



Isaac and Rebekah

May 22

INTRODUCTION: The promised child, through whom there would be a blessing (Gen 12) to overcome Satan (Gen 3:15) had been born and spared sacrifice. However, at 37 years old he needed a wife if the promise was to continue. We see God's wonderful hand upon this event to orchestrate the promise.

REVIEW: The Bible Project, [Genesis](#) (be cautious with other videos)

KEY POINT: promise, offspring, marriage, discernment

A.M. SERMON RECAP (Gen 22, Promise Sacrificed)

- What is a test of faith? How are we tested?
- Why do we need a substitute? Why must it be Christ?
- How has the Lord provided for you recently?
- What is God planning for you tomorrow (Eph 1:11)? Why can we trust His providence?

P.M. SERMON RECAP (Gen 23, Death of Sarah)

- Why was Sarah a matriarch (famous)?
- Why is it important to grieve? Why have Christians always seen burial as so important?
- According to the promise, why was the purchase of the cave-field so important? Should our ultimate hope be in the present (Heb 1:9–10)?

READ: Genesis 24 (fyi- this is the longest chapter in Gen)

QUESTIONS:

1. **V. 1- We are told two things about Abraham. How do they relate to the promise? What has been fulfilled and what remains to be fulfilled? What signs of blessing occur later in the chapter?**
2. *V. 2- his servant is another sign of God's many blessings. Putting his hand on Abraham's thigh either acknowledged Abraham's power or intimate trust (or both).* Why is it important we trust those who we work closely with? Why must our allegiance to Christ be total as the servants was to Abraham?

3. *Abraham was certain of God's help (v. 7).* Are we?
4. *At 37, Isaac needed a wife (this was old for his culture). News had come that there were female offspring back home in Haran in the line of Terah (Gen 11:27–32, 22:20–24).*
5. Do/how/should parents take an active role in preparing and helping children select a spouse?
6. *In 1950 the average age of marriage was 22 (24 for men and 20 for women). Today it is 30.7 for those who do get married. **What do these statistics reveal?***
7. *"The thing has come from the Lord" (v. 50) is used by Indian Christians in wedding invites for arranged marriages. **What are the pros/cons of this system and also of our prevailing system of marriage?***
8. *The wife was NOT to be a Canaanite woman. If Abraham's family wasn't much better, why? (c.f. Gen 11:27)*
9. *Not marrying outside of the family of faith becomes a biblical command (Dt 7:3–4 and 1 Cor 7:39). **Why is it so vital to 'marry in the Lord?' What are some foolishly tempted to break this?***
10. Why was Abraham adamant that Isaac should not leave Canaan?
11. *Abraham had ruled household well enough (Gen 18:19). **Scanning the story of the servant, what things bear witness to his own faith in the God of Abraham? (at least five).***
12. *Playing 'Gideon's fleece' or dictating to God the terms of discernment is not advisable though the Lord mercifully uses it. See [blog](#) for ways we can hear/discern from the Lord.*
13. **Before we learn of Rebekah's beauty (v. 16), what qualities were foremost to the servant? (Prov 31:30).**
14. *Rebekah is Isaac's first cousin once removed (Isaac and her father are cousins).*
15. *The servant had proven himself wise (v. 5). **Knowing what we know about the brother, Laban, later in Genesis how did he show tact and single mindedness in his mission? How ought we to have the same in the Great Commission?***
16. **Like Ruth, the 'foreigner' Rebekah shows a faith like Abraham, how? (v. 58).**

17. *The chapter ends with a brief description of the second wedding in Scripture (Gen 2:28). As Eve was brought to Adam so too Rebekah is brought to Isaac. Ancient marriages had the stage of betrothal (agreement) and then the exchange of bride price and gifts. After this it was acceptable for the couple to come together, however, before the consummation, there usually was a ceremony involving bridegroom and groom. While our customs may be different formality and publicity are two pillars of 'being married.'*
18. *How Isaac found a wife is a type of how we enter into a relationship with Christ as the bride (Eph 2:25). **Read how serving people bring them into a relationship with Christ, 2 Cor 11:2.***

NEXT WEEK: May 29- No LGs, Spring Members' Meeting