

Carmen Imes Review of Abraham's Silence on Goodreads (July 12, 2021)



Jul 12, 2021 **Carmen Imes** rated it ★★★★★.

Middleton has a way of taking familiar biblical texts and turning them upside down, not by reading against the grain of scripture, but by critiquing our assumptions. Here he has done it again with his intriguing re-reading of the story of the binding of Isaac.

Middleton suggests that on one level, Abraham failed the test. Yes, he obeyed God's commend. However, rather than participating in a vigorous intercession for his son that demonstrated a deep knowledge of God's character, Abraham was silent. Reading this story in light of the lament psalms and the book of Job, Middleton carefully argues that silence is not what God wanted. In his grace, God compensated for Abraham's silence by announcing he would still bless the nations, but his invitation still stands for people of faith from every age to protest injustice.

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