

Gen 18:1-22:24 Vayeira Expanded Chiasm



hebraicfaithbible.com
(c) Christine Miller

1A) 18:1-15 The **SEED OF ABRAHAM** prophesied [Isaac through Sarah];

1a.1) 18:1-10a I will return unto you when this season comes round again, and Sarah your wife shall have a son;

1a) 18:1-6 Abraham hastened *into the tent unto Sarah*;

1A) 18:1-2A And YHVH appeared unto him by the terebinths of Mamre, as he sat in the tent door in the heat of the day; **2** and he lifted up his eyes and looked, and, lo, **THREE MEN STOOD NEAR HIM**;

1B) 18:2B-3 And when he saw them, he ran to meet them from the tent door, and bowed down to the earth, **3** and said: My lord, if now I have found favor in your sight, **PASS NOT AWAY**, I pray you, from your servant;

CENTRAL AXIS) 18:4-5A LET NOW A LITTLE WATER BE FETCHED, AND WASH YOUR FEET, AND RECLINE YOURSELVES UNDER THE TREE. **5** AND I WILL FETCH A MORSEL OF BREAD, AND STRENGTHEN YOUR HEART;

2B) 18:5B After that you shall **PASS ON**;

2A) 18:5C-6 Since **YOU HAVE COME TO YOUR SERVANT**. And they said: Do as you have said. **6** And Abraham hastened into the tent unto Sarah, and said: Make ready quickly three measures of fine meal, knead it, and make cakes;

1b) 18:7 And Abraham ran unto the herd, and *fetches a calf* tender and good, and gave it unto the servant; and he hastened *to dress it*;

central axis) 18:8a And he took curds, and milk;

2b) 18:8b And *the calf which he had dressed*, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree, and they ate;

2a) 18:9-10 And they said unto him: Where is *Sarah your wife*? And he said: Behold, *in the tent*. **10** And He said: I will certainly return unto you when this season comes round again; and, lo, Sarah your wife shall have a son;

1a.2) 18:10b-13 And Sarah heard in the tent door, which was behind him. **11** Now Abraham and Sarah were old, and well stricken in age; it had ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women. **12** And Sarah laughed within herself, saying: After I am waxed old shall I have pleasure, my lord being old also? **13** And YHVH said unto Abraham: Why did Sarah laugh, saying: Shall I of a surety bear a child, who am old?

central axis) 18:14a Is any thing too hard for YHVH?

1a.1) 18:14b At the set time I will return unto you, when this season comes round again, and Sarah shall have a son.

1a.2) 18:15 Then Sarah denied, saying: I did not laugh; for she was afraid. And He said: No; but **you did laugh**;

1B) 18:16-19:38 The **JUDGMENT** of Sodom and Gomorrah **FOR SIN**; {s}

1a) 18:16-22a The household of Abraham to keep the way of YHVH;

1a) 18:16 And *the men rose up from there*, and *looked out toward Sodom*; and Abraham went with them to bring them on the way;

1b) 18:17-18 And YHVH said: Shall I hide from Abraham *that which I am doing*; **18** seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him?

