

The
Thing Proceedeth from the
LORD

Genesis 24:33 – 67



~ In our last report from our Spiritual Safari expedition through the entire Word of God, we were with Uncle Laban getting ready to party. The sun has gone down now and Abraham's servants, who have been sent back to Haran, Abraham's own country in Mesopotamia, in order to find a bride for Isaac, have been invited to Laban's house. Of course, Laban really only has his eyes on the material things the servant of Abraham might hook him up with. Laban isn't interested in the spiritual here at all. We are - or, at least, we should be – very interested in the spiritual realm. I mean, after all, we're on a Spiritual Safari. Not Laban. He was as ignorant of spiritual matters as a goat grazing grass on a hillside. This account in Scripture of Rebekah becoming the bride of Isaac is a stunning picture of the relationship between Christ and the church as His bride; and only Spirit filled believers are going to comprehend this report. The others didn't even read this far. They simply can't.

What we see is the illustration of the way the church is being sought for Christ today. The Father and the Son have sent the Holy Spirit into the world to call out a people unto His Name. The Spirit of God, like this servant of Abraham's, has come to take the things of Christ and show them unto us. Rebekah's response in accepting the proposal was instantaneous. Interestingly, her decision was an immediate response to a question over which she had total free will and every right to make up her own mind for herself about. She was in no way obligated or forced to go. She wasn't sold; although Laban may have pressured her with some hidden agenda and secret financial perspective – but that still was not the deciding factor. The Spirit of God moved Rebekah then - and the Spirit of God is moving you right now - if you're reading this report. God is definitely working in the world today, friends. The Holy Spirit is calling out a people to His Name – a bride for His Son, Christ Jesus. This is an extremely intense and highly

dramatic spiritual account. It's pitch dark outside now. We can't even see the camels; but Uncle Laban's party is on. This servant and his men had come to town, boarded the camels, entered into Laban's home, washed their feet - and they are now ready to eat, but....

33 And there was set meat before him to eat: but he said, I will not eat, until I have told you my mission. And Laban said, Speak on.

34 And he said, I am Abraham's servant.

35 And the LORD hath blessed my master greatly; and he is become great: and he hath given him flocks, and herds, and silver, and gold, and menservants, and maidservants, and camels, and asses.

36 And Sarah my master's wife bare a son to my master when she was old: and unto him hath he given all that he hath.

37 And my master made me swear, saying, Thou shalt not take a wife to my son of the daughters of the Canaanites, in whose land I dwell:

38 But thou shalt go unto my father's house, and to my kindred, and take a wife unto my son.

39 And I said unto my master, Peradventure the woman will not follow me.

40 And he said unto me, The LORD, before whom I walk, will send his angel with thee, and prosper thy way; and thou shalt take a wife for my son of my kindred, and of my father's house:

41 Then shalt thou be clear from this my oath, when thou comest to my kindred; and if they give not thee one, thou shalt be clear from my oath.

42 And I came this day unto the well, and said, O LORD God of my master Abraham, if now thou do prosper my way which I go:

43 Behold, I stand by the well of water; and it shall come to pass, that when the virgin cometh forth to draw water, and I say to her, Give me, I pray thee, a little water of thy pitcher to drink;

44 And she said to me, Both drink thou, and I will also draw for thy camels: let the same be the woman whom the LORD hath appointed out for my master's son.

45 And before I had done speaking in mine heart, behold, Rebekah came forth with her pitcher on her shoulder; and she went down unto the well, and drew water: and I said unto her, Let me drink, I pray thee.

46 And she made haste, and let down her pitcher from her shoulder, and said, Drink, and I will give thy camels drink also: so I drank, and she made the camels drink also.

47 And I asked her, and said, Whose daughter art thou? And she said, The daughter of Bethuel, Nahor's son, whom Milcah bare unto him: and I put the earring upon her face, and the bracelets upon her hands.

48 And I bowed down my head, and worshipped the LORD, and blessed the LORD God of my master Abraham, which had led me in the right way to take my master's brother's daughter unto his son.

49 And now if ye will deal kindly and truly with my master, tell me: and if not, tell me; that I may turn to the right hand, or to the left.

~ I, personally, admire the way “Abraham’s servant” didn’t rush in and start chowing down at this feast Laban had laid out. This servant took his job seriously and he had a lot to say before he was going to eat with this man. One thing he DIDN’T have to say, however, is his name – he just calls himself “Abraham’s servant.” Make a note of that, friends. I know we all think we are important to this world. We all see our jobs as important and meaningful – and, for the most part, they may be important on some level. We think our family and our community are all important. Some people must think the world could never live without them. Most Christians seem to think God could never run this universe if He hadn’t created them; but,

the point is: how often do we stop and ask God what's important to Him about our lives? See, what's important to God is that His children get His Gospel out to this lost and dying world – and nothing else, either, by the way. Are we willing to accept Christ on that basis? This is where things get real, friends.

