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## ***Sacrificing the Promise: Hebrews - Week XXXI***

### ***Hebrews 11:13-16***

#### ***Faith can focus on the “afar off” and still stand assured***

- **Hebrews 11:1** Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

#### ***Faith embraces the process***

- **Hebrews 11:13 TPT** But they saw beyond the horizon the fulfillment of their promises and gladly embraced it from afar.

#### ***Faith knows we are not in our homeland yet***

- **Ephesians 2:19** Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God

#### ***Faith looks forward, not backwards***

- **Exodus 11:5** We remember the fish which we ate freely in Egypt, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic;
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### ***Hebrews 11:17-19, Genesis 22***

*“The word for “tested” is most commonly translated “proved”. The purpose of God’s tests are not so that you would fail, but that He would prove that you are faithful...God made Abraham great by testing - Test upon test, greatness after greatness. He does the same thing today with the spiritual “seed” of Abraham. We all want Abraham’s faith, but do we want Abraham’s trial to perfect our faith? Tests are God’s vote of confidence in our future. The budding qualities of Christ-likeness are brought forth in every test of our faith.” TPT Commentary*

1. Test = God tests us to see how we do and then we can graduate to greater faith tests
  2. Test = God tests us to show us He can do it
  3. Test = God tests us to prove to ourselves that we can do it - Because God can do it
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- **Hebrews 11:19** ...concluding that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead, from which he also received him in a figurative sense.