- 1c) 18:19a* For I have known him, *to the end* that he may command his children and his household after him;
- central axis) 18:19b* *That they may keep the way of YHVH, to do righteousness and justice;*
- 2c) 18:19c* *To the end* that YHVH may bring upon Abraham that which He has spoken of him;
- 2b) 18:20-21* And YHVH said: Truly, the cry of Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and, truly, their sin is exceeding grievous. *21 I will go down now, and see whether they have done altogether according to the cry of it*, which has come unto Me; and if not, I will know;
- 2a) 18:22a* And *the men turned from there*, and *went toward Sodom*;
- 1b) 18:22b* But *Abraham yet stood before YHVH*;
- 1c) 18:23-33 Abraham's intercession;*
- 1a) 18:23-25* And *Abraham drew near*, and said: Will You indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? *24* Perhaps there are fifty righteous within the city; will You indeed sweep away and not forgive the place for the fifty righteous within it? *25* Far be it from You to do after this manner, to slay the righteous with the wicked, that so the righteous should be as the wicked; far be it from You; shall not the Judge of all the earth do justly?
- 1b) 18:26* And YHVH said: If I find in Sodom fifty righteous within the city, then *I will forgive all the place* for their sake;
- 1c.1) 18:27-29* And Abraham answered and said: Behold now, *I have taken it upon me to speak unto YHVH*, who am but dust and ashes. *28* Perhaps there shall lack five of the fifty righteous; will You destroy all the city for lack of five? And He said: I will not destroy it, if I find there forty-five. *29* And he spoke unto Him yet again, and said: Perhaps there shall be forty found there. And He said: I will not do it for the forty's sake;
- 1c.2) 18:30* And he said: Oh, *let not YHVH be angry, and I will speak*. Perhaps there shall thirty be found there. And He said: I will not do it, if I find thirty there;
- 2c.1) 18:31* And he said: Behold now, *I have taken it upon me to speak unto YHVH*; perhaps there shall be twenty found there. And He said: I will not destroy it for the twenty's sake;
- 2c.2) 18:32* And he said: Oh, *let not YHVH be angry, and I will speak* yet but this once. Perhaps ten shall be found there;
- 2b) 18:32b* And He said: *I will not destroy it* for the ten's sake;
- 2a) 18:33* And YHVH went His way, as soon as He had left off speaking to Abraham; and *Abraham returned unto his place*;
- 1d) 19:1a* And the *two angels came to Sodom* at evening;
- 1e) 19:1b-3* And Lot sat in the gate of Sodom; and Lot saw them, and rose up to meet them; and he fell down on his face to the earth; *2* and he said: Behold now, my lords, turn aside, I pray you, into your servant's house, and tarry all night, and wash your feet, and you shall rise up early, and go on your way. And they said: No; but we will abide in the broad place all night. *3* And *he urged them greatly*; and they turned in unto him, and entered into his house; and he made them a

feast, and baked unleavened bread, and they ate [i.e., **Lot urged the angels to tarry** with him];

1f) 19:4-6 But before they lay down, the men of the city, even the men of Sodom, encircled the house around, both young and old, all the people from every quarter. **5** And they called unto Lot, and said unto him: Where are the men that came in to you this night? Bring them out unto us, that we may know them. **6** And Lot went out unto them to the door, and **shut the door** after him;

central axis) 19:7-8 And he said: I pray you, my brethren, do not so wickedly. **8** Behold now, I have two daughters that have not known man; let me, I pray you, bring them out unto you, and do to them as is good in your eyes; only unto these men do nothing; since they have come under the shadow of my roof;

2f) 19:9-11 And they said: Stand back. And they said: This one fellow came in to sojourn, and he indeed plays the judge; now will we deal worse with you, than with them. And they pressed sore upon the man, even Lot, and drew near to break the door. **10** But the men put forth their hand, and brought Lot into the house to them, and **the door they shut**. **11** And they smote the men that were at the door of the house with blindness, both small and great; so that they wearied themselves to find the door;

2e) 19:12-22 The angels urged Lot to flee;

1a) 19:12-14 **We will destroy this place;**

1A) 19:12A And the men said unto Lot: Do you have here anyone else? **SON-IN-LAW**, and your sons, and your daughters, and whoever you have in the city;

1B) 19:12B **BRING THEM OUT OF THE PLACE;**

1C) 19:13A For we will **DESTROY THIS PLACE;**

CENTRAL AXIS) 19:13B **BECAUSE THE CRY OF THEM IS WAXED GREAT BEFORE YHVH;**

2C) 19:13C And YHVH has sent us to **DESTROY IT;**

2B) 19:14A And Lot went out, and spoke unto his sons-in-law, who married his daughters, and said: Up, **GET OUT OF THIS PLACE;** for YHVH will destroy the city.