This servant of Abraham's is a Biblical type of the Spirit of God. He does not speak of Himself. The Holy Spirit ONLY speaks of the things of Christ. This is the relationship within the Holy Trinity today. The Bible says when the Holy Spirit comes He'll not speak of Himself but of Him that sent Him. THAT is mind-blowing; well, at least, it is for me. I have been in churches that talk about the Holy Spirit so much I think they actually worshipped "the Spirit." They give the announcements that the Holy Spirit provided this money or that building. They talk about how the Holy Spirit healed Sister Susan. They say the Spirit is working for them and if you look carefully, you should see the Holy Spirit go around the corner any moment now. Of course, their speaking in tongues is announced as the proof of the Holy Spirit, they say. Well, when a church says ANY of those things I know immediately the Holy Spirit is nowhere even close to that place!

Laban was worshipping the servant of Abraham simply for what the servant could do for Laban materially. Is this getting a little personal? Jesus said, "when the Spirit cometh He shall take the things of Mine and show them unto you." Don't worry – I am equally, if not much more substantially, convicted in this court of judgment that has appeared from absolutely nowhere! What even happened? By the way, what is the Name of the Holy Spirit? He has no Name. He doesn't come to you to speak of Himself – the Holy Spirit comes to speak to you of Christ - so He doesn't really need a Name. The Holy Spirit has come only to speak of Another. This servant is speaking of the Father's house in verse thirty-five. These details are some things the Father would have us know about Him. Christ will convict the world of sin in righteousness and judgment. These three things are the things Christ always talked to the lost world about. Sin. Righteousness. Judgment. Those three. Judgment is righteousness upon sin and upon mankind who is lost because he is a sinner. Men are NOT lost because they reject Christ. Men are lost because they are sinners. Period. That is the condition of mankind right now.

The Holy Spirit has come into this world to tell us about a Savior Who has born our judgment and has been made over to us in righteousness; whereby we have a standing before our Father in Heaven. God has enough riches for you, too, by the way. The cattle on a thousand hills are His. The Lord Jesus is our inheritance; we are joint heirs with Him. He takes full responsibly for you and your well-being in this world – just as He did for Lazarus. This servant has come to tell Laban’s family that his master is seeking a bride for his son who is going to inherit all those things. Laban, of course, is giddy about that; and he is the spokesman for this family....

50 Then Laban and Bethuel answered and said, The thing proceedeth from the LORD: we cannot speak unto thee bad or good.

51 Behold, Rebekah is before thee, take her, and go, and let her be thy master's son's wife, as the LORD hath spoken .

52 And it came to pass, that, when Abraham's servant heard their words, he worshipped the LORD, bowing himself to the earth.

53 And the servant brought forth jewels of silver, and jewels of gold, and raiment, and gave them to Rebekah: he gave also to her brother and to her mother precious things.

~ This is how the Holy Spirit operates, friends. We are given the earnest of the Spirit; that is, the “down payment” is made when we come to Christ that, being justified by faith, we have peace with God our Father in Heaven. We have access to Him and, as a result of utilizing that access properly, correctly and completely, we should have joy in our hearts and our lives. If that joy is missing then something is radically wrong in your relationship with Christ; and that something is: you don’t have one! I know that hurts, friends; but we have a hope, and that hope is none other than the Holy Spirit that indwells us and lives through us. You can’t fake it by feigning a bunch of psychobabble and labeling it “proof of the Holy Spirit” in your life. If you truly have the Holy Spirit indwelling you and living through you then you won’t even have to open your mouth for others to know you are a Christian. If it’s not evident and highly noticeable in your actions – then it

isn't something that's real in your life. Many self-professing believers are just religious frauds. They're phonies. The Holy Spirit is also our Comforter, and He has now come unto His own in this world. These are wonderful truths for all genuine believers today....

54 And they did eat and drink, he and the men that were with him, and tarried all night; and they rose up in the morning, and he said, Send me away unto my master.

55 And her brother and her mother said, Let the damsel abide with us a few days, at the least ten; after that she shall go.

56 And he said unto them, Hinder me not, seeing the LORD hath prospered my way; send me away that I may go to my master.

57 And they said, We will call the damsel, and enquire at her mouth.

~ This is just a wonderful, mission critical – and eternally rewarding piece of information we are picking up here. It is essential to understand these things if we are to even begin comprehending the true goodness and lovingkindness of God. Our safari goes back now to an oriental tent couched on an oasis back in the beginning of time. We're back at the dawn of humanity, for the most part; even though man had likely already been on earth thousands of years at the time in which we are studying – but I digress. As far as we're concerned it's four to six thousand years ago – but – right NOW, either way, we are here with this family of oriental traders out on the desert somewhere at some point in history; and they are entertaining a stranger and a guest in their home as well as we could today - and we're having a royal feast as good as there ever has been.

