all that he has done he brought thee no offering nor peace offering, neither ox, lamb or goat of all that he killed on the day that his son was weaned. Even from the time of his son's birth till now, being thirty-seven years, he built no altar before you, nor brought any offering to you, for he saw that you gave what he requested from you and he therefore forsook thee."

The Lord then said to Satan, "Have you really considered my servant Abraham? For there is none like him upon earth, a perfect and an upright man before me, one that fears God and avoids evil. Were I to say unto him, Bring up Isaac thy son before me, he would not withhold him from me, much more if I told him to bring up a burnt offering before me from his flock or herds."

And Satan answered, "Speak then now unto Abraham as you have said and you will see whether he will not this day transgress and cast aside your words."

At that time the word of the Lord came to Abraham, and he said unto him, "Abraham," and he said "Here I am."

The Lord said to him, "Take now your son, your only son whom thou love, even Isaac, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which shall be shown unto you, for there will you see a cloud, the glory of the Lord."

Abraham said within himself, "How shall I separate my son Isaac from Sarah his mother, in order to bring him up for a burnt offering before the Lord?"

Abraham went into the tent and he sat before Sarah his wife, and he spoke these words to her.

"My son Isaac is grown up and he has not for some time studied the service of his God, now tomorrow I will go and bring him to Shem, and Eber his son, and there he will learn the ways of the Lord, for they will teach him to know the Lord as well as to know that when he prays continually before the Lord, he will answer him, therefore there he will know the way of serving the Lord his God."

Sarah replied, "You have spoken well, my lord, and do unto him as you have said, but remove him not a great distance from me, neither let him remain there too long, for my soul is bound within his soul."

Abraham said to Sarah, "My daughter, let us pray to the Lord our God that he may do good with us."

Then Sarah took her son Isaac and he abode all that night with her, and she kissed and embraced him, and she gave him instructions until morning.

She said to him, "O my son, how can my soul separate itself from thee? And she still kissed and embraced him, and she gave Abraham instructions concerning him. She had cried all night while giving Isaac his instructions."

Sarah also gave tearful instructions for Abraham. "Forsake him not. If he be hungry feed him, give him water to drink, don't let him walk, neither let him sit in the sun. [And on and on.]

In the morning Sarah selected a very fine and beautiful garment which Abimelech had given to her [In Egypt]. She put a turban on top of his head with a precious jewel in the middle of it. She gave them provisions to eat and they went forward down the road. They were accompanied by some of their servants.

She followed them for a distance until Abraham turned and told her to return to the tent. Abraham, Isaac and his mother wept together, including some of them with her. They finally returned to the tent and Sarah wondered if she would ever see them again, and she wept some more.

When they were near their destination, Abraham took two of the young men with him, Ishmael son of Hagar and Eliezer, a servant. While they were following far behind them, Ishmael said to Eliezer, "Now my father is going with Isaac to bring him up for a burnt offering to the Lord, as He commanded him. Now when he returns he will give unto me all that he possesses. I am his first born."

Eliezer said, "Surely Abraham did cast you away with your mother and you will not inherit anything! I have been with him all these years, his faithful servant, serving him day and night. Who, other than myself, is worthy of receiving the inheritance."

Meanwhile, Satan was following along unseen and afraid he was going to lose his bet with God. He decided to find a way to stop Abraham from offering up Isaac.

Satan had a plan. Satan came and appeared to Abraham in the figure of a very aged man, humble and of contrite spirit, and he approached Abraham and said to him, "Are you silly or brutish, that you are going to do this thing to your only son? God gave you a son in your old age and will you now go and slaughter him this day because he committed no violence and will you cause the soul of your only son to perish from the earth?"

Do you not know and understand that this thing cannot be from the Lord? For the Lord cannot do unto a man such evil upon earth to say to him, Go slaughter your child?"

Abraham heard this and knew that it was the word of Satan who endeavoured to draw him aside from the way of the Lord, but Abraham would not hearken to the voice of Satan, and Abraham rebuked him so that he went away.

