יָשְׁמָעֵאל. וְלָמָה נִקְרָא שְׁמוֹ יִשְׁמָעֵאל? [לְפִי] שֶׁעָתִיד הַקָּדוֹשׁ בָּרוּךְּ הוּא לִשְׁמֹעַ בְּקוֹל זַעֲקַת הָעָם, מְמַה שָּעַתִידִין בְּנֵי יִשְׁמָעֵאל לַעֲשׁוֹת. לפּירֶהָּ נִקְרָא שְׁמוֹ יִשְׁמָעֵאל, שֶׁנֶּאֲמֵר: ״יִשְׁמַע אֵל וְיַעֲנֵם״ [תהלים נ״ה כ׳]. [פרדר"א פל"ב]

רָאַבֶּר אַבְרָחָם אָל הָאֱלֹהִים לוּ יִשְׁטָעֵאל. מַגִּיד הַכְּתוּב שֶׁאַף עַל פִּי שֶׁבִּשְׁרוֹ הַמָּקוֹם בְּיִצְחָק, הָיָה לְבּוֹ מַתְפּוֹנֵג [דּוֹאֵג] עָלָיו אָם יִחְיֶה [יִשְּׁמָעֵאל] אָם לֹא יִחְיֶה? וְאוֹמֵר: ״לוּ יִשְׁמָעֵאל יִחְיֶה״, כַּקֵשׁ עָלָיו לְהַחֲזִירוֹ [מדרש הגדול] בַּתְשׁוּכָה וּלְהַחֲיוֹתוֹ לָעוֹלָם הַבָּא.

כ. וּלְיִשְׁׁסָעֵאל שְׁׁסַעְתִּיךּ הָנֵּח בַּרַכְתִּי אֹתוֹ. [וּבַמֶּה בַּרְכוֹ? אֶלָּא] בֵּרְכוֹ בְּטוֹבוֹת הָעוֹלֶם הַזֶּה, בְּכָנִים וּבְעשׁׁר ּוּבְמַלְכוּת, אֲבָל טוֹבוֹת הָעוֹלָם הַבָּא אֵינָהּ אֶלָא לְיִצְחָק וּלְזַרְעוֹ, שֶׁנְּאֲמֵר: ״וְאֶת בְּרִיתִי אָקִים אֶת יִצְחָק״. [מדרש הגדול]

דָּבָר אַחֵר: [מֶה עָשָׂה יִשְׁמָצֵאל?] הָּנֵי רַשְׁבִּ״י דָרַשׁ רַבִּי צַקִיבָא: מְצַחֵק - אֵין צְחוֹק אֶלָּא צְבוֹדָה זָרָה, שָׁנֶּאֲמַר: ״וַיָּקָמוּ לְצַחַק״ [שמות ל״ב ר׳]. מְלַמֵּד, שֶׁהָיְתָה שָּׁרָה רוֹאָה יִשְׁמָעֵאל בּוֹנֶה בָּמָה וְצָד חְגָּבִים וּמַקְטִיר

דָּבָר אַחַר: רַבִּי אֶלְעָזֶר בְּנוֹ שֶׁל רַבִּי יוֹפֵי הַגְּלִילִי אוֹמֵר: אֵין מְצַחַק, אֶלָּא גִּלוּי עֲרָיוֹת, שֶׁנָּאֲמַר: ״בָּא אֵלַי עֶבֶד הָעַבְרִי... לְצַחֶק בִּי״ [בראשית ל״ט י״ז]. מְלַמֵּד שֶׁהָיָתָה שֶּׂרָה רוֹאָה אֶת יִשְׁמָצֵאל מְכַבֵּשׁ אֶת הַגַּנּוֹת [כּוֹבִשׁ הַנָּשִׁים] וּמְעַנָּה אֶת הַנָּשִׁים [פּוֹרֵץ לְגִנוֹת וּמְעַנָּה שָׁם וְכוּ׳].

דְּבֶר אַחֵר: רַבִּי יִשְׁסָעֵאל אוֹמֵר: אֵין מְצַחַק, אֶלָּא שׁוֹפֵךְ דָּמִים, שֶׁנָּאֲמֵר: ״יָקוּמוּ נָא הַנְּעָרִים וִישַּׁחֲקוּ לְפָנֵינוּ וַיּאמֶר יוֹאָב יָקַמוּ, וַיָּקָמוּ וַיַּעַבְרוּ בְּמִסְפָּר... וַיִּחֲזִקוּ אִישׁ בְּראשׁ רֵעֵהוּ... וַיִּפְלוּ יַחְדָּו״ [שמואל ב׳, ב׳ ט״ז]. מְלַמֵּד, שֶׁהָיְתָה שָּׁרָה לוֹאָה אֶת יִשְׁמָעֵאל נוֹטֵל חִצִּים וְזוֹרֵק וּמְתְכַּוּן לַהַרֹג אֶת יִצְחָק, שֶׁנֶּאֲמַר: ״כְּמִתְלֹהְלַהַּ הַיֹּרֶה וָקִים חָצִים וָמֶנֶת" [משלי כ״ו י״ח].

