

Finding a Spouse

Genesis 24

Introduction: Personal Oaths – Arranged Marriages - Women in Public - Patriarchs

Abraham's desire for Isaac is committed to his Servant (24:1-9)

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Introduction: Three important decisions that every man makes: first, what will he do with God and his revelation in the Word and in Jesus Christ; second, what will he do to earn a living and care for his responsibilities, third, who will be his partner in those two pursuits?

Suggestions:

The Servant's oath committed to Prayer (24:10-14)

Specific/Special Prayer

God's desire answers the Servant's Prayer (24:15-25)

Servant's response to God's Provision (24:27)

Rebekah's family (24:28-60)

Isaac & Rebekah (24:61-67)

Conclusion: We see the growing faith of Abraham who entrusts his servant with making a decision for him, and this highlights God's providence, verse 27 points to it.

The servant prayed a prayer that identified significant hospitality; some commentators have nicknamed Rebekah the female Abraham, she apparently loved to host and in so doing bless total strangers. For some this is central to finding a wife.

I take a cue from the servant when he refused to eat until he explained his mission to Laban and Nahor; suitors are to be completely up front with their motives and intentions, not first with the woman but with her father and of course then with the young woman.

The one specific prayer that God answers is our prayer for a future spouse—be as specific as you like; God can and does miracles.

God has sent the Holy Spirit into the world to find a bride for his Son just like Abraham sent his servant into the his former land to find a wife for his son Isaac. There is no way that our main characters would have any idea about this grand salvation narrative but we can see it and are therefore responsible for our part in working with the Holy Spirit to secure the bride of Jesus Christ. He is preparing a place for them and will celebrate at the Marriage Supper of the Lamb one day soon.