



Sermon Highlights

Living in the Land of Promise: Walking by Faith, Not by Sight

Sermon Summary:

This sermon explores Genesis 24:1-28, focusing on Abraham's faith in God's promises and his servant Eleazar's obedient journey to find a bride for Isaac. Pastor Bruce Gordon emphasizes that believers today live in a "land of promise" - trusting in God's Word and the salvation through Jesus Christ even though we cannot see it with physical eyes. The message challenges Christians to remain faithful to God's calling, avoid being "unequally yoked" with unbelievers, and take active steps of obedience without needing to know all the answers beforehand. The sermon culminates with a call to worship God genuinely when He meets our needs and to take that crucial "first step" of faith in whatever direction God is leading.

Key Points:

- Believers must live in the "land of promise" by faith, trusting God's Word rather than living by sight or worldly security
- Abraham learned that the safest place was within God's promises, and stepping outside brought trouble and danger
- God works all things together for good for those who love Him and live according to His purposes
- Believers should never be unequally yoked with unbelievers in marriage, as this violates God's design and brings division
- Love alone is insufficient grounds for marriage; obedience to God's Word must come first
- Delayed obedience is disobedience; when God gives a task, believers must act immediately without needing all the details
- Prayer should be based on God's promises, not our own efforts or achievements
- Completing tasks, not just starting them, demonstrates true faithfulness

- Genuine worship and giving God glory should follow when He answers prayer and meets our needs
- Walking the path God sets before us begins with taking the first step of obedience

Scripture Reference:

- Genesis 24:1-28 (primary passage)
- Romans 8:28 (referenced - all things work together for good)
- Hebrews 11 (referenced - living by faith, Abraham looking for a city made by God)
- 2 Corinthians 6:14 (implied - being unequally yoked with unbelievers)

Stories:

- Abraham's life journey: leaving his homeland, going to Egypt and getting in trouble, cowering before kings when outside the land of promise, but experiencing victory and the birth of Isaac when standing in faith within the promised land
- Abraham at 140 years old sending his servant Eleazar on a 900-mile journey to find a bride for 40-year-old Isaac
- The journey to Haran: two possible routes - 500 miles across the dangerous Arabian desert or 900 miles along the Mediterranean coast through Lebanon, around Jordan, and into Iraq
- Eleazar's faithful journey with ten camels, his prayer at the well, and God's immediate answer through Rebekah
- Rebekah drawing approximately 200 gallons of water (20 gallons per camel for ten camels), demonstrating her character through completing the difficult task
- Eleazar's worship response when God answered his prayer and led him to Abraham's family