יב. כל אֲשֶׁר תֹאמָר אֵלֶיף שָּׂרָה שָׁמַע בְּקֹלָה. [מָה אָמְרָה שַּׂרָה לְאַכְרָהָם?] אָמְרָה לוֹ [שָּׂרָה לְאַבְרָהָם:] רוֹאָה אֲנִי אֶת יִשְׁמָצֵאל, שֶׁבּוֹנֶה בָּמָה וְצֶד חֲנָבִים וּמַקְטִיר לַעֲבוֹדָה זָרָה. אִם יְלַמֵּד אֶת בְּנִי יִצְחָק, לא נָמצֵא שֶׁם שַׁמֵּיִם מְתָחַלֶּל? אָמֵר לָה: מֵאַחַר שֶׁזָּכִין לָאָדֶם, [הַאָם] חָבִין לוֹ? מֵאַחַר שֶׁעָשִׁינוּ אוֹחָה גְּבִירָה, נוֹרִיד אוֹתָהּ מִן הַבַּיִת, [וְאִם כֵּן] הַבְּרִיּוֹת מָה אוֹמְרוֹת עָלֵינוּ? אָמְרָה לוֹ: הוֹאִיל וַאֲנִי אוֹמֶרֶת כָּןּ וְאַהָּה אוֹמֵר בָּדְ, יַכְרִיעַ הַמֶּקוֹם בֵּינוֹתִינוּ. הָכְרִיעַ [הַמֶּקוֹם] עַל [כְּמוֹ] דְּבְרֵי שָׁרָה, שֶׁנָּאֱמֵר: ״כֹּל אֲשֶׁר תֹּאמֵר אֵלֶיךּ שָּׂרָה [תוספתא סוטה, פ"ה]

רַבִּי לַוִי אָמֵר – R' Levi said: בָּרָיו שֶׁל וִשְׁמָצֵאל לְּוִצְחָק – This incident took place after Ishmael's words to Isaac. אַמָר לו יִשְּׁמֶעֵאל לְיִצְחָק – Ishmael said to Isaac, אָנִי גָּדוֹל מִמְּךָ בְּמִצְוֹת – "I am greater than you in the observance of commandments, קימים קלה בְּן שְמנֵת יָמִים – for you were circumcised when you were merely eight days old, וַאָני בָּן שְלשׁ עֶשְׂרָה שָׁנָה – whereas I was circumcised when I was thirteen years old."[44] אָמַר לו – [Isaac] replied to him, אָחָר אַתָּה מְנֶרֶה בִּי — "Do you challenge me then from merely one limb? אָם אוֹמֶר לִי הַקָּדוֹשׁ

"Your only one!" זָה יָחִיד לְאַמּוֹ וְזָה יָחִיד לְאַמּוּ – Abraham responded, "But this one is the only son of his mother and that one is the only son of his mother." אָשֶר־אָהַבְּהָ,, - God added, "Whom you love!" הַרְנִיְהוּ רָחַיִּמְנָא לְהוּ - Abraham responded, "But I love them both." אָת־יִצְּחָק,, - Finally, God

said, "Isaac."

"אָת־בּוְּךְ", – God told Abraham, "Take now your son."

בים יש לי – Abraham responded, "I have two sons – Isaac and

Ishmael! Which should I take?" "אֶת־יְחִידָה, - God added,

Sunhedem S9b

ברוך הוא – If the Holy One, Blessed is He, would tell me, 🚗 י עַצְמְךְ לְפָנֵי - 'Sacrifice yourself before Me,' אַנִי זובַחַ - 🗓 would sacrifice myself willingly." Sunheden 896

> ז. וְאַיֵּה הַשֶּׂה לְעָלָה. אָמַר יִצְחָק לְאַבְרָהָם: ״הִנֵּה הָאֵשׁ וְהָעֵצִים, וְאַיֵּה הַשֶּׂה לְעַלָּה״? אָמַר [אַבְּרָהָם:] בְּנִי, אַתַּה לְעוֹלָה.

> בְּאוֹתָהּ שָׁעָה נִשְׁתַּנָּה קְלַסְתֵּר פָּנָיו שֶׁל אַבְרָהָם, וְאָמֵר: אֲנִי זָקֵן וְאֵינִי נַעַר, [וְ]שֶׁמָּא יִבְרַח [יִצְחָק, שֶׁהוּא נַעַר], וּמַה תְּהָא עָלַי?

> אָמַר לוֹ יִצְחָק: אַבָּא, אַל תִּתְיָרֵא. יְהִי רָצוֹן מִלְפְנֵי הַמָּקוֹם, שֶׁתִּקַבֵּל לְרָצוֹן רְבִיעִית דַּם שָׁלִי, אֶלֶּא בָּפְחַנִי [קָשֹר אוֹתִי] יָפֶה [הֵיטֵב] וְכוּ׳, וּכְשֶׁתֵּלֵךְ אֵצֶל שָּרָה אִמִּי, אַל תֹאמֵר לָהּ [עַל עֲקַדָתִי] פִּתְאֹם, שֶׁלֹא תַּחְבּּל

שָׁמַע בְּקֹלָה״.

