

## Rebekah, Promised Bride for the Promised Son

### ⇒ **Introduction:**

- There is no love story in all the Bible any more beautiful or divine than the one of Isaac's love for Rebekah and her love for him.
- There is no story in the Bible that pictures any More beautiful Gospel story than this one.
- Let us notice the beautiful picture of salvation we find in this story.

### ⇒ **I. Abraham did not choose a bride for Isaac until Isaac had risen from the place of his death.**

- Remember when Abraham was to offer Isaac as a sacrifice?
  - Though Isaac was old enough to marry when he was offered, yet for some reason he had not chosen a bride.
  - Of course, the reason for this is that God is typifying in Isaac a beautiful picture of Jesus Christ.
  - Hence, Isaac had to go to the place of death and rise from the place of death before he could marry.
  - This pictures the fact that it was only after the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus that the bride for Jesus was being called out.

### ⇒ **II. As soon as Isaac was raised from the place of death, Abraham sent his servant to choose a bride for his son.**

#### ⇒ **See Genesis 24:1-2.**

- This servant represents the Holy Spirit.
  - Upon the resurrection of Jesus Christ, the age of the Holy Spirit indwelling Christians began, and the Holy Spirit began His duty of seeking a bride for the son.
  - Just as Abraham, upon the resurrection of his son, sent a servant to choose a bride for his son, even so God the Father after the resurrection of His Son sent a servant, the Holy Spirit, into the world to choose a bride for His son, Jesus Christ.
  - We, as servants of the master, should seek a bride for His Son - let's be busy, productive soul winners!

### ⇒ **III. The big, consuming purpose of this servant was to find a bride for his Master's son.**

#### ⇒ **See Genesis 24:4.**

- Jesus is our Bridegroom; we are His bride.
  - The big, consuming task of the Holy Spirit is to choose a bride for Jesus Christ.
  - All of His other duties are subservient to His job of calling out a bride.
  - Soul winning is the big thing the Holy Spirit does in this age.
  - All the other things the Holy Spirit does for the Christian are only to help the Christian grow in grace so he can become fruitful and help call out the bride for the Lord Jesus.

⇒ **IV. The servant had all the authority of his Master.**

⇒ **See Genesis 24:10.**

- Notice in this verse, "**for all the goods of his master were in his hand.**"
  - This is true concerning the Holy Spirit.
  - Just as this servant had all the goods of Abraham, the Holy Spirit is the One Who gives power to Christians for the choosing of a bride.
  - A person who does not have the power of the Holy Spirit cannot be fruitful in God's service.

⇒ **This is one of the most miraculous stories in the Bible.**

⇒ **See Genesis 24:14-19**

- The choosing of a bride was a miraculous thing.
  - God made it this way to remind us that salvation is also a miraculous thing.
  - The greatest miracle in the world is when a person is brought from darkness to light, is transformed completely by the power of the Gospel of Jesus Christ as accomplished through regeneration by the Holy Spirit.
- We see that Rebekah was willing to feed the camels also.
  - This is certainly a miracle for many reasons.
  - One reason is that it was a long way to draw water.
  - Another reason it was a miracle is that ladies, to this day, carry the water on their heads.
  - It was not an easy task to feed all the camels.
  - Another reason is, a camel can drink more water than any other animal.
  - A camel seems to have an inexhaustible thirst.
  - This was a tremendous thing that Rebekah was offering to do and it was simply never done by a woman.
  - This makes it a miracle, picturing salvation as a miracle.

⇒ **VI. Notice the gifts given to Rebekah by the servant.**

⇒ **See Genesis 24:22.**

- Bracelets for her hands and an earring were the gifts she was given.
  - This is very interesting.
  - The earring represents the fact that we hear the Gospel and are saved thereby.
  - Romans 10:17 says. "**So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the work of God.**"
  - People hear the Gospel to receive it.
- Then the bracelets for the hands represent the fact that a person receives it by faith.
  - The hand represents the taking of an object.