2A) 19:14B But he seemed unto his **SONS-IN-LAW** as one that jested;

1b) 19:15 And when the morning arose, then the angels hurried Lot, saying: Arise, take your wife, and your two daughters that are here; **lest you be swept away** in the iniquity of the city;

central axis) 19:16 **But he lingered; and the men laid hold upon his hand, and upon the hand of his wife, and upon the hand of his two daughters; YHVH being merciful unto him. And they brought him forth, and set him outside the city;**

2b) 19:17-20 Escape to the mountain, **lest you be swept away;**

1A) 19:17A And it came to pass, when they had brought them forth abroad, that he said: **ESCAPE FOR YOUR LIFE;** do not look behind you, neither stay anywhere in the Plain;

1B) 19:17B **ESCAPE TO THE MOUNTAIN,** lest you be swept away;

CENTRAL AXIS) 19:18A **AND LOT SAID UNTO THEM: OH, NOT SO, MY LORD; 19 BEHOLD NOW, YOUR SERVANT HAS FOUND GRACE IN YOUR SIGHT, AND**

YOU HAVE MAGNIFIED YOUR MERCY, WHICH YOU HAVE SHOWN UNTO ME
IN SAVING MY LIFE;

2B) 19:18B And **I CANNOT ESCAPE TO THE MOUNTAIN**, lest the evil overtake me,
and I die;

2A) 19:20 Behold now, this city is near to flee unto, and it is a little one; oh, **LET
ME ESCAPE THERE**—is it not a little one? —and my soul shall live;

2a) 19:21-22 And he said unto him: See, I have accepted you concerning this
thing also, that ***I will not overthrow the city of which you have spo-***
ken. **22** Hurry, escape there; for I cannot do any thing till you have come
there. Therefore the name of the city was called Zoar;

2d) 19:23 The sun was risen upon the earth when **Lot came unto Zoar**;

2c) 19:24-26 Then YHVH caused to rain upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brim-
stone and fire from YHVH out of heaven; **25** and He overthrow those cities, and
all the Plain, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and that which grew upon the
ground. **26** But his wife looked back from behind him, and she became a pillar of
salt [i.e., **YHVH's judgment**];

2b) 19:27-29 And Abraham got up early in the morning to the place where **he had
stood before YHVH**. **28** And he looked out toward Sodom and Gomorrah, and
toward all the land of the Plain, and beheld, and, lo, the smoke of the land went
up as the smoke of a furnace. **29** And it came to pass, when God destroyed the
cities of the Plain, that God remembered Abraham, and sent Lot out of the midst
of the overthrow, when He overthrew the cities in which Lot dwelt;

2a) 19:30-38 And Lot went up out of Zoar, and dwelt in the mountain, and his two
daughters with him; for he feared to dwell in Zoar; and he dwelt in a cave, he and
his two daughters. **31** And the first-born said unto the younger: Our father is old,
and there is not a man in the earth to come in unto us after the manner of all the
earth. **32** Come, let us make our father drink wine, and we will lie with him, that
we may preserve seed of our father. **33** And they made their father drink wine
that night. And the first-born went in, and lay with her father; and he knew not
when she lay down, nor when she arose. **34** And it came to pass on the morrow,
that the first-born said unto the younger: Behold, I lay yesternight with my fa-
ther. Let us make him drink wine this night also; and you go in, and lie with him,
that we may preserve seed of our father. **35** And they made their father drink
wine that night also. And the younger arose, and lay with him; and he knew not
when she lay down, nor when she arose. **36** Thus were both the daughters of Lot
with child by their father. **37** And the first-born bore a son, and called his name
Moab—the same is the father of the Moabites unto this day. **38** And the younger,
she also bore a son, and called his name Ben-ammi—the same is the father of the
children of Ammon unto this day [i.e., **The household of Lot**]; {s}

1C) 20:1-18 ABIMELECH AND ABRAHAM; {s}

1a) 20:1 And **Abraham** journeyed from there toward the land of the South, and
dwelt between Kadesh and Shur; and he sojourned in Gerar;

1b.1) 20:2a And Abraham said of Sarah his wife: **She is my sister**;

1b.2) 20:2b And Abimelech, king of Gerar, sent, and **took Sarah**;

1c) 20:3-6 **God warned Abimelech** in a dream;

1a) 20:3-4a But God came to Abimelech in a dream of the night, and said to him: Behold, you shall die, because of the woman whom you have taken; for she is a man's wife. **4** Now *Abimelech had not come near her*;

