

Genesis Chapter 24: Wedding Pictures; Seeing His Face

Genesis Chapter 23 Review

- **Sarah graduates** and Abraham mourns
- **Abraham buys Mamre** for Sarah in the land his descendents would inherit
- **Abraham respects** his fellow man, deserving or not, created in the image of God

Genesis Chapter 24

¹Now Abraham was old, advanced in age; and the LORD had blessed **Abraham in every way**.

- Abraham: Blessed by the LORD in every way, as we are:

Galatians 3:9 So then those who are **of faith** are **blessed with Abraham, the believer**

Ephesians 1:3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has **blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ**. ⁴just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we would be **holy and blameless before Him In love**

- "...blessed us in the heavenly realms" Pray: On earth as it is in Heaven
- The Church is the **Bride of Christ**; equipped with every Spiritual resource *in Christ* to be **Holy and Blameless**, ready for His coming

Holy: *Hagios* from *hagnos*: exciting reverence, venerable, sacred, pure from carnality, chaste, modest, pure from every fault, immaculate, clean

Blameless: *Amomos* - above reproach, blameless, unblemished, without blemish, as a sacrifice without spot or blemish, morally: without blemish, faultless, unblameable

²**Abraham** said to his **servant**, the oldest of his household, who had charge of all that he owned, "Please place your hand under my thigh, ³and I will make you swear by the LORD, the God of heaven and the God of earth, that you shall not take a **wife** for my **son** from the daughters of the Canaanites, among whom I live, ⁴but you will go to **my country** and to my relatives, and take a wife for my son Isaac."

- **4 Players:** Father, Son, Unnamed Servant with charge over all the Father owns, Bride; i.e. **Father, Son, Holy Spirit, and the Church**
- Get a wife for my Son; not a non-believer but a Worshiper of the **True God**

Deuteronomy 7:3 "...you **shall not intermarry** with [non-believers]; you shall not give your daughters to their sons, nor shall you take their daughters for your sons. ⁴"For **they will turn your sons away from following Me** to serve other gods; **then** the anger of the LORD will be kindled against you and He will quickly destroy you.

1 Kings 11:4 (Read) For when Solomon was old, his wives turned his heart away after other gods; and his heart was not wholly devoted to the LORD his God, as the heart of David his father had been. 5For Solomon went after Ashtoreth the goddess of the Sidonians and after Milcom the detestable idol of the Ammonites. 6Solomon did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, and did not follow the LORD fully, as David his father had done. 7Then Solomon built a high place for Chemosh the detestable idol of Moab, on the mountain which is east of Jerusalem, and for Molech [Child Sacrifice] the detestable idol of the sons of Ammon. 8Thus also he did for all his foreign wives, who burned incense and sacrificed to their gods.

- After not being able to destroy Israel with a curse, Balaam counseled Balak king of the Moabites to **destroy Israel by sending Moabite women** to seduce Israelite men [Numbers 31:16];Canaanite fertility rites of Baal; God sent a plague [Deut:7:4]

2 Corinthians 6:14 (Read) Do not be bound together with unbelievers; for what partnership have righteousness and lawlessness, or what fellowship has light with darkness? 15Or what harmony has Christ with Belial, or what has a believer in common with an unbeliever? 16Or what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; just as God said," I WILL DWELL IN THEM AND WALK AMONG THEM; AND I WILL BE THEIR GOD, AND THEY SHALL BE MY PEOPLE. 17" Therefore, COME OUT FROM THEIR MIDST AND BE SEPARATE," says the Lord. "AND DO NOT TOUCH WHAT IS UNCLEAN;

- We are to marry those who serve the Living God; no missionary dating! My country.

⁵The servant said to him, "Suppose the woman is not willing to follow me to this land; should I take your son back to the land from where you came?"

⁶Then Abraham said to him, "Beware that you **do not take my son back there!** ⁷"The **LORD, the God of heaven**, who took me from my father's house and from the land of my birth, and who spoke to me and who swore to me, saying, 'To your descendants I will give this land,' He will send **His angel** before you, and you will take a wife for my son from there. ⁸"But if the woman is not willing to follow you, then you will be free from this my oath; only do not take my son back there."

