

SEARCHING THE SCRIPTURES

AN OVERVIEW OF THE OLD TESTAMENT

JN. 5:39



Jn. 5:39 “**Search the scriptures....they are they which testify of me.**”

Jn 5:46 For had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed me: for **he wrote of me.**

Genesis 24:1-67

We began in Genesis with the beginnings of the human race.

I. THE PRIMEVAL HISTORY: BEGINNINGS OF THE HUMAN RACE, 1:1—11:32

II. PATRIARCHAL HISTORY: BEGINNINGS OF THE HEBREW RACE, 12:1—50:26

A. The Progenitor: Abraham, 12:1—25:11

- 1.The Path of Faith, 12:1-20
- 2.The Price of Faith, 13:1-18
3. The Power of Faith, 14:1-24
4. The Pledge of Faith, 15:1-21
5. The Pawning of Faith, 16:1-16
6. The Potential of Faith, 17:1-27
7. The Perplexing of Faith, 18:1-33
8. The Position of Faith, 19:1-38
9. The Perils of Faith, 20:1-18
- 10.The Prize of Faith, 21:1-34
- 11.The Proof of Faith, 22:1-24
- 12.The Patience of Faith, 23:1-20

Tonight, we will continue to observe “*the Precautions of Faith*” in Gen. 24. The length of the chapter must indicate its importance to God and that we should observe it closely.

❖ In chapter 24, consider the typology represented:

- Isaac is a type of the Son, the Lord Jesus;
- Eliezer (“My God helps”) is a type of the Holy Ghost;

Gen. 15:2 And Abram said, Lord GOD, what wilt thou give me, seeing I go childless, and **the steward of my house is this Eliezer** of Damascus?

- The chapter does not give the name of “the servant” as all of the focus is upon the primary account of the son and his bride, Isaac and Rebekah. We know from Gen. 15:2 that Abraham’s servant is Eliezer.
- This chapter does not record his name as to make the point that as the Holy Spirit works through the believers today, the emphasis is upon the Son of God and reaching souls that will constitute His bride in the near future. Like Eliezer, all believers are servants to the Lord Jesus Christ and our focus should be to please Him.

- Rebekah is a type of the Virgin Bride of Christ.

