

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

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, we considered the typology represented:

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

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.



The diagram illustrates the conversion of distances from miles to kilometers. It consists of two horizontal lines with arrows at both ends. The top line is labeled '200.0 mile' and has a tick mark at the midpoint labeled '100.0 mile'. The bottom line is labeled '327.0 km.' and has a tick mark at the midpoint labeled '163.5 km.'. The lines are aligned such that the 100.0 mile mark corresponds to the 163.5 km mark, and the 200.0 mile mark corresponds to the 327.0 km mark.

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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.

❖ As we begin the next section, 24:22-27, we observe the continuation of God’s answer to the servant’s prayer.

4. The Presentation by Faith, 24:22-27

Gen. 24:22 And it came to pass, **as the camels had done drinking**, that the man took a golden earring of half a shekel weight, and two bracelets for her hands of ten *shekels* weight of gold;

23 And said, Whose daughter *art* thou? tell me, I pray thee: is there room *in* thy father's house for us to lodge in?

24 And she said unto him, I *am* the daughter of Bethuel the son of Milcah, which she bare unto Nahor.

25 She said moreover unto him, We have both straw and provender enough, and room to lodge in.

26 And the man bowed down his head, and **worshipped the LORD.**

27 And he said, Blessed *be* the LORD God of **my master** Abraham, who hath not left destitute my master of his mercy and his truth: **I being in the way, the LORD led me** to the house of my master's brethren.

- ❖ Rebekah's character is exhibited as she finished watering the camels as she promised in v. 19 (v. 22.)
- ❖ Eliezer brought gifts exhibiting his master's wealth, representing him properly = a good testimony.
- ❖ Believers have a precious treasure, salvation, which to share with others.

Prov. 31:18 **She perceiveth that her merchandise is good**: her candle goeth not out by night.

2 Cor. 4:6 For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to *give* the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

7 But **we have this treasure in earthen vessels**, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us.

- ❖ The earring, today, is worth about \$15, and two bracelets, today, are worth about \$10,000.
- ❖ Liberals want to argue whether or not the earrings were nose rings (See Isa. 3:20-21)

Ex. 32:2 And Aaron said unto them, Break off the golden earrings, **which are in the ears** of your wives, of your sons, and of your daughters, and bring *them* unto me.

3 And all the people brake off the golden earrings **which were in their ears**, and brought *them* unto Aaron.

- ❖ The narrative focuses upon the mission at hand.
- ❖ The prayer and provisions are tools assisting in procuring the bride.

Prov. 11:30 The fruit of the righteous *is* a tree of life; and **he that winneth souls is wise**.

1 Cor. 9:19 For though I be free from all *men*, yet **have I made myself servant unto all, that I might gain the more.**

20 And unto the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might **gain** the Jews; to them that are under the law, as under the law, that I might **gain** them that are under the law;

21 To them that are without law, as without law, (being not without law to God, but under the law to Christ,) that I might **gain** them that are without law.

22 To the weak became I as weak, that I might **gain** the weak: **I am made all things to all *men*, that I might by all means save some.**

23 And **this I do for the gospel's sake**, that I might be partaker thereof with *you*.

- ❖ The servant's question was an opportunity for Rebekah to identify herself.
- ❖ A sinner must first be cognizant of being a sinner before coming to the Savior.
- ❖ Jesus reached out to publicans and sinners, not compromising, but being compassionate.

Mark 2:15 And it came to pass, that, as Jesus sat at meat in his house, many publicans and sinners sat also together with Jesus and his disciples: for there were many, and they followed him.

16 And when the scribes and Pharisees saw him eat with publicans and sinners, they said unto his disciples, How is it that he eateth and drinketh with publicans and sinners?

17 When Jesus heard *it*, he saith unto them, **They that are whole have no need of the physician, but they that are sick: I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.**

- ❖ When a servant is in the right place, at the right time, staying focused upon the right purpose, there should be a sense of thanksgiving to honor and worship the Lord – v. 26 “...the man bowed down his head, and **worshipped the LORD**...27 And he said, Blessed *be* the LORD God of **my master** Abraham.... ***I being in the way, the LORD led me...***”
- ❖ Rebekah, in v. 25, indicates she is willing to share provisions and provide lodging.

Col. 3:16 Let **the word of Christ dwell in you richly** in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace **in your hearts to the Lord.**

Eph. 3:17 That **Christ may dwell in your hearts** by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love,

Jn. 14:23 Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and **my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.**

Rev 3:20 Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, **I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.**

Summary

In order to procure the bride, servants must do the following:

- ❖ Be submissive to the Master;
- ❖ Go out into the highways and hedges, compelling people to come in;

Luke 14:23 And the lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and **compel them to come in, that my house may be filled.**

- ❖ Maintain a focus upon the mission at hand – winning souls;
- ❖ Be flexible, purposely, to be what another person needs in order to be reached;
- ❖ Remember Who you represent, and do all things for His glory – 1 Cor. 10:31.

Conclusion

Mt. 9:35 And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people.

36 But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd.

37 Then saith he unto his disciples, **The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few;**

38 Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, **that he will send forth labourers into his harvest.**