

Then we have the, in Gen. 22, the offering up of Isaac, and of course there we do have that little touch of the faith of Isaac. This trust in his father. And yet no evidence of any particular understanding. He asked his father, he said, here is the wood and here is the fire for the sacrifice, but ~~where~~ is the sacrifice? He didn't understand what was happening, there's no particular evidence that it was explained to him. He is there as his father's dearly beloved son. He was there as the one whom his father was ready to sacrifice. And in the chapter it is Abraham's trust and Abraham's faith which is mentioned and stressed, while we do have that instance there in the chapter of Isaac's perfect trust and confidence but it is trust and confidence in his father rather than in God. Isaac is typical of those people who have great trust in God but trust which is based upon the example of someone else. It is a terrible lesson we have from the case of Isaac. A minister has it before him, ~~he~~ cannot avoid it, he must recognize the fact, ~~that in his~~ <sup>that in his</sup> ~~what injures~~ life, if he serves the Lord effectively there are going to be those whose faith in God will rest upon his faith and what he has done. There will be many who will be saved who, humanly speaking, would not have been saved ~~the faith~~ if he had proven unfaithful in the course of his career. There will be many who follow him who are ready not only to follow his strong points but also ready to follow perhaps even more vociferously his weaknesses and his peculiar points, and that is the way human beings are constituted. And what a responsibility it is for us, that we do not merely go out with a little Scripture, giving the word of salvation, doing real good up to a certain point, but that we recognize that those whom we help in the major points will also follow us in the minor points, and that if we are not true followers of the Lord in the minor points, and if we do not study the Word carefully to really understand what it teaches on the lesser points, we will have some who will take those lesser points and carry them further than we ever thought of carrying them.