

Genesis 23 & 24

V: 1 Sarah was 127 years old when she died. We haven't heard anything from her since Isaac was weaned, some 30 or so years prior.

- Motherhood, nursing, still being chased after by kings while she was in her 80-'s and 90's, but the last 30 years bring her to her grave.
- Sarah is the only woman in the Bible whose age is given at her time of death.
- Abraham is 137 years old at this time.

V: 2 Sarah had been with Abraham in all his travels, she was with him when they left Hebron & Mamre to go to Shechem where they ran afoul of Abimelech.

- Sarah was in Gerar, then in Beersheba – at some point she made it back to her final resting place in Hebron, near Mamre – to the place of “richness and communion” with the Lord.
- Abraham came to mourn Sarah – it doesn't seem likely that they would be living apart; he must have been traveling or tending to the flocks and herds.

V: 3-4 Abraham has not stopped being a “stranger and a sojourner” after 55 or so years of being in Canaan.

- Lot tried to blend in with the people of Sodom, he settled down, had house – but long after all of that, Abraham is still a “stranger and a sojourner.”

Genesis 47:9 “And Jacob said unto Pharaoh, the days of the years of my pilgrimage are an hundred and thirty years: few and evil have the days of the years of my life been, and have not attained unto the days of the years of the life of my fathers in the days of their pilgrimage.”

1 Peter 2:11 “Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul;”

- Being a “stranger” or a “sojourner” – a temporary resident, without the benefit of citizenship. One whose home is elsewhere.

Hebrews 11:13-16 ¹³“These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. ¹⁴For they that say such things declare plainly that they seek a country. ¹⁵And truly, if they had been mindful of that country from whence they came out, they might have had opportunity to have returned. ¹⁶But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for He hath prepared for them a city.”

V 5-18 Abraham negotiates the purchase of a burial plot.

- The children of Heth, who later become the “Hittites” – refer to Abraham as a “mighty prince” – literally meaning: “prince of God”.
- This means that Abraham’s life was a good witness to those around him.

2 Corinthians 3:3 “Forasmuch as ye are manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ ministered by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; not in tables of stone, but in fleshy tables of the heart.”

- Abraham does not accept a gift from the Hittites, just like he didn’t accept anything from the kings of Sodom & Gomorrah.
- Abraham stands up twice, and he bows himself down before the people twice – humble.

Micah 6:8 “He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?”

V: 10-11 We see here some of the cultural aspects of business dealings – much of which is not taken in a literal sense by the participants.

- Ephron offers to give the land to Abraham, but as things progress he also later mentions what its worth.

V: 16 Abraham doesn’t haggle over the price. Ephron names the price and Abraham immediately pays the price – eliminating any future problems or claims regarding the property.

V: 19-20 Sarah’s final resting place on this earth was in “richness” and “communion” with the Lord.

Genesis Ch. 22 The father sacrifices his “only” son.
Genesis Ch. 23 Sarah dies and is buried.

Types / shadows:

- The Father sacrifices His only Son Jesus.
- Israel has at the same time rejected the Messiah, the atoning sacrifice and is then “set aside”.
- The next thing we see is that the Father sets about the obtaining a bride for His Son.
- The Holy Spirit is then sent to find a bride from the Gentiles – the church – the time of the Gentiles.

Chapter 24

Genesis Ch. 24

Read V: 1-9

V: 1 Abraham was old – well stricken in age – and very blessed.

- The Lord had promised to bless Abraham in Chapter 12 – and the Lord kept His promise.

V: 2 This “chief” servant is Eliezer who is named in Chapter 15, steward of Abraham’s household, approximately 50 years prior.

- Eliezer is not named in this account because he is a type of the Holy Spirit.
- Eliezer: “God our help” – “ Comforter”.