- A person must take salvation by faith in Jesus Christ.
- God offers him a gift, he takes it, and he is saved.
- o Hence, the earring for the ear and bracelets for the hands were the gifts given to her.
- ⇒ **VII. The servant wanted to lodge in the house of the young lady.**
- ⇒ **See Genesis 24:23.**
  - o Notice he wanted to go to her house and talk with her family about her becoming a bride for Isaac.
    - The words used here remind us of the Holy Spirit, God's servant.
    - He too comes to live with us when we are saved.
    - When a person receives Christ by faith after having heard the Gospel, the Holy Spirit comes to live with him.
  - o This reminds how the Holy Spirit is always with us, where we are and wherever we go.
    - So, we need to be always conscious of the presence of the Holy Spirit.
    - Remember, God is always with us in the person of the Holy Spirit.
- ⇒ **VIII. The servant speaks not of himself, but of his Master.**
- ⇒ **See Genesis 24:35**
  - o This is very interesting.
    - The servant brags only of the master, speaks only of his master, and never talks about himself.
    - This is true of the Holy Spirit.
    - People who receive the Holy Spirit in faith and are filled with the Holy Spirit do not necessarily speak about Him.
  - o It is He who leads every one of us to magnify the Lord Jesus Christ.
    - **See John 16:13-14.**
    - The test of Spirit-fullness is bringing souls to Jesus not always talking about the Holy Spirit.
    - May we speak of Jesus to our loved ones and friends.
    - Let us be witnessing of Him and telling others how wonderful He is and how He can save them.
- ⇒ **IX. The servant urged the young lady to come immediately.**
- ⇒ **See Genesis 24:55-56.**
  - o Notice that the brother and mother suggested she stay for a few days.
    - This is often the case in salvation.
    - People want to wait.
      - "Not now. I'll do it later," they say. "I'll become a Christian later on," they say.
      - "When I get older, I'll be saved," people answer.

- This is picture here by her mother and brother not wanting her to go now and follow the servant.
  - The Holy Spirit calls us now; now is the time to do His will.
  - Now is the time to be saved.
  - **See 2 Cor. 6:2**
  - There is not time to delay.
  - Life is too short!
- ⇒ **X. The young lady had to make the decision herself.**
- ⇒ **See Genesis 24:57**
- o Notice the words, "**and enquire at her mouth.**"
    - The brother could not make it for her.
    - The mother could not make it for her.
    - Rebekah only could make the decision.
    - This is so true concerning salvation.
  - o Your parents cannot do it for you by having you dedicated as a baby or confirmed as a child.
    - The priest or preacher cannot make it for you by "absolving" your sins.
    - Each person must make his own decision to receive Christ by faith.
- ⇒ **XI. The young lady said, "I will go."**
- ⇒ **See Genesis 24:58.**
- o Here we have salvation.
    - The minute Rebekah said sincerely, "I will go," she had made her decision.
    - When a person says, "I will," to Jesus Christ, immediately his faith is counted for righteousness, and he has become a child of God!
- ⇒ **XII. She followed the servant until she came to her groom.**
- ⇒ **See Genesis 24:61.**
- o Notice the words, ". . .and followed the man: and the servant took Rebekah."
    - It was a season before Rebekah saw Isaac.
    - There were days of travel.
    - The only hope she had for success and happiness on the trip was to follow the servant.
    - The servant represents the Holy Spirit.
    - He wants to lead us.
    - Until we see Jesus our bridegroom, we are to follow the Holy Spirit.
    - We can be successful in the Christian life only when we do follow Him!
- ⇒ **XIII. On the trip there were many mountains and valleys.**

- o No doubt there were days of sunshine and days of rain, days of calm and days of storms, but Rebekah kept following the servant.
  - Every Christian will face happy days and sad days, days of victory and days of defeat, days of joy and days of loneliness; but in every case, in every event, if we keep following the Holy Spirit, He will be our sufficiency.
- ⇒ **XIV. The bride and groom finally come together.**
- ⇒ **See Genesis 24:63-64.**
  - o These verses picture the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ and our rapture.
    - Isaac come out to meet Rebekah.
    - Rebekah lifted up her eyes and ran to meet him.
    - Jesus will come to meet us someday.
    - We shall rise to meet Him, and then shall we be together forever.
    - This is pictured in these verses.
- ⇒ **XV. Isaac brought her to his own home, and there they lived happily.**
- ⇒ **See Genesis 24:67**
  - o This is a picture of Jesus preparing for us a home.
    - After He comes again, He shall take us to that home, and we, his bride, shall live with Him and He will love us forever.
- ⇒ **XVI. Then Abraham takes a wife.**
- ⇒ **See Genesis 25:1**
  - o Here is a very interesting thing. Sarah had died before Isaac was married.
    - Now that Isaac and Rebekah are together, Abraham chooses a wife.
    - Sarah represents the Jewish people, and Abraham represents God the Father.
    - The Jews had rejected Jesus Christ and were, as it were, turned aside or even in a sense, they had died before Jesus turned to the Gentiles and the Holy Spirit began to choose bride.
    - Then as soon as the bride was brought to Isaac, Abraham married again.
    - As soon as the Gentile bride is completed and raptured, then will God the Father turn to the Jews and receive them back as His wife.
  - o What a beautiful picture!
    - Abraham represents the Father;
    - His wife represents the Jews;
    - Isaac represents Jesus Christ, the Son;
    - Rebekah represents the bride of Christ in this age.
- ⇒ **XVII. See Genesis 25:5**

- o When Jesus receives us, then will the Son receive the full inheritance from the Father.
- o Then shall He be an heir of God, and we shall be heirs of God and joint-heirs with Him.

⇒ **CONCLUSION:**

- o What a beautiful picture we find here!
- o May we find strength for our life, hope for the future, and salvation for the present in this story!