Satan did not give up. He returned and spoke to Isaac, and he appeared unto Isaac in the figure of a young man, comely and well favoured. He approached Isaac and said unto him, Do you not understand that your old silly father is bringing you to slaughter you this day for nothing? Therefore, do not listen nor attend to him, for he is a silly old man, and let not your precious soul and beautiful figure be lost from earth."

Isaac heard all this and turned to Abraham and said, "Have you heard what he has said to me?"

Abraham replied, "Do not listen to him nor have anything to do with him, for he is Satan, endeavouring to draw us aside this day from the commands of God.

Once again Abraham rebuked him and he left.

He hid himself from them and went up ahead of them and transformed himself into a large brook of water that crossed their path in the road. The water was flowing with much power, and the brook was large. They entered the brook to pass through it. The farther they walked the deeper the water became. They were terrified because of the water. All of a sudden, Abraham recognized where they were and KNEW there was no water there!

They stopped walking and again, more forcefully, rebuked Satan, "The Lord rebuke you, O Satan, be gone from us for we go by the commands of God. Satan was terrified by this command and left immediately. The place instantly became dry again and they proceeded forward.

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 of the Lord was seen in the cloud. Abraham asked Isaac if he could see what he was seeing. He replied, "I see a cloud, a pillar of fire, and the glory of God."

Abraham knew, then, that God approved of his sacrifice and it would be accepted before the Lord as a burnt offering.

Abraham turned to Ishmael and Ezekiel if they could see anything unusual. They answered, "we see nothing other than the normal mountains around us."

By this Abraham knew that they were not to accompany him to the altar on the top of the mountain.

They remained in place as commanded by Abraham.

Abraham place the wood on the shoulders of Isaac and he took the fire and the knife.

While they were going along, Isaac said to the father, "Behold, I see the fire and the wood, and where then is the lamb for the sacrifice to be burnt upon the altar?"

Abraham gently replied, "The Lord has made choice of thee my son, to be a perfect burnt offering instead of the lamb.

And Isaac said, "I will do all that the Lord spoke to you with joy and cheerfulness of heart."

And Abraham said unto his son, "Is there any thought or counsel in your heart concerning this which is not proper? If so, please tell me."

He replied, "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 thee. Neither limb nor muscle has moved or

stirred at this, but I am joyful and cheerful of heart in this matter and I say, Blessed is the Lord who has this day chosen me to be a burnt offering before Him.”

And Abraham greatly rejoiced at the words of Isaac, and they went on came together to that place that the Lord has spoken of.

Abraham approached the place where he had to build the altar and he was weeping. Isaac helped him take stones and mortar until they had finished building the altar.

Abraham took the wood and placed it on the altar which he had built. And he took his son Isaac and bound him in order to place him upon the wood which was upon the altar, to slay him for a burnt offering before the Lord.

Isaac said to his father, “Bind me securely and then place me upon the altar lest I should turn and move, and break loose from the force of the knife upon my flesh and thereof profane the burnt offering; and Abraham did so.

Once more Isaac spoke to his father, “O my father, when thou shalt have slain me and burnt me for an offering, take with thee that which shall remain of my ashes to bring to Sarah my mother, and say to her, “This is the sweet smelling savor of Isaac; but do not tell her this if she should sit near a well or upon any high place, lest she should cast her soul after me and die.”

Upon hearing these words from Isaac, Abraham began weeping some more. His tears gushed down upon Isaac his son as he laid there bound before him. Isaac was also weeping bitterly and said to his father, “Hasten thou, my father, and do with me the will of the Lord our God as He has commanded thee.

The hearts of both Abraham and Isaac rejoiced at the thing which the Lord God had commanded them, but the eyes of both continued to weep bitterly, even while the heart rejoiced.

Once upon the altar, completely bound, Isaac stretched forth his neck upon the altar before his father, and Abraham stretched forth his hand to take the knife to slay his son as a burnt offering before the Lord.

At that same moment the angels of mercy came before the Lord and spoke to him concerning Isaac, saying, O Lord, you are a merciful and compassionate King over all you have created in heaven and in earth, and you supported them all. Give therefore ransom and redemption instead of thy servant Isaac, and pity and have compassion upon Abraham and Isaac his son, who are this day performing your commands. Have you seen, O Lord, how Isaac the son of Abraham thy servant is bound down to the slaughter like an animal? Now therefore now let thy pity be roused for them, O Lord.”

