

“The Lord Will Provide” (Gen 22:14)

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Introduction: When we clearly see how much we need the Lord every day, we will be blessed.

- A. Abraham knew this was true even when he faced what seemed to be a “no-win” situation.
 - 1. Abraham even knew of some possible things God might do. **(Heb 11:17-19)**
 - 2. What gave him such confidence? He knew the promises of God and the character of God!
 - 3. Abraham wanted all to know of this truth about God and gave this name to the place where he was to offer Isaac. **(Gen 22:14)**
- B. Our problem is in seeing how much we need God.
 - 1. The fall of Israel came first in forgetting God’s provisions. **(Deut 8:11-20)**
 - 2. The gentiles did the same thing. **(Rom 1:21-22)**
 - 3. What about you? Do you see your daily need of God? **(Mt 6:11)**

I. Conditions upon which the Lord will provide

- A. There is an unconditional provision that God makes for all men. **(Acts 17:23-27)**
 - 1. This knowledge ought to have caused these men to rethink their lives. Have you ever played a game only to find out that another completely controlled it?
 - 2. This goodness of God ought to make men change. **(Mt 5:45)**
 - 3. Remember, this provision may be abruptly taken away.
- B. The full provision of God comes to those who love Him. **(Rom 8:28)**
 - 1. This has a calming affect in difficult times. **(1 Pt 3:12-13)**
 - 2. Please do not take these conditions lightly. There is a dedication and devotion that comes from such a commitment.
- C. The Lord will provide according to His promises.
 - 1. Abraham knew this. Once he knew God’s promise then he regarded the matter as a certainty. **(Rom 4:18-22)**
 - 2. God expects us to have this confidence. Notice how the promise was made in the present tense! **(Rom 4:17)**
- D. The Lord will provide in His own time.
 - 1. We must learn to “wait on the Lord.” **(Psa 27:14; 37:7-9)**
 - 2. This can be a most difficult challenge to our faith.
- D. We can neglect God’s conditions and then faces the consequences without God’s help! **(Acts 27:21-22, 31-32)**
 - 1. We must not be stubborn here!
 - 2. God asks us to walk by faith and He will provide. What if we act in unbelief? **(Heb 3:18-19)**

II. Ways which the Lord may provide

- A. While we know the Lord will provide, we do not always know how He will do it.
 - 1. Abraham learned this and so did Mordecai. **(Esther 4:14)**
 - 2. Paul would also grant the possibility of God’s actions in meeting Onesimus. **(Philemon 1:15)**

3. Please be careful in attributing things to God. We could be wrong.
- B. God may open a door of opportunity.
1. The only opportunities God will give us are those that are for His purposes. He does not provide things only for “our lusts.” (**Jas 4:2-3**)
 2. What the child of God would see as an opportunity the worldly man would see as a hindrance. (**1 Cor 16:9; 2 Cor 2:12**)
 3. How do you view our upcoming gospel meeting?
- C. God may allow you to hear His word.
1. Cornelius knew that God gave him an opportunity that he had sought. (**Acts 10:21-22**)
 2. How many times have you been at a service and heard from God’s word they very thing you needed in a particular matter?
 3. Are you here with the prayer that God might show you things that you need to change or do in your life? (Ex. Bored looks in an audience)
- D. God may put you in a position of responsibility.
1. In that position you may find a blessing for others as well as yourself.
 2. Do we view the positions we hold in this way? (**Esther 4:14**)
- E. God may allow trouble to come for a while.
1. There were many years of trouble for Joseph that resulted in great good. God planned this! (**Gen 50:19-20; Psa 105:17**)
 2. Paul needed to have a thorn in the flesh for his salvation. (**2 Cor 12:7-9**)
- “What the caterpillar calls the end, God calls a butterfly.”
3. How do you view your troubles; as an opportunity or as a cause of worry?
- III. Situations in which we need the Lord to provide**
- A. We need the Lord to provide for our forgiveness.
1. He has done so through His Son and offered it to us in the gospel. (**1 Cor 15:1-2**)
 2. We must accept God’s provisions in responding to His promises for forgiveness. (**Acts 2:21,38; 22:16**)
 3. We need to be comforted in the faithfulness of God to forgive. (**1 Jn 1:7-9**)
- B. We need the Lord to provide for our faithfulness.
1. We need His aid in our battle against temptation. (**1 Cor 10:13; Heb 2:18**)
 2. We need His aid in keeping ourselves in the faith. (**2 Tim 1:12**)
- C. We need the Lord to provide help in finding a mate.
1. Abraham sought God’s help in finding a wife for Isaac.
 2. We need to trust God and be willing to wait. (**1 Pet 3:7**)
- D. We need the Lord to provide for the guidance of our families. (**Eph 6:4; Jud 13:8**)
1. If we could only see how much we need God, how our priorities would change!
 2. Are you praying fervently for God help in your home?
- E. We need the Lord to provide for our health and life. (**2 Cor 1:8-10**)
- Conclusion:** What do we need to be able to see our need of God’s provisions?
- A. We need to be humbled. Only then can God help us. (**Jas 4:6-10**)
- "God uses men who are weak and feeble enough to lean on him."
- B. Let us be thankful every day for such a great God!