The strange servant has stated his strange business and mission succinctly now. The gold and the silver and the jewels and clothes were all out there on the table. Remember, Abraham was a very rich man. Then, he begins to tell them about life back in Damascus. First, the servant tells all about Abraham and who he was and where he was from. He tells them all about how Isaac was miraculously born. He tells them about his life and doesn't hesitate to tell of the day they took Isaac out to an altar to lay his life down

for God. The servant tells them how God spared Isaac and wouldn't take his life. See, Abraham wants a like-minded woman with the capacity for the True and Living God as His son's bride. The servant was looking for someone born again unto the Word of God. So, they're all around the fire now with pitch blackness in the background. Out of the shadows we can just barely recognize Rebekah standing there listening to every word. She has been there the entire time. Christ is asking you right now if you'll go with Him....

58 And they called Rebekah, and said unto her, Wilt thou go with this man? And she said, I will go.

~ Christ has come to call sinners out – but not to simply continue in their sin. Christ has called us out to be BORN AGAIN! - Born again of incorruptible seed, not corruptible. These are the ones who will love the Lord their God forever and His Word that liveth and abideth in them eternally! We must bow because we are sinners - but we are born again as children of God, too. Only when we understand these things can we take our rightful position and accept our Savior. If we do that we will be born again. Born again into a church that is going to be presented as a bride one day. We need to get interested in Christ, my Christian friends!

Rebekah was asked if she would go. She did. How about you today – whoever you are - will you accept His invitation and trust Christ as your Savior and go with Him? If any man be in Christ he is a new creation. God isn't accepting any untransformed Canaanites. Rebekah was forced to make a quick decision that night. The servant of Abraham wasn't waiting around while she beat around the bush and thought about it with her friends for a day or two. If she wanted to go she needed to get ready to leave immediately. Going with Christ is something we either do or don't do at that particular moment when He calls us. A man was speaking in a certain place in Texas and the man presented Christ. Before the man could even ask the crowd if anyone wanted to accept Jesus some young man just got up and walked right down to the altar. It had a tremendous affect on the audience. There wasn't anything wishy-washy or uncertain about this young man. It was a clean-cut decision. That is the only way you will be

accepted by God, my dear readers - and it's the only way you're going anywhere with God in this life, too....

59 And they sent away Rebekah their sister, and her nurse, and Abraham's servant, and his men.

60 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.

61 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.

~ Rebekah was sent away with a blessing. In verse sixty we have our spiritual blessing from the Word of God - which is fulfilled prophecy. So, let's continue on with the servant and Rebekah. It's not easy riding a camel. I know they are called the "ship of the desert" – but – I've seen enough pictures to know I don't want to set sail on a sea of sand on that ship, personally. Imagine riding a camel across the desert! Well, you can stop imagining because we have so many deserts to cover in the Word of God that you are going to be a regular nomad if you continue in this so-called Spiritual Safari. I'm sure riding across the hot desert was hard living for the servant and Rebekah and her damsels. That first evening they probably stopped at an oasis. We see Rebekah sitting around the fire eating and she says to Abraham's servant, "...tell me more about Isaac; tell me again how he was born; tell me again about the incident at the altar." She wanted to hear the old, old story, friends. The story of Christ never gets old and the anticipation of meeting Him never gets old, either – IF you love Him. So, he tells her and she goes to her tent and goes to sleep. When they start out the next day the desert, strangely, doesn't seem quite as hot to Rebekah. The camel ride somehow isn't quite as brutal today....

62 And Isaac came from the way of the well Lahairoi; for he dwelt in the south country.

63 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.

~ So, we are given a vivid and uber sensational picture of Christ returning that we are only going to see HERE in Scripture. This lesson isn't taught again ANYWHERE in the Bible. So, pay attention: many people ask, "...won't it be wonderful when the Lord comes?" Well, it will be wonderful to be caught up in the air to be with Him forever – if that's what they mean. But I don't think that's what most people mean – and there's another view of this: to be with Him as His bride when He returns in His Second Advent. Let's just keep this real, shall we? Most of the church has gone through the doorway of death today. Their hope was that they will be returning with Him to establish His earthly Kingdom when He returns. The body we live in here on earth shall be raised at that time and the spirit and the body will be joined together. The camels were coming; those that are alive will be caught up with the dead and will go to meet the Lord in the air. Those who have gone before Him in death are going to see Him when He rises from the Right Hand of the Father and proceeds out to rapture His church IN THAT DAY. This is a glorious, glorious picture of the union of Christ and His church in the account of Isaac and Rebekah. Oh, that we might be faithful to Him ~

64 And Rebekah lifted up her eyes, and when she saw Isaac, she lighted off the camel.

65 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.

66 And the servant told Isaac all things that he had done.

67 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 ~