At that time the Lord appeared unto Abraham, and called to him, from heaven, and said unto him, “Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do anything unto him, for now I know that you fear God in performing this act, and in not withholding your son, your only son, from me.”

Abraham lifted his eyes and saw that 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.

This ram was advancing to Abraham when Satan caught hold of him and entangled his horns in the thicket, that he might not advance to Abraham, in the hope that Abraham might still slay his son.

Abraham, seeing what was happening went over to the ram and untangled him and brought him before the altar. He then loosened Isaac's bindings and put the ram in his stead. Abraham then killed the ram and offered him up as a burnt offering to the Lord God in the place of his Son Isaac.

Abraham sprinkled some of the blood of the ram upon the altar and said, "This is in place of my son, and may this be considered this day as the blood of my son before the Lord." All that Abraham did on this occasion by the altar. Abraham completed the whole of the service by the altar, and the service was accepted before the Lord, and was accounted as if it had been Isaac. The Lord blessed Abraham and his seed on that day.

Meanwhile, Satan was not through with his mischief. Satan went to Sarah, and he appeared to her in the figure of an old man very humble and meek, and Abraham was yet engaged in the burnt offering before the Lord.

Satan said unto Sarah, "Do you not know all the work that Abraham has made with your only son this day? He took Isaac and built an altar, and killed him, and brought him up as a sacrifice upon the altar, and Isaac wept and cried before his father, but he looked not at him, neither did he have compassion over him."

Satan repeated these words, and he went away from her, and Sarah heard all the words of Satan, and she imagined him to be an old man from amongst the sons of men who had been with her son, and had come and told her these things.

Sarah lifted up her voice and wept and cried bitterly on account of her son; and she threw herself upon the ground and she cast dust upon her head. She cried, "O my son Isaac, O that I had this day died instead of thee. She continued weeping.

"It grieves me for you after that I have reared you and have brought you up; now my joy is turned to mourning over you, I had a longing for you and cried and prayed to God until I bare thee at ninety years old; and now have you served this day for the knife and fire, to be made an offering. But I console myself with you, my son, in its being the word of the Lord, for you did perform the command of your God, in whose hands is the soul of every living creature.

"You are just, O Lord our God, for all thy works are good and righteous; for I also am rejoiced with thy word which thou didst command, and while my eye weeps bitterly my heart rejoices.

Sarah laid her head upon the bosom of one of her handmaids, and she became as still as a stone.

She afterward rose up and went about making inquiries until she came to Hebron, and she inquired of all those whom she met walking in the road, and no one could tell her what had happened to her son.

She came with her men servants and maid servants to Kireath-arba, which is Hebron, and she asked concerning her son, and she remained there while she sent some of her servants to seek where Abraham had gone with Isaac; they went to seek him in the house of Shem and Eber, and they could not find him, and they sought throughout the land, and he was not there.

Once again Satan came to Sarah in the shape of an old man, and he came and stood before her and he said unto her, "I spoke falsely unto thee, for Abraham did not kill his son and he is not dead. When she heard the word her joy was so exceedingly violent on account of her son, that her soul went out through joy; she died and was gathered to her people.

When Abraham finished his service he returned with his son Isaac to his young men, and they rose up and went together to Beersheba then on back to home.

Abraham then sought for Sarah and could not find her. He made inquiries concerning her, and they said unto him, she went as far as Hebron to seek you both where you had gone, for thus was she informed. Abraham and Isaac went to Hebron when they found out that she was dead. They raised their voices and wept bitterly over her. Isaac fell upon his mother's face and wept over her.

Crying, he said, "O my mother, my mother, why have you left me? Where have you gone? O how you have left me!"

Abraham and Isaac wept greatly and all their servants wept with them on account of Sarah. They mourned over her with a great and heavy mourning.

Sarah was one hundred and twenty-seven years old when she died.

(Continued in the next article.)

Ancient Book of Jubilees by Ken Johnson, Th.D., The Books of Enoch by Joseph B. Lumpkin, Ancient Book of Jasher by Ken Johnson, Th.D. OR all three in one volume called Genesis by Rob Skiba. Available on Amazon.