☐ He lived in the desert of Paran (Genesis 21:21). Ishmael sent for and married a woman name Eiphah from the plains of Moab. Three years later, Abraham went to see his son Ishmael. He arrived at midday and found his wife [at home]. "Where is Ishmael?" he asked. "He has gone to fetch dates from the desert," she replied. "Give me a little bread and water," he asked. "I have none," she replied. He said to her, "When Ishmael comes, tell him that an old man from the land of Canaan came to see him and said, 'The threshold of the house is not good.'" When Ishmael came, his wife told him, and he divorced her.

His mother sent to her father's house and took for him a wife by the name of Fatimah. Three years later Abraham again went to see his son. He arrived at midday and found Ishmael's wife [at home]. בְּאוֹתָה שָׁעָה הָיָה יִצְּחָק מַסְכִּים בְּפִיו, וּבְלְבּוֹ הָיָה אוֹמֵר: מִי יַצִּילֵנְ מַיַּד אָבִי? אֵין לִי עוֹזַר, אָלָא הַקָּדוֹשׁ בָּרוּף הוּא, שֶׁנָּאֲמֵר: ״עָזְרִי מֵעָם ה׳ עשׁה שָׁמִים וָאָרֶץ״ [תהלים קַכ״א ב׳], וּמַלְאֲכֵי הַשְּׁוַת אוֹמְרִים: בּוֹאוּ וּרְאוּ שְׁנֵי צַדְּיקִים: אָב שׁוֹחֵט וּבֵן עוֹמֵד לְשָׁחָט, וְאֵין מְעַבֵּב זָה לֹזה. (עיין רש״י)

עַצְמָה, [וְ]אָם עַל הַגַּג מִּהְיֶה עוֹמֶדֶת [כְּשֶׁתִּשְׁמֵע], שֶׁמָּא מִּפּל וְתָמוּת, אוֹ [אָם] עַל הַבְּאֵר עוֹמֶדֶת, שֶׁפָּא תַּפִּיל עַצְמָה לְתוֹכָה, אוֹ מִּהְיֶה בְּיָדָה סַכִּין, וְתָמִית עַצְמָה בּוֹ

(G)

"Give me a little bread and a little water, for my soul is weary from the road," he asked. She took it out and gave it to him. Abraham stood and prayed before the Holy One, Blessed is He, and Ishmael's house became filled with all good things. When Ishmael came, his wife told him about it, and Ishmael knew that his father still loved him (*Pirkei d'Rabbi Eliezer* 30).



ביישב אַבְרָהָם אֶל נְעָרִיו - And Abraham returned to his young men. The Akeidah fashioned a new personality and a new soul for Isaac, and a new covenantal reality. The unity of they both went together (verse 8) was lost. The two ideas that Abraham and Isaac respectively represented were not merged. Instead, their activities began to contradict each other.

Abraham symbolized *chesed*, an overflowing love that rises like a river in springtime and inundates its environs. Abraham wanted to convert all of mankind. He was concerned with the whole world. He sat by the highway waiting for travelers; he carried his morality to the people and wanted to proselytize everyone. Isaac symbolized *gevura*, self-limitation and self-concentration heroic action and withdrawal.

With the Akeidah, contradiction replaced peace, tension substituted for togetherness. Abraham returned to his young men, but Isaac belonged to a world of his own. They now moved along two different paths. Isaac did not return to Beer-Sheba; he traveled to another destination, burdened with another task. Ibn Ezra (verse 19) says that Isaac was in his own dominion—hi hu b'reshuso. (Abraham's Journey, p. 193)

The Ravis Chumash



This is my idea of what the term nisayon implies. Since man is complete master of his own actions, possessing the free will to act or refrain from acting, the term nisayon or trial expresses the situation from the point of view of the person himself. On the other hand, God, who confronts him with the trial commands him in order to translate into action the potentialities of his character, and give him the reward of a good deed, in addition to the reward of a good heart.

Know also that the Lord tries the righteous. When he knows that the righteous man will do His will and wishes to show his righteousness, He confronts him with a trial. But he does not try the wicked who will not hearken. All the trials described in the Torah were directed to benefit the recipient.

Rumban

(13)

This trial was not a test evolved by God to find out what He did not know, but God made a demonstration, the root of the word being from ness meaning wonder or sign which Abraham performed at the word of God, as an example and banner to all the peoples for them to follow.

Since this trial was narrated in the Torah as testimony of the living God, it is as if the trial took place in the presence of every Jew, past, present, and future. No one has failed to witness, through this medium, the greatness of this trial and the steadfastness of Abraham's faith, which became indelibly fixed in the hearts of all members of the human race.