- "[God] will send His angel before you. The Angel?
- Abraham trusts God's Word: His descendants will inherit this land [Canaan]
- "If the woman is **not willing**..." No one will be dragged into heaven

⁹So the servant placed his hand under the thigh of Abraham his master, and swore to him concerning this matter. ¹⁰Then the servant took ten camels from the camels of his master, and set out with a variety of **good things** of his master's in his hand...

- Servant [Spirit] is submissive to the Father
- Servant brings and gives **"good gifts"** to the future Bride of the Son

Matthew 7:11"If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give **what is good** to those who ask Him!

Luke 11:13 "If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the **Holy Spirit** to those who ask Him?"

Spiritual Gifts

<u>Romans 12</u>	<u>1 Corinthians 12</u>	<u>Ephesians 4</u>	<u>Misc. Passages</u>
exhortation	administrati	apostle	celibacy
giving	on	evangelism	hospitality
leadership	apostle	pastor	martyrdom
mercy	discernment	prophecy	missionary
prophecy	faith	teaching	voluntary poverty
service	healing		
teaching	helps		
	knowledge		
	miracles		
	prophecy		
	teaching		
	tongues		
	tongues		
	interpretati		
	on		
	wisdom		

- Servant took ten camels from the Father...

1 Corinthians 12:11 But one and the same Spirit works all these things, **distributing to each one individually just as He wills.**

10b and he [the servant] arose and went to Mesopotamia, to the city of Nahor. ¹¹He made the camels kneel down outside the city by the well of water at evening time, the time when women go out to draw water.

- **Nahor:** Abrahams brother
- The Son stays as the Servant goes to get/prepare the Bride:

John 16:7 "But I tell you the truth, it is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I go, **I will send Him to you.**

John 15:26 "When the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, that is the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will **testify about Me...**

- The servant will tell Rebekah all about the Son
- The "Servant" [Spirit] **testifies of the Son**, not drawing attention to Himself as some denominations:

1 Corinthians 14:39 ...my brethren, desire earnestly to prophesy, and do not forbid to speak in tongues. ⁴⁰But all things must be done **properly** and in an **orderly manner.**

¹²He said, "O LORD, the God of my master Abraham, please grant me success today, and show lovingkindness to my master Abraham. ¹³"Behold, I am standing by the spring, and the daughters of the men of the city are coming out to draw water; ¹⁴now may it be that the girl to whom I say, 'Please let down your jar so that I may drink,' and who answers, 'Drink, and I will water your camels also'--may she be the one whom You have **appointed** for Your servant Isaac; and by this I will know that You have shown lovingkindness to my master."

- **Appointed:** I.e. Chosen; predestined

Revelation 17:14 He is Lord of lords and King of kings, and those who are with Him are the **called and chosen and faithful**."

¹⁵Before he had finished speaking, behold, Rebekah who was born to Bethuel the son of Milcah, the wife of Abraham's brother Nahor, came out with her jar on her shoulder. ¹⁶The girl was very beautiful, **a virgin**, and no man had had relations with her; and she went down to the spring and filled her jar and came up.

- **Physical virginity** for believers except with spouse:

1 Corinthians 6:15 (NKJV) Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a harlot? Certainly not!

- **Spiritual Adultery/Fornication:** Leaving singular devotion to Jesus Christ and mixing pagan rites, practices, and/or beliefs with Christianity

2 Corinthians 11:2 ...I am jealous for you with a godly jealousy; for I betrothed you to **one husband**, so that to Christ I might present you as a **pure virgin**. ³But I am afraid that, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, your minds will be led astray from the **simplicity and purity of devotion to Christ**.

- **Implication:** Leaving simple and pure devotion to Christ is Spiritual Adultery
- Damnable: **teaching**; I.e. adding to the Gospel:

Galatians 1:6 (Read) I am amazed that you are so quickly deserting Him who called you by the grace of Christ, for a different gospel; ⁷ which is really not another; only there are some who are disturbing you and want to distort the gospel of Christ. ⁸But even if we, or an angel from heaven, should preach to you a gospel contrary to what we have preached to you, he is to be accursed! ⁹As we have said before, so I say again now, if any man is preaching to you a gospel contrary to what you received, he is to be accursed!

