

## Worship With A Knife

***Gen 22:5 And Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the lad and I will go yonder and worship, and we will come back to you."***

***Gen 22:10 And Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to slay his son.***

The title of this devotion might have caught your attention or it might have shocked you a bit. Many have heard of worship with a tambourine, guitar, piano, wind instrument, and even by the notes of one's own voice but little do we hear of the worship that is done with your knife.

Abraham experienced this kind of worship. This kind of worship is born out of sheer faith and trust in the One who is worshipped. All of the faith tests of Abraham led him to this one act of worship. He did not worship with an instrument but with his own knife. God had promised Abraham a child through Sarah. Through His seed the whole world would receive blessing. For many years this promise and child looked like it would not come. However, God is always faithful to His Word. Isaac was born to his over-joyed parents just as God had promised. They called him Isaac- laughter. This son was Abraham's pride and joy. This is why it was so shocking to him when one day God spoke to him and told him that he was to go to a mountain he would be shown and there he was to sacrifice his son Isaac. He was to sacrifice his son, the one he loved so dearly. Abraham had learned to trust both in the goodness of God and the faithfulness of His promises. Abraham left early in the morning for his journey. He did not delay at all. He went on a three day journey to Mt. Moriah (the same mountain Jesus died on). Once Abraham came to the

mountain he spoke to his servants and told them that he and the lad would go up on the mountain to **WORSHIP** and then they would return. What happened next pictured so vividly what God the Father would do with His own Son on this same mountain. Abraham placed the wood of the offering on his son's back and they climbed the hill. God the Father sent Jesus to Mt. Calvary and Isaac carried the wood of the offering on his back. Once they got there, Isaac asked where the lamb was for the offering. Abraham said that God would provide Himself a lamb. God would manifest in flesh and become the lamb for us. Abraham in obedience to God bound up his son and lifted up his knife to sacrifice his son as God had directed Him. God stopped him and showed him a ram to sacrifice instead of Isaac. Abraham sacrificed a **ram** that day, but he had told Isaac that God would provide a **lamb**. This was fulfilled in Jesus on Calvary. He was the lamb that takes away the sin of the world. That day Abraham went up on the mountain to worship. The only instrument he had for worship that day was his knife. He was to use his knife in worship to God. Abraham was willing to put God first before anything else. If God said to cut this from his life Abraham would do it. Abraham did what he did in faith. He knew that God would have to raise up Isaac from the dead because God promised that through Isaac the seed would come that would bless the world. Abraham had told the servants that both he and Isaac would return. However, this did not make it any easier to lift the knife that day.

It is rather easy to worship God with a tambourine. It does not cost much worship him on a musical instrument. It does not hurt much to worship God with uplifted voice. It is not so easy to worship with your knife. It costs to worship with your knife. It hurts to worship with your knife. There comes moments in which we are called to

worship God with our knife. There are things He asks for us to cut out from our lives. There are things he asks for us to cut off from us. There are relationships he tells us to cut off that hinder us. At these times our faith in the goodness and faithfulness of God is most tested. It is not easy to place things and people that are dear to us on the altar and offer them to God. It is painful to worship with your knife.

We need to know that when God is asking this from us it is only for our good. There must not be anything that comes before God in our life. If something or someone comes before God in our life then God is hindered from being God to us. Something else or someone else is in His place. When God asks you to worship with your knife it might seem that what God has promised you is being killed. When God asks you to worship with the knife He is just setting your life up for a resurrection and glorification of His promise to you.

Is God asking that you worship Him with your knife today? Is there something more important than it needs to be in your life? Is there someone more important to you than God's will? Is there an activity that takes up too much of your time? Is there a sin or habit you hold onto for security? Worshiping with your knife is one of the greatest and deepest worship you can experience. It is the worship that exalts God and allows Him to be God to you in a greater way than before. If you are willing to worship with your knife, the Holy Spirit will be there to strengthen you and comfort you all the way. The Spirit will cause resurrection to come to your life. God is faithful to all His promises to you. Will you worship Him?