1b) 20:4b-5 And he said: YHVH, will You slay even a righteous nation? **5** Said he not himself unto me: She is my sister? and she, even she herself said: He is my brother. *In the simplicity of my heart* and the innocence of my hands *have I done this*;

2b) 20:6a And God said unto him in the dream: Yes, I know that *in the simplicity of your heart you have done this*;

2a) 20:6b And I also withheld you from sinning against Me. Therefore *I suffered you to touch her not*;

central axis) 20:7 Now therefore restore the man's wife; for he is a prophet, and he shall pray for you, and you shall live; and if you restore her not, know that you shall surely die, you, and all that are yours;

2c) 20:8 And Abimelech rose early in the morning, and called all his servants, and told all these things in their ears; and the men were sore afraid [**Abimelech told of God's warning**];

2b.1) 20:9-13 Why did you say of your wife, **She is my sister?**

1a) 20:9-10 Then Abimelech called Abraham, and said unto him: What have you done unto us? And in what have I sinned against you, that you have brought on me and on my kingdom a great sin? You have done deeds unto me that ought not to be done. **10** And Abimelech said unto Abraham: *What did you see, that you have done this thing?*

1b) 20:11 And Abraham said: Because I thought: Surely the fear of God is not in this place; and they will slay me for *my wife's* sake.

central axis) 20:12a And moreover she is indeed my sister, the daughter of my father, but not the daughter of my mother;

2b) 20:12b And so she became *my wife*;

2a) 20:13 And it came to pass, when God caused me to wander from my father's house, that I said unto her: This is your kindness which you shall show unto me; at every place to which we shall come, say of me: He is my brother [i.e., *Why Abraham did this thing*];

2b.2) 20:14 And Abimelech took sheep and oxen, and men-servants and women-servants, and gave them unto Abraham, and **restored** to him **Sarah** his wife;

2a) 20:15-18 And Abimelech said: Behold, my land is before you: **dwell where it pleases you**. **16** And unto Sarah he said: Behold, I have given your brother a thousand pieces of silver; behold, it is a covering for you to all who have seen you; and before all men you are vindicated. **17** And Abraham prayed unto God; and God healed Abimelech, and his wife, and his maid-servants; and they bore children. **18** For YHVH had fast closed up all the wombs of the house of Abimelech, because of Sarah Abraham's wife; {s}

CENTRAL AXIS) 21:1-21 ISAAC, THE SEED OF PROMISE, THE HEIR OF ABRAHAM; {p}

1a) 21:1-3 And YHVH **remembered Sarah** as He had said, and YHVH **did unto Sarah as He had spoken**. **2** And Sarah conceived, and bore Abra-

ham a son in his old age, at the set time of which God had spoken to him. **3** And Abraham called the name of his son that was born unto him, whom Sarah bore to him, Isaac [i.e., **YHVH took note of Sarah**, and fulfilled His promise concerning Isaac];

1b) 21:4 And Abraham circumcised his son Isaac when he was eight days old, as God had commanded him [i.e., **Abraham did unto Isaac** according to the word of YHVH];

1c) 21:5-7 The son of Sarah caused the **laughter of joy**;

1a) 21:5a And Abraham was **a hundred years old**;

1b) 21:5b When **his son Isaac was born unto him**;

central axis) 21:6 And Sarah said: **God has made laughter for me; every one that hears will laugh on account of me**;

2b) 21:7a And she said: Who would have said unto Abraham, that Sarah should nurse children? For I have **borne him a son**;

2a) 21:7b In his **old age**;

1d) 21:8a And the child grew, and was **weaned**;

central axis) 21:8b And Abraham made a great feast [i.e., Isaac officially became Abraham's heir];

2d) 21:8c On the day that Isaac was **weaned**;

2c) 21:9 And Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne unto Abraham, **mocking [with laughter]**;

2b) 21:10-14 **Abraham did unto Ishmael** according to the word of YHVH;

1a) 21:10 Therefore she said unto Abraham: **Cast out this bondwoman and her son**; for the son of this bondwoman shall not be heir with my son, even with Isaac;

