**GOD ESTABLISHES ISAAC'S HOME**

Genesis (23) 24:1-67                                                                                  **Lesson 17**

Key verse 24:58 **58**So they called Rebekah and asked her, “Will you go with this man?” “I will go,” she said.

After Sarah’s death, Abraham realized the urgency and necessity of Isaac’s marriage. But Abraham believed ‘*Jehovahjireh*’, which is the LORD WILL PROVIDE’. So by faith he sent his servant to find a wife for Isaac.

**1.Read chapter 23. Why did Abraham insist on purchasing the land by paying the full price? What can you learn here about Abraham's life in the promised land? (Acts 7:5)**

**5**He gave him no inheritance here, not even enough ground to set his foot on. But God promised him that he and his descendants after him would possess the land, even though at that time Abraham had no child.

Abraham deserved to gain the cave and the land for granted. This is because the land was promised by God, and that the Hittites wanted to give them to Abraham as free of charge.

But, Abraham knew that the descendants of the Hittites might change their mind and claim the land in the future. So Abraham bought the cave and the land by paying the full price to protect the Promised Land from the ungodly people. Abraham prepared for the future from unnecessary conflicts from the ungodly people in the future.

By purchasing the cave and the land with full price, they were deeded, which means that they became officially and legally belonged to Abraham. (Verse 17 & 20)

**2. Look at 24:1-9. What mission did Abraham give his chief servant? Why do you think Abraham didn't want Isaac to marry a Canaanite? What made Abraham believe that God would his mission possible?**

**Isaac and Rebekah**

**24**Abraham was now very old, and the Lord had blessed him in every way. **2**He said to the senior servant in his household, the one in charge of all that he had, “Put your hand under my thigh. **3**I want you to swear by the Lord, the God of heaven and the God of earth, that you will not get a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, among whom I am living, **4**but will go to my country and my own relatives and get a wife for my son Isaac.” **5**The servant asked him, “What if the woman is unwilling to come back with me to this land? Shall I then take your son back to the country you came from?” **6**“Make sure that you do not take my son back there,” Abraham said. **7**“The Lord, the God of heaven, who brought me out of my father’s household and my native land and who spoke to me and promised me on oath, saying, ‘To your offspring[[f](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=genesis+23-24&version=NIV#fen-NIV-599f)] I will give this land’—he will send his angel before you so that you can get a wife for my son from there. **8**If the woman is unwilling to come back with you, then you will be released from this oath of mine. Only do not take my son back there.” **9**So the servant put his hand under the thigh of his master Abraham and swore an oath to him concerning this matter.

**Deut 7:3-4:**  **3**Do not intermarry with them. Do not give your daughters to their sons or take their daughters for your sons, **4**for they will turn your children away from following me to serve other gods, and the Lord’s anger will burn against you and will quickly destroy you.

**2 Co 6:14-7:1**: **14**Do not be yoked together with unbelievers. For what do righteousness and wickedness have in common? Or what fellowship can light have with darkness? **15**What harmony is there between Christ and Belial[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Deut+7%3A3-4%2C++2+Co+6%3A14-7%3A1&version=NIV#fen-NIV-28914a)]? Or what does a believer have in common with an unbeliever? **16**What agreement is there between the temple of God and idols? For we are the temple of the living God. As God has said:

“I will live with them  
    and walk among them,  
and I will be their God,  
    and they will be my people.”[[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Deut+7%3A3-4%2C++2+Co+6%3A14-7%3A1&version=NIV#fen-NIV-28915b)]

**17**Therefore,

“Come out from them  
    and be separate,  
says the Lord.  
Touch no unclean thing,  
    and I will receive you.”[[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Deut+7%3A3-4%2C++2+Co+6%3A14-7%3A1&version=NIV#fen-NIV-28916c)]

**18**And,

“I will be a Father to you,  
    and you will be my sons and daughters,  
says the Lord Almighty.”[[d](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Deut+7%3A3-4%2C++2+Co+6%3A14-7%3A1&version=NIV#fen-NIV-28917d)]

**7**Therefore, since we have these promises, dear friends, let us purify ourselves from everything that contaminates body and spirit, perfecting holiness out of reverence for God.

Later, the godless intermarriage with the Cannanite women could be a trap for the sons of men which snare them to fall into idolatry.

This is the reason today why Christians parents want their children to marry with godly women. If possible, Christian women who have the same faith, spiritual background, spiritual direction, and goal.

Suppose on Sunday Christians husband wants to go to church to worship, while his Muslim wife wants to go to mosque.