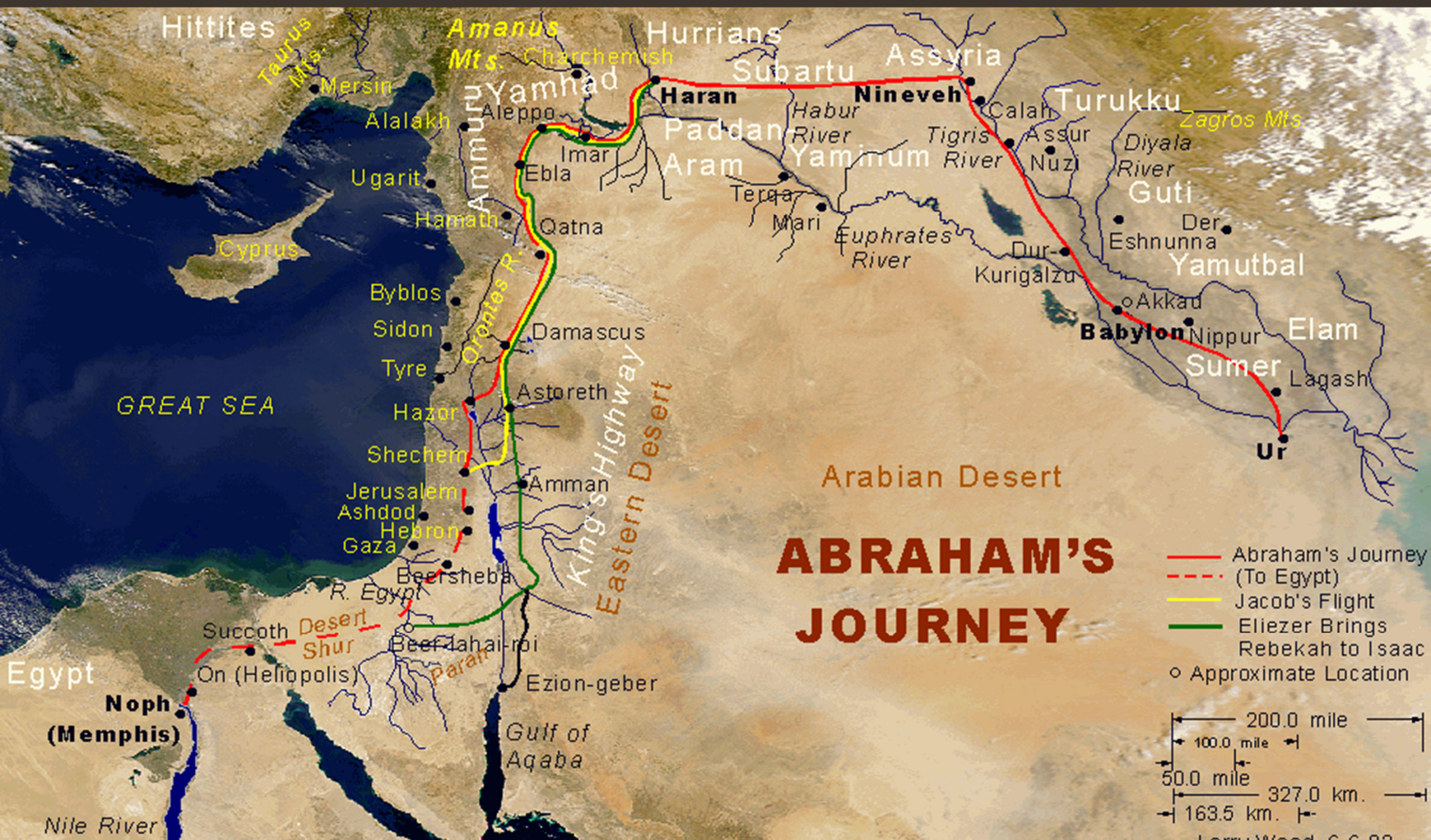
13. The Precautions of Faith, 24:1-67

- a. The Stewardship Principle of Procuring a Bride, 24:1-9

- b. The Spiritual Preparation for Procuring a Bride, 24:10

 - (1) The Path of Faith, 24:10

 - (2) The Prayer of Faith, 24:11-14



Abraham's Servant Finds Isaac a Wife

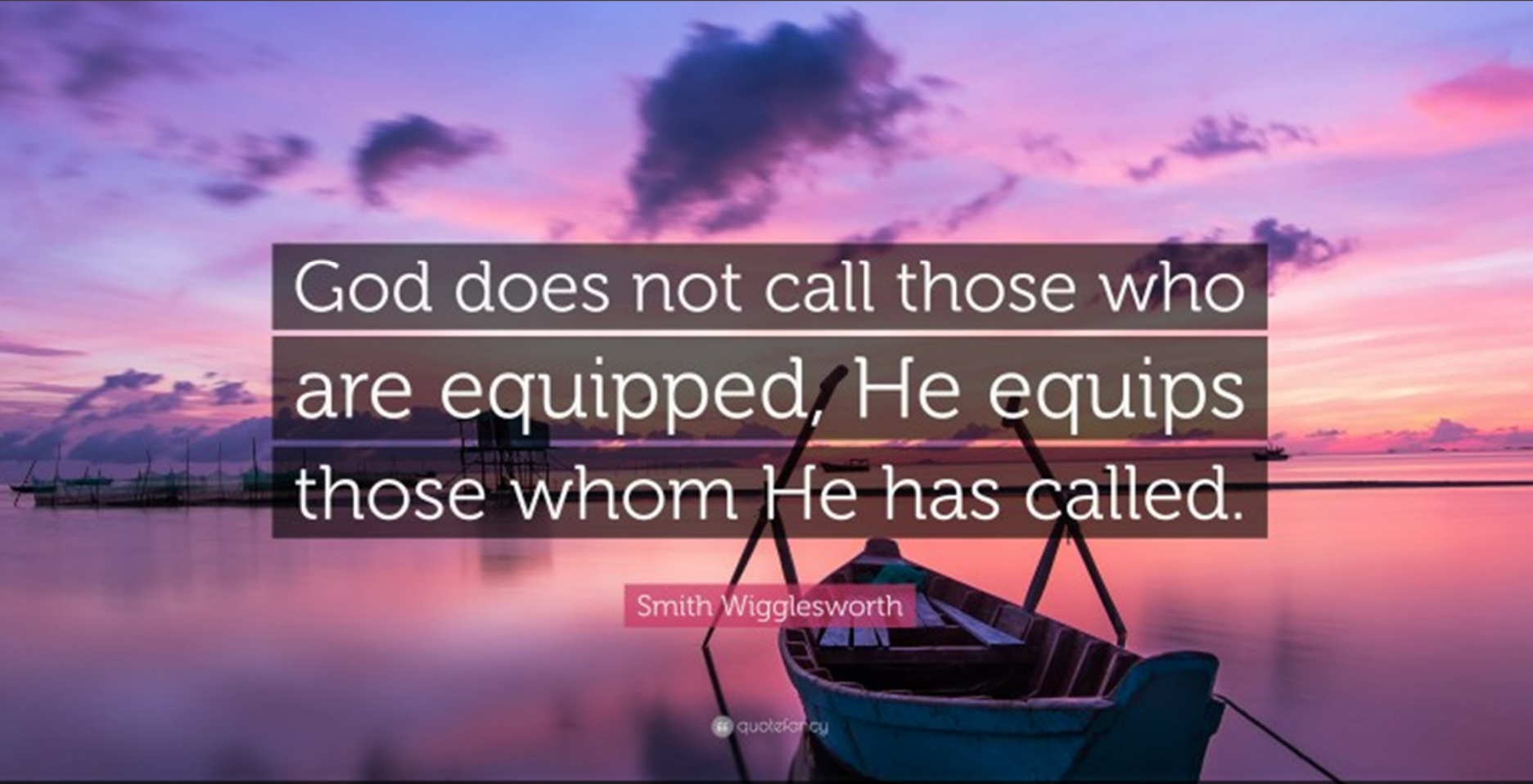


We continue to observe how our passage reveals the way God answers the prayer of “the servant.” When a believer is engaged in faithful service, doing the will of God, the principle of God’s provisions to whom He calls is experienced.



If you seek nothing but the will of God, He will always put you in the right place at the right time.

Smith Wigglesworth

A serene sunset scene over a body of water. In the foreground, a small wooden boat is partially visible, its reflection on the calm water. In the background, a pier with several small boats extends into the water. The sky is a mix of soft pinks, purples, and blues, with scattered clouds. A semi-transparent dark box is centered over the image, containing the quote in white text.

God does not call those who
are equipped, He equips
those whom He has called.

Smith Wigglesworth

quote fancy

3. The Provisions by Faith, 24:15-21

Gen. 24:15 And it came to pass, **before he had done speaking**, that, behold, Rebekah came out, who was born to Bethuel, son of Milcah, the wife of Nahor, Abraham's brother, with her pitcher upon her shoulder.

16 And the damsel *was* very fair to look upon, a virgin, **neither had any man known her**: and she went down to the well, and filled her pitcher, and came up.

17 And **the servant** ran to meet her, and said, Let me, I pray thee, drink a little water of thy pitcher.

18 And she said, Drink, my lord: and **she hasted**, and let down her pitcher upon her hand, and gave him drink.

19 And when she had done giving him drink, she said, I will draw *water* for thy camels also, **until they have done drinking.**

20 **And she hasted,** and emptied her pitcher into the trough, **and ran again** unto the well to draw *water*, and drew for all his camels.