- Jesus + anything=damnation...forever; Jesus + anything is not more but less [wt]
- Rebekah, a picture of the Church, was a virgin made ready for her husband

¹⁷Then the servant ran to meet her, and said, "Please let me drink a little water from your jar." ¹⁸She said, "Drink, my lord"; and she quickly lowered her jar to her hand, and gave him a drink. ¹⁹Now when she had finished giving him a drink, she said, "I will draw also for your camels until they have finished drinking." ²⁰So she quickly emptied her jar into the trough, and ran back to the well to draw, and she drew for all his camels. ²¹Meanwhile, the man was **gazing at her in silence**, to know whether the LORD had made his journey successful or not.

- The servant "**gazed at her...**"

2 Chronicles 16:9 "For the eyes of the LORD move to and fro throughout the earth that He may **strongly support** those whose heart is completely His.

- What does the Lord look for as He gazes? **Humility**
- Rebekah cooperates and yields to the Servant: ["I will draw also for your camels..."]

Psalms 149:4 For the LORD takes delight in his people; he **crowns the humble** with salvation.

James 4:6 But He gives a greater grace Therefore it says, "GOD IS OPPOSED TO THE PROUD, BUT GIVES **GRACE TO THE HUMBLE.**"

- Salvation and Grace for the Humble.[c.f. Ephesians 2]

²²When the camels had finished drinking, the man took a gold ring weighing a half-shekel and two bracelets for her wrists weighing ten shekels in gold, ²³and said, "Whose daughter are you? Please tell me, is there room for us to lodge in your father's house?" ²⁴She said to him, "I am the daughter of Bethuel, the son of Milcah, whom she bore to **Nahor.**" ²⁵Again she said to him, "We have plenty of both straw and feed, **and room to lodge in.**"

- **Nahor:** Abrahams brother, Rebekah is Abraham's niece and Isaac's cousin
- **Room to lodge in;** Is there room at the Inn for Jesus; How do we make room for the Lord?

John 14:23 Jesus ...said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and **We will come to him and make Our abode with him.**

- God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit will **make His abode with us as we:**
 1. Love Jesus and in turn
 2. Keep His Word; His command that we... "love one another"
 3. Thus, when we love one another we "make room" for the Lord [John 15]

²⁶Then the man bowed low and worshiped the LORD. ²⁷He said, "**Blessed**

be the LORD, the God of my master Abraham, who has not forsaken His lovingkindness and His truth toward my master; as for me, the LORD has guided me in the way to the house of my master's brothers."

- Heavenly Rejoicing in God's Plan for the Son and His Bride

Luke 15:10 "In the same way, I tell you, there is **joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.**"

1 Peter 1:12 It was revealed to [the prophets] that they were not serving themselves, but you, in these things which now have been announced to you through those who preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven--**things into which angels long to look.**

- **The Servant *Blessed* the Lord:** To **honor as holy; glorify:** C.f. Ruth 4:14;1 Samuel 25:32; 2 Samuel 18:28; Luke 1:68

²⁸Then the girl ran and told her mother's household about these things. ²⁹Now Rebekah had a brother whose name was Laban; and Laban ran outside to the man at the spring. ³⁰When he saw the ring and the bracelets on his sister's wrists, and when he heard the words of Rebekah his sister, saying, "This is what the man said to me," he went to the man; and behold, he was standing by the camels at the spring. ³¹And he said, "Come in, blessed of the LORD! Why do you stand outside since I have prepared the house, and a place for the camels?" ³²So the man entered the house. Then Laban unloaded the camels, and he gave straw and feed to the camels, and water to wash his feet and the feet of the men who were with him. ³³But when food was set before him to eat, he said, "I will not eat until I have told my business." And he said, "Speak on." ³⁴So he said, "I am Abraham's servant. ³⁵"The LORD has greatly blessed my master, so that he has become rich; and He has given him flocks and herds, and silver and gold, and servants and maids, and camels and donkeys. ³⁶"Now Sarah my master's wife bore a son to my master in her old age, and he has given him all that he has. ³⁷"My master made me swear, saying, 'You shall not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, in whose land I live; ³⁸but you shall go to my father's house and to my relatives, and take a wife for my son.' ³⁹"I said to my master, 'Suppose the woman does not follow me.' ⁴⁰"He said to me, 'The LORD, before whom I have walked, will send His angel with you to make your journey successful, and you will take a wife for my son from my relatives and from my father's house; ⁴¹ then you will be free from my oath, when you come to my relatives; and if they do not give her to you, you will be free from my oath.' ⁴²"So I came today to the spring, and said, 'O LORD, the God of my master Abraham, if now You will make my journey on which I go successful; ⁴³behold, I am standing by the spring,