**3. Look at v. 10-14. What did Abraham’s servant do first when he arrived Nahor? Why? When the beautiful girl to whom he spoke acted according to the conditions of his prayer, what did the servant do? (15-21) How did he make sure that this was the girl God had chosen? What can we learn from him?**

**10**Then the servant left, taking with him ten of his master’s camels loaded with all kinds of good things from his master. He set out for Aram Naharaim[[g](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=genesis+23-24&version=NIV#fen-NIV-602g)] and made his way to the town of Nahor. **11**He had the camels kneel down near the well outside the town; it was toward evening, the time the women go out to draw water. **12**Then he prayed, “Lord, God of my master Abraham, make me successful today, and show kindness to my master Abraham. **13**See, I am standing beside this spring, and the daughters of the townspeople are coming out to draw water. **14**May it be that when I say to a young woman, ‘Please let down your jar that I may have a drink,’ and she says, ‘Drink, and I’ll water your camels too’—let her be the one you have chosen for your servant Isaac. By this I will know that you have shown kindness to my master.”

**15**Before he had finished praying, Rebekah came out with her jar on her shoulder. She was the daughter of Bethuel son of Milkah, who was the wife of Abraham’s brother Nahor. **16**The woman was very beautiful, a virgin; no man had ever slept with her. She went down to the spring, filled her jar and came up again. **17**The servant hurried to meet her and said, “Please give me a little water from your jar.” **18**“Drink, my lord,” she said, and quickly lowered the jar to her hands and gave him a drink. **19**After she had given him a drink, she said, “I’ll draw water for your camels too, until they have had enough to drink.” **20**So she quickly emptied her jar into the trough, ran back to the well to draw more water, and drew enough for all his camels. **21**Without saying a word, the man watched her closely to learn whether or not the Lord had made his journey successful.

Abraham’s servant must be Eliezer of Damascus in Genesis 15:2. As Abraham built an altar as soon as he arrived at the Promised Land, the servant also prayed first.

Prayer is the expression of total dependance on God and complete submission to Him. Prayer is requesting humble guidance and provision.

The servant sought signs to make sure of his prayer.

When he found Rebekah, he waited to see if God really gave him success. (24:21)

**4. Look at v. 22-49. What was his main point in the long account he gave them of how he had met Rebekah? Why does he include so many details? (28-49) What was his conclusion? (48,49)**

**22**When the camels had finished drinking, the man took out a gold nose ring weighing a beka[[h](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=genesis+23-24&version=NIV#fen-NIV-614h)] and two gold bracelets weighing ten shekels.[[i](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=genesis+23-24&version=NIV" \l "fen-NIV-614i" \o "See footnote i)] **23**Then he asked, “Whose daughter are you? Please tell me, is there room in your father’s house for us to spend the night?” **24**She answered him, “I am the daughter of Bethuel, the son that Milkah bore to Nahor.” **25**And she added, “We have plenty of straw and fodder, as well as room for you to spend the night.” **26**Then the man bowed down and worshiped the Lord, **27**saying, “Praise be to the Lord, the God of my master Abraham, who has not abandoned his kindness and faithfulness to my master. As for me, the Lord has led me on the journey to the house of my master’s relatives.”

**28**The young woman ran and told her mother’s household about these things. **29**Now Rebekah had a brother named Laban, and he hurried out to the man at the spring. **30**As soon as he had seen the nose ring, and the bracelets on his sister’s arms, and had heard Rebekah tell what the man said to her, he went out to the man and found him standing by the camels near the spring. **31**“Come, you who are blessed by the Lord,” he said. “Why are you standing out here? I have prepared the house and a place for the camels.” **32**So the man went to the house, and the camels were unloaded. Straw and fodder were brought for the camels, and water for him and his men to wash their feet. **33**Then food was set before him, but he said, “I will not eat until I have told you what I have to say.” “Then tell us,” Laban said. **34**So he said, “I am Abraham’s servant. **35**The Lord has blessed my master abundantly, and he has become wealthy. He has given him sheep and cattle, silver and gold, male and female servants, and camels and donkeys. **36**My master’s wife Sarah has borne him a son in her old age, and he has given him everything he owns. **37**And my master made me swear an oath, and said, ‘You must not get a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, in whose land I live, **38**but go to my father’s family and to my own clan, and get a wife for my son.’ **39**“Then I asked my master, ‘What if the woman will not come back with me?’ **40**“He replied, ‘The Lord, before whom I have walked faithfully, will send his angel with you and make your journey a success, so that you can get a wife for my son from my own clan and from my father’s family. **41**You will be released from my oath if, when you go to my clan, they refuse to give her to you—then you will be released from my oath.’ **42**“When I came to the spring today, I said, ‘Lord, God of my master Abraham, if you will, please grant success to the journey on which I have come. **43**See, I am standing beside this spring. If a young woman comes out to draw water and I say to her, “Please let me drink a little water from your jar,” **44**and if she says to me, “Drink, and I’ll draw water for your camels too,” let her be the one the Lord has chosen for my master’s son.’ **45**“Before I finished praying in my heart, Rebekah came out, with her jar on her shoulder. She went down to the spring and drew water, and I said to her, ‘Please give me a drink.’ **46**“She quickly lowered her jar from her shoulder and said, ‘Drink, and I’ll water your camels too.’ So I drank, and she watered the camels also. **47**“I asked her, ‘Whose daughter are you?’ “She said, ‘The daughter of Bethuel son of Nahor, whom Milkah bore to him.’ “Then I put the ring in her nose and the bracelets on her arms, **48**and I bowed down and worshiped the Lord. I praised the Lord, the God of my master Abraham, who had led me on the right road to get the granddaughter of my master’s brother for his son. **49**Now if you will show kindness and faithfulness to my master, tell me; and if not, tell me, so I may know which way to turn.”

