

Literary Parallelism in Genesis 22

Genesis 22, as one of the most important parts of the Genesis story arc, portrays a literary finesse in how it presents the story of the *Akedah*, the Binding of Isaac. The story is built on three dialogue scenes leading to the final angelic dialogue by using the same words and phrases to emphasize the major themes of calling, sonship, and offering.

Dialogue 1 (22:1 – 6)	Dialogue 2 (22:7 – 10)	Dialogue 3 (22:11 – 14)	Dialogue 4 (22:15 – 19)
“He said”	“He said”	“The angel called from heaven”	“The angel called to Abraham” (v 15)
“Abraham” (v 1)	“My father” (v 7)	“and said, ‘Abraham! Abraham!’”	
“Here I am”	“Here I am”	“Here I am” (v 11)	
		“Do not do anything”	“You have done this thing”
		“You have not withheld”	“...have not withheld”
“your son, your only child” (v 2)	“my son”	“your son, your only child” (v 12)	“your son, your only child” (v 16)
“for a burnt offering”	“for a burnt offering” (2X - v 7, 8)	“for a burnt offering” (v 13)	
“he went”	“the two of them went together” (v 8)	“he went”	“they went together” (v 19)
“the place which God had told him” (v 3)	“the place which God had told him” (v 9)	“the place...as it is said” (v 14)	
“he took...the knife” (v 6)	“he took the knife” (v 10)		