

Genesis 24-25 – 21 November 2019

“Jesus: The Center of His-tory”

Introduction

Since chapter 12 we've been in the story of Abraham

Tonight we transition to the story of Isaac.

Isaac the son of Abraham is one of the greatest pictures of Jesus the Son of God.

History is really His (Jesus) story

Abraham was chosen to bring about the Messiah

All details of Abraham, Isaac, etc life aren't given

The details given are leading to the heart of the story.

Tonight, we'll see 3 Ways that Jesus is the center of the story and of the universe.

Chapter 24 presents the 1st Way Jesus is the center of the story: Thru shadow we see the church being prepared and brought to the Son Jesus

24:1-9 Abraham sending Eliezer for Isaac's bride.

Read 24:1-4

1. Abe servant is Eliezer (see Gen 15:2)
 - a. Eliezer means “God my help”
 - b. Picture of the Holy Spirit
2. “Putting his hand under his thigh”
 - a. Indicated a serious oath
 - b. The part indication the covenant
3. **Don't** take a bride from the heathen nations but take a bride from my kindred
 - a. The bride is from the family of God
 - b. Bride isn't from those outside the family

Read 24:5-9

1. **The** bride should go to the inheritance
2. Not our job to fix this earth, it's not our future

24:10-20 Eliezer finds Isaac's bride

Read 24:10-14

1. Eliezer (the Holy Spirit) just goes where ever and is looking for the one that would respond.
2. Later in vs 27, he would say I was just in the way and found the bride.

Read 24:15-20

1. This damsel or young girl shows great service.
2. What should people look for in a spouse?
 - a. Spiritual – off the same faith and mission
 - b. Mental – choices that prove a Godly person
 - c. Physical – is least important, it fades.

24:21-27 Confirmation of the bride

Read 24:21-23

1. Seems God is fulfilling his every wish by this person who gave drink to the camels
2. But what family is she from, that spiritual connection is even more important.

Read 24:24-27

1. Steps of faith, go the direction you know God wants you to go and He'll work the details.
2. He didn't head to a bar looking for a bride, he headed to the godly events and church.

24:28-33 Eliezer keeps the main thing, the main thing

Read 24:28-33

1. Laban is interested in the gold he's seeing.
 - a. We see his dealings with Jacob later.
2. Eliezer is interesting in completing the mission
3. **The** Holy Spirit is always on mission for Jesus
 - a. The spiritual man isn't distracted with the pleasures of this life.
 - b. The HS isn't done until he "seals the deal".
 - i. We are sealed w/ Holy Spirit of promise.

24:34-49 Communicating the true reality of the situation

Read 24:34-49

1. So he repeats the whole situation starting with Abraham (the Father) and Isaac (the Son).
2. God's message is presented for the hearers to make a choice.
3. Notice there is no courtesies or meal until a decision is made.
 - a. Needs to be relationship to have true fellowship.

24:50-61 Now the choice of the bride to go

Read 24:50-51

1. Notice the bride's family can't say yes or no.
2. They ultimately have no stake in the matter.

Read 24:52-56

1. There will always be distractions holding you back from going forward into serving God.

Read 24:57-61

1. **The** bride is the one who has to choose.
2. The bride chose Christ even over family.

24:62-67 The bride meets Isaac out in the field

Read 24:62-67

1. Just as we will go meet Christ in the air.
2. The bride Rebekah goes to meet Isaac out in the open field to be brought into his father's house.
3. All of this was done for the son Isaac.

Chapter 25:1-18 presents the 2nd Way Jesus is the center of the story: Thru teaching us that we're not the center of the story

25:1-6 Center of the story is Isaac for Christ's sake.

Read 25:1-6

1. Whole reason we're told of these other wives and children is to show that the center is Isaac.
2. We know nothing of these as a people group.
3. This didn't wrong the others, it just put the focus on the promise of God to come thru Isaac!

25:7-11 The burial of Abraham

Read 25:7-11

1. The passing of Abraham, will the promises be seen in Isaac's life?
2. Even more so now, the center activity will be seen in Isaac's life, not Ishmael or others.

3. **The** grand point of it all isn't even with Abraham, it's with the one to come.
 - a. Do we wrap our Christianity around a person or around Jesus Christ?
 - b. What if the great Abraham in your life dies, are you still looking to Christ or do you hold back?

25:12-18 The Descendants of Ishmael

Read 25:12-18

1. Although these are the people that begin the Arabs, they hardly be in the story of bringing Christ on the scene.
2. **This** genealogy is here almost as if to say, that they don't have anything to do with the story of Christ to come.
3. The center is Isaac
 - a. It's not thru Abraham's other sons
 - b. It's not Ishmael or his descendants
 - c. It's not even thru just Abraham

Chapter 25:19-34 presents the 3rd Way Jesus is the center of the story: He accomplishes His will even thru human failings and sin

25:19-23 Prophecy of Jacob and Esau's birth

Read 25:19-20

1. Isaac was 40 and Rebekah was a teenager.
2. They'll need wait 20 years to have their twins.

Read 25:21-23

1. So the prophecy of the younger one being chosen of God over the older one Esau.
2. This is God's will for the younger Jacob to be used to bring about the Messiah.

25:24-26 Jacob and Esau's birth

Read 25:24-26

1. **Jacob** is a thief & just looking out for himself.
2. He needs to be born again as Israel!

25:27-34 Jacob gets Esau's birthright

Read 25:27-31

1. **Jacob**, the conniver, took advantage of his own brother to gain the right of the firstborn.
 - a. Double portion of inheritance
 - b. The right of authority in the family
2. God doesn't sin nor does He authorize sin, but He uses the sin of man sinlessly.
 - a. **God** knowing man often chooses sinfully directs the affairs of this world to bring about His plan of redemption.
 - b. Jacob will be the only to inherit the land.
3. Jacob sin leads him to this place of stealing.
 - a. God knows of the radical change that will happen in Jacob's life later.
 - b. God chooses to work thru sinful people to bring redemption.
 - c. Aren't you glad God doesn't wait for perfect people before using someone?

Read 25:32-34

1. The promises that Isaac told Esau from God to Abraham meant nothing to Esau.
 - a. These spiritual promises were less important than eating.
2. God knows how to accomplish His will in spite of men despising spiritual things.
3. **There** is no one in this world or the spiritual realm that can thwart the plan to bring the Messiah
 - a. There is no one in this world or beyond that can thwart the plan of God to bring Christ's return and rule!

Conclusion –

Today we've seen 3 Ways that Jesus is the center of the story.

1. Thru shadow, we see the church prepared and brought to the Son.
 - a. We've been brought into this glorious relationship with the Son of Promise.
2. We're taught that we are not the center.
 - a. Everyone wants to think that they are integral to the universe being able to operate.
3. We're taught that God will accomplish His will even thru the failings and sin of mankind.
 - a. No one can stop God's plan of redemption thru Jesus Christ!

The greatness of Jesus Christ as the center focus, is that He chooses to place His great love and grace on us!

Although insignificant, He calls us significant to Him!