

# On the Beginning

## 27. A Wife For Isaac NOTE ESPECIALLY GENESIS 24

One of the most important decisions anyone makes is the marriage decision. Shall I marry? Whom shall I marry? When shall I marry? Several portions of scripture help Christians make marriage decisions, including Genesis 24. (Another chapter that is especially helpful in regard to marriage is I Corinthians 7, with which every teenager, young adult, parent, and single person should be very familiar!) Isaac, the beloved son of Abraham, was still single at the age of 40 (See Genesis 25:20, also note that Genesis 23: 1-2 made him 37 years of age when his mother died). It was time for his father to find him a wife. Family involvement in the taking of a spouse is definitely God's plan, and Abraham was concerned that he might die before getting involved in his son's marriage. He was also concerned that, without his involvement, Isaac might marry the wrong person (vs. 1-4).

### 1. God's **Guidance**.

See how the LORD's leading was to be involved in finding Isaac's wife. God would guide through . . .

- A. Parental approval (vs. 1-6). Look at I Corinthians 7:34-38 to see that this is an indication of the Lord's leading.
- B. Divine leadership (vs. 7-9). Based on promises like Proverbs 3:5-6, we can count on God to guide us one way or another if we are willing to follow.
- C. Answered prayer (vs. 10-14). Prayer is always important to getting direction from God. See how the servant of Abraham prayed and God answered!

### 2. Godly **Qualification**.

The servant's sign from God was not just an arbitrary "fleece" to show him the right girl for Isaac. It connected directly to her *character*. It is important to marry somebody of good character. See here several important traits to find in one to be considered for marriage:

- A. Good family (v. 15).
- B. Moral purity (v. 16).
- C. Unselfishness and willingness to work (vs. 17-20).
- D. Approval of the LORD (vs. 21-27).

### 3. God's **Verification**.

When the servant of Abraham "followed up" his discovery of Rebekah, the LORD confirmed that this was truly the right one by several means:

- A. The approval of the girl's family (vs. 28-50).

- B. The willingness of the girl (vs. 51-58).
- C. The blessing of God (vs. 59-67).

*“And they sent away Rebekah their sister, and her nurse, and Abraham’s servant, and his men. And they blessed Rebekah, and said unto her, Thou art our sister, be thou the mother of thousands of millions, and let thy seed possess the gate of those which hate them. And Rebekah arose, and her damsels, and they rode upon the camels, and followed the man: and the servant took Rebekah, and went his way. And Isaac came from the way of the well Lahairoi; for he dwelt in the south country. And Isaac went out to meditate in the field at the eventide: and he lifted up his eyes, and saw, and, behold, the camels were coming. And Rebekah lifted up her eyes, and when she saw Isaac, she lighted off the camel. For she had said unto the servant, What man is this that walketh in the field to meet us? And the servant had said, It is my master: therefore she took a vail, and covered herself. And the servant told Isaac all things that he had done. And Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah’s tent, and took Rebekah, and she became his wife; and he loved her: and Isaac was comforted after his mother’s death.” (Genesis 24:59-67 )*