1b) 21:11 And the thing was very grievous in Abraham's sight on account of **his son**;

central axis) 21:12 And God said unto Abraham: **Let it not be grievous in your sight because of the lad, and because of your bondwoman; in all that Sarah says unto you, hearken unto her voice; for in Isaac shall your seed be called**;

2b) 21:13 And also of the son of the bondwoman will I make a nation, because **he is your seed**;

2a) 21:14 And **Abraham** arose up early in the morning, and took bread and a bottle of water, and gave it unto Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, and the child, and **sent her away**; and she departed, and strayed in the wilderness of Beer-sheba;

2a) 21:15-21 **YHVH took note of Hagar**, and fulfilled His promise concerning Ishmael;

1a) 21:15a And the **water in the bottle was spent**;

1b) 21:15b-16 And she **cast the child** under one of the shrubs. **16** And she went, and sat her down over against him a good way off, a bow-shot's distance; for she said: Let me not look upon the death of the child. And she sat over against him, and lifted up her voice, and wept;

1c) 21:17a And **God heard the voice of the lad**;

central axis) 21:17b And the angel of God called to Hagar out of heaven, and said unto her: What ails you, Hagar? Fear not;
2c) 21:17c For God has heard the voice of the lad where he is;
2b) 21:18 Arise, *lift up the lad*, and hold him fast by your hand; for I will make him a great nation;
2a) 21:19-21 And God opened her eyes, and she saw a well of water; and she went, and *filled the bottle with water*, and gave the lad drink.
20 And God was with the lad, and he grew; and he dwelt in the wilderness, and became an archer. **21** And he dwelt in the wilderness of Paran; and his mother took him a wife out of the land of Egypt; {p}

2C) 21:22-34 ABIMELECH AND ABRAHAM; {p}

- 1a) 21:22** And it came to pass at that time, that **Abimelech and Phicol the captain of his host** spoke unto Abraham, saying: God is with you in all that you do;
- 1b) 21:23-24** Abimelech asks Abraham to swear an **oath** with him;
1a) 21:23a Now therefore *swear* unto me here by God;
1b) 21:23b That *you will not deal falsely* with me, nor with my son, nor with my son's son;
central axis) 21:23c *But according to the kindness that I have done unto you;*
2b) 21:23d *You shall do unto me*, and to the land wherein you have sojourned;
2a) 21:24 And Abraham said: I will *swear*;
- 1c) 21:25-26** And Abraham reprov'd Abimelech because of the **well of water**, which Abimelech's servants had violently taken away. **26** And Abimelech said: I know not who has done this thing; neither did you tell me, neither have I heard of it, until today;
- 1d) 21:27a** And Abraham took sheep and oxen, and **gave them unto Abimelech**;
central axis) 21:27b **And they two made a covenant**;
- 2d) 21:28-30a** And Abraham set seven ewe-lambs of the flock by themselves. **29** And Abimelech said unto Abraham: What do these seven ewe-lambs mean, which you have set by themselves? **30** And he said: Truly, these seven ewe-lambs **you shall take of my hand**;
- 2c) 21:30b** That it may be a witness unto me, that I have dug **this well**;
- 2b) 21:31-32b** Beersheba means "Well of the **Oath**;"
1a) 21:31a Therefore that place was called *Beersheba*;
1b) 21:31b Because there *they swore both* of them;
2b) 21:32a So *they made a covenant*;
2a) 21:32b At *Beersheba*;
- 2a) 21:32c-34** And **Abimelech** rose up, **and Phicol the captain of his host**, and they returned into the land of the Philistines. **33** And Abraham planted a tamarisk tree in Beersheba, and called there on the name of YHVH, the Everlasting God *El*. **34** And Abraham sojourned in the land of the Philistines many days; {p}

2B) 21:33-22:19 The Akideh: **THE FATHER OFFERS HIS ONLY SON**, the promised seed;

