“A Door of Opportunity vs. The Window of Faith”

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“We should never give God credit for something that He might get blamed for later."

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**Genesis 22:1-18**

***1 After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am."***

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***2 He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you."***

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***3 So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him.***

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***4 On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar.***

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***5 Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over there and worship and come again to you."***

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***6 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. So they went both of them together.***

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***7 And Isaac said to his father Abraham, "My father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?"***

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***8 Abraham said, "God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So they went both of them together.***

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***9 When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood.***

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***10 Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son.***

***11 But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am."***

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***12 He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me."***

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***13 And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son.***

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***14 So Abraham called the name of that place, "The LORD will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided."***

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***15 And the angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven***

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***16 and said, "By myself I have sworn, declares the LORD, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son,***

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***17 I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies,***

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***18 and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice." (ESV)***

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John 11:1-11

***1 Now a certain man was sick, named Lazarus, of Bethany, the town of Mary and her sister Martha.***

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***2 (It was that Mary which anointed the Lord with ointment, and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was sick.)***

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***3 Therefore his sisters sent unto him, saying, Lord, behold, he whom thou lovest is sick.***

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***4 When Jesus heard that, he said, This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God, that the Son of God might be glorified thereby.***

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***5 Now Jesus loved Martha, and her sister, and Lazarus.***

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***6 When he had heard therefore that he was sick, he abode two days still in the same place where he was.***

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***7 Then after that saith he to his disciples, Let us go into Judaea again.***

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***8 His disciples say unto him, Master, the Jews of late sought to stone thee; and goest thou thither again?***

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***9 Jesus answered, Are there not twelve hours in the day? If any man walk in the day, he stumbleth not, because he seeth the light of this world.***

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***10 But if a man walk in the night, he stumbleth, because there is no light in him.***

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***11 These things said he: and after that he saith unto them, Our friend Lazarus sleepeth; but I go, that I may awake him out of sleep.***

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***12 Then said his disciples, Lord, if he sleep, he shall do well.***

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***13 Howbeit Jesus spake of his death: but they thought that he had spoken of taking of rest in sleep.***

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***14 Then said Jesus unto them plainly, Lazarus is dead.***

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***15 And I am glad for your sakes that I was not there, to the intent ye may believe; nevertheless let us go unto him. (KJV)***

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**John 11:32-44**

***32 Now when Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet, saying to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died."***

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***33 When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in his spirit and greatly troubled.***

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***34 And he said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see."***

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***35 Jesus wept.***

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***36 So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!"***

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***37 But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man also have kept this man from dying?"***

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***38 Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it.***

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***39 Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days."***

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***40 Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?"***

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***41 So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me.***

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***42 I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me."***

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***43 When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out."***

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***44 The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go." (ESV)***

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