

# The Search For A Bride

Genesis 24:1-67

## Introduction

### I Abraham's Final Years

- A. He was **old** and well advanced in years
- B. He was **blessed** by the Lord in every way - Gen 12:2-3

### II Abraham's Final Request

- A. He asked his chief servant to swear:
  - 1. To **not** get a wife for Isaac from the Canaanites - Dt 7:3-5
  - 2. To get a wife for Isaac from his relatives
  - 3. To **not** take Isaac back to Ur - Gen 12:1; Lk 9:62
- B. He believed the angel of the Lord would give **success**
  - 1. If she refused, he would be released from the oath

### III Abraham's Servant's Mission

- A. He **left** for Aram Nahrain
- B. He rested near the well in Nahor - Prov 3:5-6
- C. He **prayed** to the Lord:
  - 1. "Give me success today" - Neh 1:11; Prov 16:3
  - 2. "Show kindness to my master Abraham"
- D. He proposed a test of character - 1 Sam 14:9-10
- E. **Before** he had finished praying: - Is 65:24
  - 1. Rebekah came out
    - a. She was the daughter of Milcah
    - b. She was very beautiful - 1 Sam 16:7
    - c. She was a virgin - 2 Cor 11:2-3
  - 2. Rebekah demonstrated a **servant's** heart - Mt 25:21
- F. He **watched** closely for God's answer to his prayer - Ps 115:1
  - 1. He gave her a gold ring and two bracelets - Ezek 16:9-14
  - 2. She demonstrated **hospitality** - 1 Pt 4:9; Heb 13:1-3
- G. He bowed down and worshiped the Lord - 2 Chron 20:18
  - 1. He praised the Lord for His **answer** - Ps 105:1-3

### IV The Response Of Rebekah's Family

- A. Rebekah ran and **told** her mother's household - Jn 16:13-15

- B. Laban acknowledged the servant's story by saying:
  - 1. This is from the **Lord** - Prov 21:30
  - 2. We can say nothing one way or the other - Gen 31:24
  - 3. Let Rebekah become the wife of your master's son
    - a. As the Lord has **directed** - Ps 45:10-11; 1 Pt 1:8-9
- C. The family received gifts from the servant
- D. The family **blessed** Rebekah - Mt 19:28-30

### V The Response Of Isaac

- A. He was **meditating** in a field - Ps 1:2-3
- B. He listened to the servant's account
- C. He married Rebekah
  - 1. He **loved** her - Eph 5:25
  - 2. He was **comforted** by her - Prov 18:22; 19:14

## PERSONAL APPLICATION

Take some time this week to consider the following:

1. If you are married, how did you find your spouse? If you are single and would like to be married, how do you envision finding your spouse?
2. The manner of the search, meeting and marriage of Isaac and Rebekah is certainly not common in our culture. What are the advantages of this process? What lessons can you learn from this story in terms of either finding a godly spouse yourself, or counseling those who are looking for a spouse?
3. What spiritual parallels can you see between:
  - Abraham and God the Father?
  - Isaac and God the Son?
  - The servant and God the Spirit?
4. Take a few moments to consider the admirable characteristics of the various people in this story. Who do you admire most and why? Ask God to grow you in these characteristics.

**BOB HALLMAN - THE EPIC LIFE**

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