and may it be that the maiden who comes out to draw, and to whom I say, "Please let me drink a little water from your jar"; ⁴⁴and she will say to me, "You drink, and I will draw for your camels also"; let her be the woman whom the LORD has appointed for my master's son.' ⁴⁵"Before I had finished speaking in my heart, behold, Rebekah came out with her jar on her shoulder, and went down to the spring and drew, and I said to her, 'Please let me drink.' ⁴⁶"She quickly lowered her jar from her shoulder, and said, 'Drink, and I will water your camels also'; so I drank, and she watered the camels also. ⁴⁷"Then I asked her, and said, 'Whose daughter are you?' And she said, 'The daughter of Bethuel, Nahor's son, whom Milcah bore to him'; and I put the ring on her nose, and the bracelets on her wrists. ⁴⁸"And I bowed low and worshiped the LORD, and blessed the LORD, the God of my master Abraham, who had guided me in the right way to take the daughter of my master's kinsman for his son.

- The "Servant" [Spirit] brings **remembrance** to the Works/Words of God

John 14:26 "But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your **remembrance all that I said to you**.

- **God guides us** and gives us direction as He did Abraham's servant:

Psalms 32:8 I will instruct you and teach you in the way which you should go; I will counsel you **with My eye upon you**.

Psalms 48:14 For such is God, Our God forever and ever; **He will guide us until death**.

Isaiah 48:17 Thus says the LORD, your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel, "I am the LORD your God, who teaches you to profit, **Who leads you in the way you should go**.

⁴⁹"So now if you are going to deal kindly and truly with my master, tell me; and if not, let me know, that I may turn to the right hand or the left."

⁵⁰Then **Laban** and **Bethuel** replied, "The matter comes from the LORD; so we cannot speak to you bad or good.

- Rebekah's Father Bethuel and brother Laban understood that God was leading

Acts 5:34 (Read) But a Pharisee named Gamaliel, a teacher of the Law, respected by all the people, stood up in the Council and gave orders to put the men outside for a short time. ³⁵And he said to them, "Men of Israel, take care what you propose to do with these men. ³⁶"For some time ago Theudas rose up, claiming to be somebody, and a group of about four hundred men joined up with him. But he was killed, and all who followed him were dispersed and came to nothing. ³⁷"After this man, Judas of Galilee rose up in the days of the census and drew away some people after him; he too perished, and all those who followed him were scattered. ³⁸"So in the present case, I say to you, stay away from these men and let them alone, for if this plan or action is of men, it will be overthrown; ³⁹but if it

is of God, you **will not be able** to overthrow them; or else you may even be found **fighting against God.**"

- Today we need to know the godless will not succeed:

Isaiah 8:10 "Devise a plan, but it will be **thwarted**; State a proposal, but it will not stand, For **God** is with us."

⁵¹"Here is Rebekah before you, take her and go, and let her be the wife of your master's son, as the LORD has spoken." ⁵²When Abraham's servant heard their words, he bowed himself to the ground before the LORD. ⁵³The servant brought out articles of silver and articles of gold, and garments, and gave them to Rebekah; he also gave precious things to her brother and to her mother. ⁵⁴Then he and the men who were with him ate and drank and spent the night. When they arose in the morning, he said, "Send me away to my master." ⁵⁵But her brother and her mother said, "Let the girl stay with us a few days, say ten; afterward she may go." ⁵⁶He said to them, "Do not delay me, since the LORD has prospered my way. Send me away that I may go to my master." ⁵⁷And they said, "We will call the girl and **consult her wishes.**" ⁵⁸Then they called Rebekah and said to her, "Will you go with this man?" And she said, "**I will go.**"

- Gave gifts to the Bride w/ extended blessing to those around her
- **Freewill/Choice:** Consult her wishes...I will go...