- 1a) 21:33-34** And Abraham planted a tamarisk tree **in Beersheba**, and called there on the name of YHVH, the Everlasting God *El*. **34** And **Abraham sojourned** in the land of the Philistines many days; {p}
- 1b) 22:1-2** And it came to pass after these things, that God tested Abraham, and said to him: Abraham; and he said: Here am I. **2** And He said: Take now **your son, your only son**, whom you love, even Isaac, and get you to the land of Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt-offering upon one of the mountains of which I will tell you;
- 1c) 22:3-9** **God will provide** for Himself the lamb for the burnt offering;
- 1a.1) 22:3-5* Abraham went to **the place of which God had told him**;
- 1A) 22:3** And Abraham rose early in the morning, and saddled his **DONKEY**, and took two of **HIS YOUNG MEN** with him, and **ISAAC HIS SON**; and he split the wood for the burnt-offering, and rose up, and went to the place of which God had told him;
- CENTRAL AXIS) 22:4** **ON THE THIRD DAY ABRAHAM LIFTED UP HIS EYES, AND SAW THE PLACE AFAR OFF**;
- 2A) 22:5** And Abraham said to **HIS YOUNG MEN**: Abide here with the **DONKEY**, and I and **THE LAD** will go yonder; and we will worship, and come back to you;
- 1a.2) 22:6a* And Abraham took **the wood** of the burnt-offering, and **laid it on Isaac his son**; and he took in his hand the fire and the knife;
- 1b) 22:6b* And **they went both of them together**;
- central axis) 22:7-8a* **And Isaac spoke to Abraham his father, and said: My father. And he said: Here am I, my son. And he said: Behold the fire and the wood; but where is the lamb for a burnt-offering? 8 And Abraham said: God will provide Himself the lamb for a burnt-offering, my son**;
- 2b) 22:8b* So **they went both of them together**;
- 2a.1) 22:9a* And they came to **the place of which God had told him**;
- 2a.2) 22:9b* And Abraham built the altar there, and laid the wood in order, and bound Isaac his son, and **laid him** on the altar, **on the wood**;
- central axis) 22:10** And Abraham stretched forth his hand, and took the knife to slay his son;
- 2c) 22:11-15** Abraham called the name of the place, **YHVH will provide**;
- 1a) 22:11-12* And **the angel of YHVH called to him out of heaven**, and said: Abraham, Abraham. And he said: Here am I. **12** And He said: Lay not your hand on the lad, neither do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me;
- central axis) 22:13-14* **And Abraham lifted up his eyes, and looked, and behold, behind him a ram caught in the thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram, and offered him up for a burnt-offering in the place of his son. 14 And Abraham called the name of that place YHVH-jireh; as it is said to this day: In the mount of YHVH it shall be provided**;
- 2a) 22:15* And **the angel of YHVH called unto Abraham** a second time **out of heaven**;

2b) 22:16-18 Because you have not withheld **your son, your only son**;
1a) 22:16 And said: By Myself have I sworn, says YHVH, *because you have done this thing*, and have not withheld your son, your only son;
1b) 22:17a That in blessing *I will bless you*, and in multiplying I will multiply your seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is on the sea-shore;
central axis) 22:17b *And your seed shall possess the gate of his enemies*;
2b) 22:18a And in your seed shall all the nations of the earth *be blessed*;
2a) 22:18b *Because you have hearkened to My voice*;
2a) 22:19 So Abraham returned to his young men, and they rose up and went together to Beersheba; and **Abraham dwelt at Beersheba**; {p}

2A) 22:20-24 The **SEED OF NAHOR**; {p}

1a) 22:20 And it came to pass after these things, that it was told Abraham, saying: Behold, **Milcah**, she also **has borne children unto** your brother **Nahor**;
1b) 22:21-22 Uz his first-born, and Buz his brother, and Kemuel the father of Aram; **22** and Chesed, and Hazo, and Pildash, and Jidlaph, and Bethuel [i.e., **Eight children** borne to Nahor];
central axis) 22:23a **And Bethuel begot Rebekah**;
2b) 22:23b **These eight** did Milcah bear to Nahor, Abraham's brother;
2a) 22:24 And his concubine, whose name was **Reumah**, she also **bore Tebah**, and **Gaham**, and **Tahash**, and **Maacah** [**unto Nahor**]. {p}