John 16:13-14 ¹³Howbeit when He, the Spirit of truth, is come, He will guide you into all truth: for He shall not speak of Himself; but whatsoever He shall hear, that shall He speak: and He will shew you things to come. ¹⁴He shall glorify Me: for He shall receive of Mine, and shall shew it unto you.”

V: 2-3 *“Put, I pray thee, thy hand under my thigh: And I will make thee swear by the Lord, the God of heaven, and the God of earth...”*

- This seems like a very dramatic way to secure an oath or promise from his servant, but Abraham sees the importance of the issue.
 1. His son needs a wife for the fulfillment of God’s promises.
 2. There are no acceptable wives amongst the daughters of Canaan.
 3. His son must not leave the land of promise.
 - During Isaac’s life time – he never leaves the land of promise.
- There would be no intermarrying; no connection to idol worshippers, no blending away of God’s chosen people.

2 Corinthians 6:14 ¹⁴Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? And what communion hath light with darkness? ¹⁵And what concord hath Christ with Belial? Or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel?”

V: 3-4 Abraham intends to make his servant swear, and that the God of Heaven and the God of Earth shall be witness thereto.

- Isaac is about 40 years old, yet it is the father’s responsibility to obtain a bride for his son.
- The son trusted the father’s judgment in this important decision.

V: 5-6 The son is not to leave the land of promise! He is not to go back to the world, the Ur of the Chaldees.

- From a typological standpoint he cannot go back because he would have to pass by the land of Moriah wherein symbolically he was sacrificed by his father.
- Jesus will not be crucified or sacrificed again; we won't see Him until He comes again in His glory.

Hebrews 7:25-27 “²⁵Wherefore He is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by Him, seeing He ever liveth to make intercession for them. ²⁶For such an high priest became us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens; ²⁷who needeth not daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifice, first for his own sins, and then for the people's: for this He did once, when He offered up Himself.”

Hebrews 6:4-6 “⁴For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Spirit, ⁵and have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come, ⁶if they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify the Son of God afresh, and put Him to an open shame.”

Hebrews 9:28 “So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for Him shall He appear the second time without sin unto salvation.”

V: 7 The same God that called Abraham out of the Ur of the Chaldees will go before him, as he sends his chief steward – he will secure a wife for his son.

Genesis 22:17 “That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies.”

V: 8 Abraham trusts that God will go before him and provide just as He did on top of Mount Moriah – Jehovah Jireh – the Lord will provide.

- Abraham reiterates that Isaac is not to leave the land of promise. No doubt Abraham remembered what happened to him when he left the land of promise for Egypt.

V: 9 The servant swears the oath to follow the father's instructions – and immediately prepares to set out.

V: 10 The servant takes ten camels, along with gifts and treasures for the bride – showing, testifying to the glory of the son.

- Then he sets off for Nahor, N/E of Haran.

V: 11 He arrives in Nahor, approximately 500 miles away.

V: 12-14 Prayer seeking direction.

- The servant is obedient and faithful.
- The servant prayed to God for his master's sake.
- No futile searching / groping around, God would lead him right to where he needed to be.
- Laying out a fleece – seeking God's will and direction.

Read V: 15-21

V: 15-21 The servant prays for specific direction, and receives a specific answer.

“And it came to pass, before he had done speaking,...”

God, speaking about how He will bless His people:

Isaiah 65:24 “And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear.”

- Intelligent, thoughtful prayer:

Mark 7:6-9 “⁶... well hath Isaiah prophesied of you hypocrites, as it is written, this people honoureth Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me. ⁷Howbeit in vain do they worship Me, teaching for doctrines the commandments. ⁸For laying aside the commandment of God, ye hold the tradition of men, as the washing of pots and cups: and many other such like things ye do. ⁹And he said unto them, full well ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition.”

V: 19 Offering a drink to a person would have been a customary & reasonable kindness, getting water for the camels was far beyond that.

