

# A BRIDE FOR ISAAC

## Genesis 24

17 January 2025

Genesis 24 presents a remarkable picture of the Father in heaven sending His servant, the Holy Spirit, to the earth to seek a bride for His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ.

1. **(vs 1-4)** THE SERVANT IS SENT BY THE FATHER TO SEEK A BRIDE FOR THE SON.
2. THE BRIDE WILL NOT BE A CANAANITE (unregenerate people, no new birth) (vs 3).
  - a. They will be kin to the Father of the Bridegroom (through the new birth) (vs 4).
3. **(vs 5-8)** THE SON WILL NOT GO BACK TO THE COUNTRY WHERE HE WAS BEFORE TO SEEK A BRIDE FOR HIMSELF.
  - a. He will stay at his father's house and the father will send the servant for the bride.
  - b. The bride will have to respond to the drawing and the pleading of the servant.
4. THE SERVANT WILL TELL THE BRIDE ABOUT THE FATHER AND THE SON.
  - a. He will not take her by force. She must respond to the appeals of the servant and be willing to come.
5. **(vs 10)** ALL THE MASTER'S GOODS WERE IN THE SERVANT'S HANDS.
  - a. Representative of the "earnest of the Spirit" (2 Cor. 1:22, 5:5).
    - i. This was small part of the wealth of the master. It would assure the bride that there was much more (see 1 Cor. 2:9-10).
6. **(vs 11-12)** THE SERVANT IS NOT LABORING FOR HIS OWN PLEASURE, BUT FOR THE PLEASURE OF HIS MASTER.
  - a. The Holy Spirit is grieved when people glorify him. His purpose is to testify of Jesus Christ (John 15:26, 16:13).
7. **(vs 13-14)** The servant prays that the right bride will come and meet a certain set of criteria.
  - a. She is like the good ground that received the good seed, the word of God (Lk 8:5-15).
  - b. Notice that the humility of the woman would play a part in her being able to receive the word of the servant.
    - i. The people who will come to God are those who are down low (James 4:10).
8. **(vs 22-26)** REBEKAH RECEIVED THE SERVANT INTO HER HOME AFTER BELIEVING HIS WORDS ABOUT THE SON AND THE FATHER.
  - a. Having believed, she received a few tokens from the servant (earnest).
  - b. The New Testament believer has received the earnest of the Spirit:
    - i. A Comforter (Jn 14:16-18)
    - ii. Peace that passes understanding (Jn 14:27, Php 4:7)
    - iii. Eternal security (1 Jn 5:11-12; Jn 5:24)
    - iv. Guidance and direction from the word of God (Ps 119:105)
    - v. A promise from the Son of God that He'll be with us always (Mt. 28:20, Heb 13:5)
9. **(vs 27-28)** WHEN REBEKAH RECEIVED THE WITNESS OF THE SERVANT ABOUT THE FATHER AND THE SON, SHE IMMEDIATELY STARTED TELLING PEOPLE ABOUT IT.
  - a. Compare this to the woman at the well in John 4:29.

10. (vs 29-31) REBEKAH'S TESTIMONY LED OTHERS TO BELIEVE AND RECEIVE THE SERVANT.
11. (vs 32-33) HEARING FROM THE SERVANT WAS MORE IMPORTANT TO REBEKAH'S FAMILY THAN EATING.
  - a. When you become part of the Bride, material things of this world become less important than the things of God.
12. (vs 35-38) NOW THAT REBEKAH HAS RECEIVED THE SERVANT, SHE IS ABLE TO RECEIVE ALL THE DETAILS ABOUT THE FATHER AND THE SON AND THE RICHES.
  - a. The things of the Spirit of God are spiritually discerned (1 Cor 2:14).
13. (vs 42-44) THE SERVANT WAS INTERCEDING FOR THE BRIDE BEFORE HE CAME TO HER.
  - a. The Holy Spirit intercedes for you before you're saved, protecting you, creating the right circumstances for you to be receptive to His invitation.
14. (vs 48-50) THERE WAS A CALL FOR A DECISION TO GO WITH THE SERVANT.
15. (vs 51-53) OTHER PEOPLE IN THE BELIEVER'S LIFE ALSO ENJOY THE BLESSINGS OF GOD.
16. (vs 54-55) WHEN THE BELIEVER IS READY TO LEAVE THE OLD LIFE BEHIND AND GO FORWARD WITH THE SERVANT OF THE FATHER, FAMILY AND FRIENDS RESIST.
17. (vs 56-58) THE BRIDE IS WILLING TO TAKE THE DIFFICULT JOURNEY WITH THE SERVANT.
18. (vs 59) MANY WHO BELIEVE WILL NOT LEAVE THEIR OLD LIFE AND THEIR OLD WAYS.
19. (vs 60) THE BELIEVER WILL HAVE ENEMIES, BUT ONE DAY ALL THAT THEY POSSESS WILL BELONG TO THE BRIDE WHEN HER BRIDEGROOM COMES TO TAKE POSSESSION.
20. (vs 61) THE BRIDE CONFIDENTLY FOLLOWS THE SERVANT OF THE FATHER. SHE TRUSTS THAT HE KNOWS THE RIGHT WAY.
21. (vs 62-64) THE SON LEAVES THE FATHER'S HOME TO MEET THE BRIDE ON HER WAY THERE.
  - a. This is a picture of 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 when Christ meets the bride in the clouds.
22. (vs 65) THE BRIDE DID NOT RECOGNIZE THE BRIDEGROOM. SHE LOVED HIM BY FAITH.
  - a. The New Testament believer loves Christ Jesus, though never having seen Him (1 Pet 1:8)
23. (vs 65) THE BRIDE VEILED HERSELF WHEN SHE SAW THE SON.
  - a. No matter how good you are, the Son's glory outshines yours. When you see Him, you'll want to cover yourself in shame.
24. (vs 66) THE SERVANT REPORTS TO THE SON AND PRESENTS THE BRIDE.
25. (vs 67) THE BRIDE IS A COMFORT TO THE SON AFTER HIS MOTHER'S DEATH.
  - a. Israel was the bride of the Father. She was unfaithful (Hosea 1-2) and broke her relationship with God the Father.
    - i. Jesus Christ was rejected by Israel (John 1:11, Luke 19:14, John 19:15).
      1. God blinded their eyes and hardened their hearts (John 12:40, Rom 11:25)
26. THE SERVANT'S WORK IS FINISHED. HE DISAPPEARS FROM SCRIPTURE.
  - a. Once the bride is delivered to the Son, the Holy Spirit's work is done. He'll not be on earth during the Tribulation.
  - b. **"Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation"** (2 Cor 6:2)