⁵⁹Thus they sent away their sister Rebekah and her nurse with Abraham's servant and his men. ⁶⁰They blessed Rebekah and said to her, "May you, our sister, Become thousands of ten thousands, And may your descendants possess The gate of those who hate them."

- Jesus speaking of Peters statement that Jesus is the Christ said to Peter:

Matthew 16:18 "...upon this rock I will build My church [bride]; and the **gates of Hades will not overpower it.**

⁶¹Then Rebekah **arose** with her maids, and they mounted the camels and **followed the man.** So the servant took Rebekah and departed. ⁶²Now Isaac had come from going to Beer-lahai-roi; for he was living in the Negev.

- Rebekah arose and followed the man

Matthew 4:19 And He said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men." ²⁰ **Immediately they left their nets and followed Him.**

1 Peter 2: 21 For you have been called for this purpose, since Christ also suffered for you,

leaving you an example for you to **follow in His steps...**

1 Thessalonians 4: 17 Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to **meet the Lord in the air**, and so we shall always be with the Lord.

⁶³Isaac went out to **meditate** in the field toward evening; and he lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, camels were coming.

- Jesus the Bridegroom also **meditates... on His Bride:**

Jeremiah 29:11 For I know the **thoughts that I think toward you**, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.[NKJ]

Jeremiah 1:5 "Before I formed you in the womb **I knew you**, And before you were born I consecrated you; **I have appointed** you a prophet to the nations."

- The Bride meditates on the Bridegroom:

Joshua 1:8 "This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall **meditate on it day and night**, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it; for then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have success.

Psalms 1:2 But his delight is in the law of the LORD, And in His **law** he meditates day and night.

Psalms 77:12 I will meditate on all **Your work** And muse on Your deeds.

Psalms 119:15 I will meditate on **Your precepts** And regard Your ways.

Psalms 119:27 Make me understand the way of Your precepts, So I will meditate on **Your wonders**.

Psalms 119:48 And I shall lift up my hands to Your commandments, Which I love; And I will meditate on **Your statutes**.

Psalms 143:5 I remember the days of old; I meditate on all **Your doings**; I muse on the work of Your hands.

Psalms 145:5 On **the glorious splendor of Your majesty And on Your wonderful works**, I will meditate.

⁶⁴Rebekah lifted up her eyes, and when she saw Isaac she dismounted from the camel. ⁶⁵She said to the servant, "Who is that man walking in the field **to meet us?**" And the servant said, "He is my master." Then she took her **veil and covered herself**. ⁶⁶The servant told Isaac all the things that he had done.

- The Bride liked what she saw; Heaven is Jesus

1 Corinthians 2:9 but just as it is written," THINGS WHICH EYE HAS NOT SEEN AND EAR HAS NOT HEARD,AND which HAVE NOT ENTERED THE HEART OF MAN,ALL THAT GOD HAS PREPARED FOR THOSE WHO LOVE HIM."

Psalms 30:5 For His anger is but for a moment, His favor is for a lifetime; Weeping may last for the night, But a **shout of joy comes in the morning**.

Isaiah 60:2 "For behold, darkness will cover the earth And deep darkness the peoples; **But the LORD will rise upon you** And His glory will appear upon you.

⁶⁷Then Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah's tent, and he took Rebekah, and she became his wife, and he loved her; thus Isaac was comforted after his mother's death.

- Un- veiled ...Bridegroom and Bride become one

Genesis 2:24 For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother, and be joined to his wife; and they shall become **one flesh**.

2 Corinthians 3:18 But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit.

Song of Solomon 2:10 "My beloved responded and said to me, 'Arise, my darling, my beautiful one, And come along. 11 'For behold, the winter is past, The rain is over and gone. 12'The flowers have already appeared in the land;The time has arrived for pruning the vines, And the voice of the turtledove has been heard in our land. 13'The fig tree has ripened its figs, And the vines in blossom have given forth their fragrance. Arise, my darling, my beautiful one, And come along!'"

SUMMARY:

- Father, Son, Holy Spirit and the Bride
- Beautiful