- The wells in those days were large holes in the ground, often with spiral stairs that descended down to the actual water.
- Rebekah carried a ceramic jug down the stairs some distance, filled the jug, then back up and emptied it into a trough – considering that a thirsty camel could drink up to 50 gallons of water apiece this would have been quite a task.

V: 21 The steward just sat back in amazement, seeing that Rebekah was doing exactly what he'd laid out as a fleece, blown away by what God was doing, waiting to see if God is going to meet all the requirements.

[Read V: 22-25](#)

V: 22 The servant presents the bride with valuable gifts, even before she knows or realizes that she is the bride.

1. Nose ring, ½ shekel of gold in weight.
2. Two bracelets, 10 shekels of gold in weight.

V: 23-25 The servant finds out that Rebekah is from his master's family and immediately sees God's hand in it.

[Requirements met:](#)

1. Rebekah is from Abraham's family / believer.
2. Not a Canaanite / pagan.

- [Bonus features:](#) She is beautiful & she's a virgin.

Ephesians 3:20 "Now unto Him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us,"

V: 25 The servant / Eliezer is then invited to stay at her home.

V: 26-27 the servant gives thanks to the Lord.

- The servant is a believer – "*being in the way*".

Psalms 37:23 "The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord: and He delighteth in his way."

Proverbs 3:6 "In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your path."

[Read V: 28-33](#)

V: 28 The bride goes to tell her family – she goes to spread the good news.

- Rebekah runs and tells her family all that happened.
- Laban sees gold and goes out to meet Eliezer and bring him home.

V: 31 "... come in, thou blessed of the Lord;..." – they know of the Lord / believers.

V: 33 Eliezer won't eat until he's stated his mission – faithful to his master.

V: 34-48

Read V: 34-48

V: 34-48 Eliezer testifies, repeating his story detailing his mission to the family.

- Throughout this story, Eliezer is a selfless individual, speaking only of the Father and of the son, just as the Holy Spirit glorifies the Father and the Son, without drawing attention to Himself.

John 16:13-14 ¹³Howbeit when He, the Spirit of truth, is come, He will guide you into all truth: for He shall not speak of Himself; but whatsoever He shall hear, that shall He speak: and He will shew you things to come. ¹⁴He shall glorify Me: for He shall receive of Mine, and shall shew it unto you.”

V: 35 The servant gives all credit and glory to God for blessing to the father.

V: 36 The son has inherited all that the father has.

Jesus said:

John 16:15 “All things that the Father hath are mine: therefore said I, that He shall take of mine, and shall shew it unto you.”

V: 45 Praying in his heart / praying in the spirit – just between him and God.

V: 49 Bottom line – “yes” or “no”.

V: 50-51 “The thing proceedeth from the Lord” – we can’t argue.

- Take Rebekah and go – as the Lord has spoken.
- Acknowledging the Lord in all of this.

V: 52-54 After the bride’s family agrees, Eliezer worships the Lord, bowing himself down.

- Eliezer brings out / gives precious gifts to the bride, and new garments.

Isaiah 61:10 “I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for He hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, He hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels.”

Revelation 19:7-8 ⁷Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and His wife hath made herself ready. ⁸And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.”

- Then there was a feast, a celebration.

V: 55-58

V: 55-58 Brother Laban and father Bethuel are a type of the world in that they sought to delay salvation, just stay a little longer.

V: 56 No delays – now is the time:

2 Corinthians 6:2 “(For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.)”

V: 58 “I will go!” – No hesitation, straight forward, confident, faithful!

2 Timothy 1:7 “For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.”

V: 59-61 Rebekah is sent out with a blessing.

- Pretty much the same blessing that God had already pronounced upon Abraham and his descendants, prophetic in a sense:
 1. Increase to thousands – yes.
 2. Possess the gate of their enemies – yes, Jesus conquered death and has the keys to hell.
- The bride follows the comforter and he leader her to the groom:

John 14:26 “Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth...”

- Rebekah was obedient, she did not grieve the comforter – she yielded to the will of the father.

