

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Did Abraham's servant have faith that God could provide a wife for Isaac as outlined by Abraham?
2. How did Rebekah show she was obedient and submissive to God's will? Did she hesitate at all?
3. Was Rebekah blessed? If so, how was she blessed in her life with Isaac?
4. Was Isaac prepared for his bride when she arrived?
5. Is there a comparison between this story and our spiritual life?

SUMMARY:

In this longest chapter in the book of Genesis we read one of the world's most beautiful love stories, beautiful because God directed people who were willing to follow His will and not live according to what may have been their own desires. Abraham, his servant, Rebekah, and Isaac all performed great acts of faith, obedience, and courage to fulfill God's will.

This chapter also is an illustration of God the Father sending His Spirit to win the consent of each soul to become the bride of His Son.

NOTES:

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #1

April 1, 2007

Second Quarter

A MARRIAGE BY FAITH

LESSON TEXT: *Genesis 24:1-67*

LESSON SETTING: In the country of Mesopotamia, northeast of the Euphrates River on the Turkish border.

TIME: Approximately 1850 B.C.

- I. A FATHER'S CONCERN.** Genesis 24:1-9
 - A. Abraham's Spiritual Concern. (24:3) Exodus 34:12; 2 Corinthians 6:14, 17-18
 - B. Abraham's Confidence and Faith In God. Genesis 24:7
Isaiah 12:2; Acts 27:25; 2 Timothy 1:12-14; Hebrews 11:6
- II. A FAITHFUL SERVANT'S PART.** Genesis 24:10-49
 - A. Servant Obedient To His Task. (24:10) Matthew 7:21; 11:29; John 14:23; James 1:25; Revelation 22:14
 - B. God's Guidance Sought. (10:12-14) Matthew 7:7; John 15:7; Ephesians 6:18; 1 Thessalonians 5:17
 - C. Glory Given To God. (24:26-27) 1 Peter 4:11; 1 Thessalonians 5:18; 1 Peter 4:11
- III. SUBMISSION AND OBEDIENCE TO GOD'S WILL.** Genesis 24:50-60
 - A. Laban and Bethuel Reply. (24:50-51) Psalm 143:10; 1 Corinthians 10:24
 - B. Rebekah's Consent. (24:63-67) Ephesians 6:6-7; Colossians 3:23-24
- IV. GOD'S BLESSING.** Genesis 24:61-67
 - A. Obedience Rewarded. (24:63-67) Ephesians 5:21-23; Romans 7:4; Revelation 19:7-9

GOLDEN TEXT: *COMMIT THY WAY UNTO THE LORD: TRUST ALSO IN HIM: AND HE SHALL BRING IT TO PASS.* Psalm 37:5

NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON: 1 Corinthians 15:1-23, 35-58

SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES: Psalm 16:8-11; John 20:1-29

QUARTERLY THEME: The Patriarchs

TOPIC: CHRIST IS RISEN (Easter Lesson)

INTRODUCTION:

Our lesson lays before us in one chapter the complete story of the purpose of God in sending His beloved Son down upon the earth. It tells of His death, His burial and His resurrection. It points out how important each of these facts is to us today. It is so important for us to believe that Jesus came upon this earth and that He as God's Son paid the penalty for our sins. If we had to live continually under the weight of unpaid judgment, one that we would have to pay some time, this weight would become oftentimes, unbearable. Now, by faith, we have the assurance that He went to the cross and paid the penalty for our sins.

This is not the end of the story because after He had paid this price He was raised up by the Heavenly Father and was seen by many of His disciples. He was victorious over death (sin) and through His victory we too can be victorious. Our victory is over sin through the power of the Holy Spirit which has been sent to be with us. We no longer need yield to evil speaking, evil desires, temper, lying, etc., but can now have power over them. We can be victorious even through death because He has promised us a life in eternity. We are changed from the physical fleshly body into a spiritual body if so be that we live in Him while on this earth.

GOLDEN TEXT: *AS IN ADAM ALL DIE, EVEN SO IN CHRIST SHALL ALL BE MADE ALIVE.*

1 Corinthians 15:22

When God created man, it was in a form that could have existed eternally in close fellowship with God and in communion with Him. This was God's intent for man's creation. It is sad to note that when man was given the will to choose, that the choice was made to disobey God. Perhaps we may say that the intention to disobey was not planned or premeditated. Yet the penalty for this disobedience was of the most terrible nature. It lays before us the certainty of God's judgment of any disobedience of our own. The Word tells us that because of this one act all of the judgment of God came upon mankind. Likewise even in Jesus and only through Him, can all of this be forgiven that we may live again. The saddest point in a person's life is when he or she comes to a realization that, despite the best efforts, there is only sin continually. The most joyous occasion is when realization comes that God will forgive and that through Christ these sins are paid for and through the Holy Spirit we can have **power** to overcome the sins we could not overcome before. We can then understand the preciousness of the words: "*But the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.*" (Romans 6:23)

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF April 2 - 8

M. *The Gospel and the Resurrection. 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

T. *Christ is Risen. 1 Corinthians 15:12-23

W. Order of the Resurrection. 1 Corinthians 15:24-28

T. *Method of the Resurrection. 1 Corinthians 15:35-45

F. *Assurance of Resurrection. 1 Corinthians 15:51-58

S. Pattern of Resurrection. 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

S. Consummation of Resurrection. Revelation 22:1-7