

Rebekah Becomes a Bride

MEMORY VERSE: For your name's sake you lead me and guide me. Psalm 31:3

SCRIPTURE: Genesis 24

AIM: God continues to show His steadfast love by providing a wife for Isaac

Sarah was 127 years when she died. Abraham and Isaac mourned her death, and found a proper burial place for her. Soon after, Abraham said to the chief servant in his household, the one in charge of all that he had, "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, but will go to **my country and my own relatives** and get a wife for my son Isaac."

The servant asked him, "What if the woman is unwilling to come back with me to this land? Shall I then take Isaac back to the country you came from?"

Abraham said. "No. 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 I will give this land'--he will send his angel before you so that you can get a wife for my son from there.

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."

Then the servant took ten of Abraham's camels and left, taking with him all kinds of good things from his master with him. He set out for the town of Nahor. When he came to the well outside of town, town; it was toward evening, the time the women go out to draw water. He had the camels kneel down near the well.

Then he prayed, "O LORD, God of my master Abraham, give me success today, and show kindness to my master Abraham. Let the girl who offers to provide water for these camels be the one you have chosen as a wife for Isaac.

Before he had finished praying, Rebekah came out with her jar on her shoulder. She was the daughter of Bethuel son of Milcah, who was the wife of Abraham's brother Nahor. The girl was very beautiful.

The servant hurried to meet her and said, "Please give me a little water from your jar."

"Drink, my lord," she said, and quickly lowered the jar to her hands and gave him a drink.

After she had given him a drink, she said, "I'll draw water for your camels too, until they have finished drinking." 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. Without saying a word, the man watched her closely to learn whether or not the LORD had made his journey successful.

When the camels had finished drinking, the man took out jewelry, then he asked, "Whose daughter are you? Please tell me, is there room in your father's house for us to spend the night?"

She answered him, "I am the daughter of Bethuel, the son that Milcah bore to Nahor." And she added, "We have plenty of straw and fodder, as well as room for you to spend the night."

Then the man bowed down and worshiped the LORD, 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."

The girl ran and told her mother's household about these things. Then Rebekah's brother Laban hurried out to the man at the spring. As soon as he had seen the jewelry 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. "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."

The servant then told Rebekah's family all about the events of the day. When he was finished, they knew it was the Lord who caused these events, and said, "This is from the LORD. Here is Rebekah; take her and go, and let her become the wife of your master's son, as the LORD has directed."

Then the servant returned to Abraham's home and told Isaac all he had done. Isaac was very happy for the wife God had provided, and he loved her; and Isaac was comforted after his mother's death.