

TWENTY PLUS AKEDAH THEORIES

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I— Life is not fair; God is capricious.

II— Abraham's exemplary devotion to God and the suspension of the ethical.

III— The death of Isaac is a cause for rejoicing.

IV— A religious model of disobedience.

V— Abraham is a severe depressive.

VI— Abraham tests God.

VII— This is only a test.

VIII— The end of child sacrifice.

IX— Punishment for Abraham's disregard for the suffering of Sarah and Hagar.

X— Woops! A mistranslation.

Xi— The ability to live with paradox.

Xli— Isaac enters the stream of history.

XIII— Isaac is the symbol of Jewish suffering.

XIV— The channeling of the inherent violent nature of human beings.

XV— Israel is God's toy.

XVI— Our Children Are Not Our Possession and Must Be Set Free.

XVII— No one escapes death.

XVIII— Secrecy, uncertainty and mystery.

XIX— Foreshadowing mitzvot, the centerpiece of Jewish life.

XX— Redemption: Time has a goal.

XXI— Affirmation of Reversal of the Law of Primogeniture—

XXII— No appreciation without suffering and sacrifice