[Read V: 62-67](#)

V: 62-67 This is the first time the son is named since his sacrifice on Mt. Moriah.

- Isaac is waiting and praying for his bride.
- La-hai-roi: “The Living One seeing me”

V: 63 Isaac was a man of prayer.

Meditate: (H7742) . suwach, soo'-akh; meditate, muse, commune, speak.

V: 64-65 Rebekah has come to know about the son through the “comforter”, but is actually seeing for the first time now.

- 500 miles is a long trip on a camel, a trial, enduring hardness.
- The servant comforted the bride, exhorting her and telling her of the glories of the father and the son along the way. (1 Peter 4:12, Romans 8:18, 2 Cor. 4:17).

1 Peter 1:7-9 ⁷“That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honor and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ: ⁸whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory: ⁹Receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls.”

V: 67 He brought her into Sarah’s tent, which would be the Father’s house: Rebekah took the place that was previously occupied by Sarah – who symbolically had been set aside.

- Bride & Groom united, becoming one flesh – just as Jesus wanted:

[Jesus prayed to the Father:](#)

John 17:11 “And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou has given me, that they may be one, as we are.”

John 17:14-17 ¹⁴“I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. ¹⁵I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil. ¹⁶They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. ¹⁷Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.”

- Isaac loved her, Isaac was comforted.

The Father sends the “Comforter” – who isn’t named to obtain a bride for the Son.

The qualifications are:

1. Cannot be a Canaanite / pagan / non-believer.
2. Must come from Abraham’s family / believers.
3. She must be willing to leave her world behind and come to Him.

What happens? By the grace of God the servant finds a bride who is:

1. Beautiful in his eyes.
2. Virgin – undefiled.
3. Servant’s heart.
4. Not a Canaanite / pagan.
5. From Abraham’s family – believer.
6. Willing to go without hesitation or delay.

- The bride invites the comforter to reside with her, stay in her home.
- After her decision / commitment, before leaving she receives precious gifts and new clothes.
- Near the end of her journey, the Son comes out from his house and meets her part way.
- He then brings her back to His home where she is loved.

Typology of the Servant = Holy Spirit who accompanies the church through the wilderness of the world, teaching the bride things about Christ, showing things to come, until finally presenting her to Christ at the end of the journey.

Typology of Rebekah = the Bride / Church John 3:29, Romans 7:4

- Preparing to meet her heavenly bridegroom, Rebekah foreshadows the Christian believer.
 1. Her marriage was planned long before she knew about it. Ephesians 1:3-4, 13
 2. She was necessary for the completion of God's purposes. Ephesians 1:22-23
 3. She was to share the glory of the son. John 17:22-23
 4. She learned of the son through his emissary and her paracletos.
 5. She immediately left all to go to the son, loving him before she saw him. 1 Peter 1:8
 6. She journeyed through the wilderness to meet the son, guided by the servant. 1 Peter 1:3-9
 7. She was loved by and finally united forever to the son. Ephesians 5:26, Revelation 19:7, 1 Thessalonians 4:17

Typology of Isaac = type of Jesus Christ:

1. Promised long before his coming. Genesis 3:15, Luke 1:70
 2. Finally appeared at the appointed time. Galatians 4:4
 3. Was conceived and born miraculously. Luke 1:35
 4. Was given an appropriate name by God before his birth. Matt. 1:21, Luke 1:35
 5. Was offered up in sacrifice by his father. 1 John 2:2
 6. Was himself obedient unto death. Philippians 2:8
 7. Was brought back from the dead to be the head of a great nation & bless all peoples. Ephesians 1:19-23
- Isaac while waiting for his bride was preparing a place for her. John 14:3
 - Prior to meeting the bride, the last time Isaac's name is mentioned is when Abraham offers him as a sacrifice to God (Gen. 22). He is spoken about, but not seen until he gathers / unites with his bride. 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17.