The servant’s testimony was long, but simple topic: His journey came from God. Finding a wife for Isaac is God’s will.

His trip is not his selfish desire, but for God’s redemptive work.

**5. Look at v. 50-56. How did Rebekah's father and brother respond? Why did the servant not stay a few days and enjoy a well-deserved vacation? What can we learn from him about how to carry out God's mission? Look at v. 57-67. What was Rebekah’s decision? What can we learn from her?**

**50**Laban and Bethuel answered, “This is from the Lord; we can say nothing to you one way or the other. **51**Here is Rebekah; take her and go, and let her become the wife of your master’s son, as the Lord has directed.” **52**When Abraham’s servant heard what they said, he bowed down to the ground before the Lord. **53**Then the servant brought out gold and silver jewelry and articles of clothing and gave them to Rebekah; he also gave costly gifts to her brother and to her mother. **54**Then he and the men who were with him ate and drank and spent the night there. When they got up the next morning, he said, “Send me on my way to my master.” **55**But her brother and her mother replied, “Let the young woman remain with us ten days or so; then you[[j](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=genesis+23-24&version=NIV#fen-NIV-647j)] may go.” **56**But he said to them, “Do not detain me, now that the Lord has granted success to my journey. Send me on my way so I may go to my master.” **57**Then they said, “Let’s call the young woman and ask her about it.” **58**So they called Rebekah and asked her, “Will you go with this man?” “I will go,” she said.

**59**So they sent their sister Rebekah on her way, along with her nurse and Abraham’s servant and his men. **60**And they blessed Rebekah and said to her, “Our sister, may you increase to thousands upon thousands; may your offspring possess the cities of their enemies.” **61**Then Rebekah and her attendants got ready and mounted the camels and went back with the man. So the servant took Rebekah and left.

**62**Now Isaac had come from Beer Lahai Roi, for he was living in the Negev. **63**He went out to the field one evening to meditate,[[k](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=genesis+23-24&version=NIV#fen-NIV-655k)] and as he looked up, he saw camels approaching. **64**Rebekah also looked up and saw Isaac. She got down from her camel **65**and asked the servant, “Who is that man in the field coming to meet us?” “He is my master,” the servant answered. So she took her veil and covered herself. **66**Then the servant told Isaac all he had done. **67**Isaac brought her into the tent of his mother Sarah, and he married Rebekah. So she became his wife, and he loved her; and Isaac was comforted after his mother’s death.

Laban’s confession of faith: This is from the Lord; we can say nothing to you one way or the other…He accepted Rebekah’s marriage with Isaac as God’s will.

But he also humbly asked Rebekah’s opinion and her decision. “Will you go with this man? “ “I will go,” she said.

Rebekah also believed that it is the will of God. She was beautiful, virgin, mindful, obedient and godly woman. She is a suitable helper for Isaac

Isaac was a quiet, thoughtful, and prayerful man. He was the successor of Abraham’s faith.

We learn from Abraham’s servant, his attitude as a servant: 2 Tim 2:4… Soldiers do not get involved in civilian affairs in order to please their commanding officer.

He was not distracted by Laban’s hospitality. He wanted to carry out his mission faithfully. He did not delay his trip for the sake of his personal comfort and benefit. As soon as he found Rebekah, he left to please his master Abraham and Isacc.