21 And the man wondering at her held his peace, to wit whether the LORD had made his journey prosperous or not.

❖ The power of prayer should be considered from God's perspective.

Isa. 65:24 And it shall come to pass, that **before they call, I will answer;** and while they are yet speaking, I will hear.

Mt. 6:7 But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen *do*: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking.

8 Be not ye therefore like unto them: for **your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him.**

❖ Regarding prayer, sometimes the Lord says “no,” sometimes “wait,” and some glorious times He answers before we are finished praying!

1 Jn. 5:14 And this is **the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us:**

Jas. 5:16b “...The **effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man** availeth much.”

Jer. 33:3 **Call unto me, and I will answer thee**, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not.

❖ The description of Rebekah, a type of the Bride of Christ, is that she is good looking, a virgin, and not only a virgin, but neither “...had any man know her...”

Gen. 24:16 And the damsel *was* very fair to look upon, **a virgin, neither had any man known her**: and she went down to the well, and filled her pitcher, and came up.

Original Word: בְּתוּלָה

Transliteration: bethulah; **Definition:** a virgin

<https://biblehub.com/hebrew/1330.htm>

a virgin (from her privacy); sometimes (by continuation) a bride; also (figuratively) a city or state:—maid, virgin.

<https://www.blueletterbible.org/lexicon/h1330/kjv/wlc/0-1/>

Original Word: עַלְמָה

Transliteration: almah; **Definition:** a virgin

<https://biblehub.com/hebrew/5959.htm>

❖ Every Scriptural church is a model for the Bride of Christ and should have members who fit the model regarding personal holiness and separation.

2 Cor. 11:1 Would to God ye could bear with me a little in *my* folly: and indeed bear with me.

2 For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for **I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.**

3 But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.

❖ A similar description of Rebekah, in typology, is the goal for the church in Ephesus:

Eph. 5:27 That he might **present it to himself** a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

❖ Rebekah exhibited a respectful attitude and good work ethic.

Gen. 24:18 And she said, **Drink, my lord: and she hasted**, and let down her pitcher upon her hand, and gave him drink.

19 And when she had done giving him drink, she said, I will draw *water* for thy camels also, **until they have done drinking**.

20 **And she hasted**, and emptied her pitcher into the trough, **and ran again** unto the well to draw *water*, and drew for all his camels.

❖ Believers are encouraged to exhibit a good work ethic, along with holiness:

2 Thess. 3:10 For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that **if any would not work, neither should he eat.**

Titus 2:11 For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men,

12 Teaching us that, **denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;**

13 Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;

14 Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and **purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.**

15 These things speak, and exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no man despise thee.

❖ Believers are to honor Christ by cultivating a good work habit for His glory.

Eph. 2:10 For **we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works**, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

- ❖ Eliezer was precautionous in his faith as he considered the circumstances.

24:21 And **the man wondering at her held his peace, to wit whether the LORD had made his journey prosperous or not.**

- ❖ Eliezer just saw his prayer answered right before his eyes. Why does he doubt?
- ❖ Too often a believer seeks God and His provisions, then we overlook His answers.

Summary

- ❖ This lengthy chapter is a beautiful picture of how a church should be focused today.
- ❖ Our Father wants us to go out into the hedges, byways, and highways and compel all mankind to come into His house.
- ❖ We are to go, prayerfully, with a testimony of holiness and a strong work ethic.

Conclusion

❖ Faithful obedience begins by going and continually produces good works:

Psa. 126:5 They **that sow in tears shall reap in joy.**
6 **He that goeth forth** and weepeth, bearing precious seed, **shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves *with him*.**

Titus 3:8 *This is a faithful saying, and these things I will that thou affirm constantly, that they which have believed in God might be careful to maintain good works.* These things are good and profitable unto men. ...

14 And let ours also learn to maintain good works for necessary uses, that they be not unfruitful.