

## ***Sessions 05-6 Rebekah: The Prepared and Anointed Bride***

### **I. INTRODUCTION**

- A. Abraham – pictures the heart of God the Father who had a plan for His son.
- B. Isaac – a type of Christ receiving His Bride. Isaac was offered to God by Abraham as a type of Christ (Gen. 22; Heb. 11:19).
- C. Abraham's servant – a type of the Holy Spirit's ministry. The servant ministry of the Holy Spirit and the servant ministry of the Bride of Christ are an essential part of intimacy.
- D. Rebekah – a type of the Church as the Bride of Christ. She speaks of the Bride with a servant spirit, responsiveness to obedience, risk taking (going back to strange land) and loving the ministry of the Holy Spirit. She is equally yoked to Jesus and the Holy Spirit in living with a servant spirit.
- E. The story line is as follows – the Father sets into motion His plan to prepare a Bride for His Son. The Father sends His best and most trusted servant on a long journey to bring back a Bride for His Son. The Bride must respond willingly which includes taking the risks to go on a long journey through the wilderness to come with the servant to the promise land. The Bride meets the Bridegroom to get married and live happily ever after.

### **II. THE FATHER'S ETERNAL PLAN (GEN. 24:1-4)**

*Now Abraham was old, well advanced in age; and the LORD had blessed Abraham in all things. 2 So Abraham said to the oldest servant of his house, who ruled over all that he had, "Please, put your hand under my thigh, 3 and I will make you swear by the LORD, the God of heaven and the God of the earth, that you will not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, among whom I dwell; 4 but you shall go to my country and to my family, and take a wife for my son Isaac." (Genesis 24:1-4)*

- A. The elderly Abraham who owned all had a plan for his son –
- B. Abraham sends his unnamed servant who served the longest and ruled all of Abraham's house.
- C. The solemn oath to complete the Father's plan to bring forth a wife for the Son.

- D. Take a wife from the family, not from the Canaanites – an equally yoked wife.
- E. You shall go – the active ministry of the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:8).

### III. THE HOLY SPIRIT'S COMMITMENT TO GOD'S PLAN (GEN. 24:5-10)

*And the servant (Holy Spirit) said to him, "Perhaps the woman will not be willing to follow me to this land. Must I take your son back to the land from which you came?" 6 But Abraham said to him, "Beware that you do not take my son back there. 7 The LORD God of heaven, who took me from my father's house and from the land of my family, and who spoke to me and swore to me, saying, 'To your descendants I give this land,' He will send His angel before you, and you shall take a wife for my son from there. 8 And if the woman is not willing to follow you, then you will be released from this oath; only do not take my son back there." 9 So the servant put his hand under the thigh of Abraham his master, and swore to him concerning this matter. 10 Then the servant took ten of his master's camels and departed, for all his master's goods were in his hand. He arose and went to Mesopotamia, to the city of Nahor. (Genesis 24:5-10)*

- A. "The servant" is an excellent picture of the Holy Spirit.
- B. Voluntary love – the Bride must be willing to follow the Holy Spirit through the wilderness to a foreign land.
- C. The Father's promise to give the inheritance – the Bride must join the Son in the place of His inheritance.
- D. Do not take my son back – he must not leave the place of His inheritance but rather the Bride must come to him (Jer. 15:19d).
- E. The servant arose and went to fulfill the oath – the Holy Spirit's commitment to bring forth the Bride. He swore concerning the matter of the Father's plan.

### IV. THE CERTAINTY OF DIVINE INTERVENTION (GEN. 24:8-10)

*"...He will send His angel before you, and you shall take a wife for my son from there. 8 And if the woman is not willing to follow you, then you will be released from this oath; only do not take my son back there." 10 Then the servant took ten of his master's camels and departed, for all his master's goods were in his hand. And he arose and went to Mesopotamia, to the city of Nahor. (Genesis 24:7-10)*

- A. Supernatural assistance – the ministry of angels.

- B. The ten camels – the gifts of the Holy Spirit.
- C. All of Abraham's goods – the provision of the Holy Spirit.
- D. God pledges all blessing to those who rise up and take hold of it.

**V. GOD'S HELP IN THE UNFOLDING OF EVENTS (GEN. 24:10-14)**

*The servant (Holy Spirit) ...arose and went to Mesopotamia, to the city of Nahor. 11 He made his camels kneel down outside the city by a well of water at evening time, the time when women go out to draw water. 12 Then he said, "O LORD God of my master Abraham, please give me success this day, and show kindness to my master Abraham. 13 Behold, I stand here by the well of water, and the daughters of the men of the city are coming out to draw water. 14 Now let it be that the young woman to whom I say, 'Please let down your pitcher that I may drink,' and she says, 'Drink, and I will also give your camels a drink'--let her be the one You have appointed for Your servant Isaac. And by this I will know that You have shown kindness to my master." (Genesis 24:10-14)*

- A. Arriving at the city of Nahor – traveling through the wilderness.
- B. Outside the city by a well of water –
- C. The Holy Spirit desires to successfully fulfill the Father's plan.
- D. All things work for God's plan – the servant stood as the city came to the well.
- E. God's sovereign arrangement of events – Rebekah responds.

**VI. THE SERVANT HEART OF THE BRIDE**

*Before he had finished speaking, that behold, Rebekah...who was born to Bethuel, son of Milcah, the wife of Nahor, Abraham's brother, came out with her pitcher on her shoulder. 16 Now the young woman was very beautiful to behold, a virgin...she went down to the well, filled her pitcher, and came up. 17 And the servant ran to meet her and said, "Please let me drink a little water from your pitcher." 18 So she said, "Drink, my lord." Then she quickly let her pitcher down to her hand, and gave him a drink. 19 And when she had finished giving him a drink, she said, "I will draw water for your camels also, until they have finished drinking." 20 Then she quickly emptied her pitcher into the trough, ran back to the well to draw water, and drew for all his camels. 21 And the man, wondering at her, remained silent so as to know whether the LORD had made his journey prosperous or not. (Genesis 24:15-21)*

- A. Beautiful virgin – picture of the Bride of Christ (2 Cor. 11:2-3; 1 Pet. 3:4-5; 5:5).
- B. Rebekah the Bride with a servant heart offers to water all the camels.
- C. Quickly, ran (Gen. 24:18, 20) – heart enthusiastic to serve (Mt. 11:29; 20:26-27).

## **VII. MANIFEST TOKENS OF GOD'S PRESENCE (GEN. 24:22-30)**

*So it was, when the camels had finished drinking, that the man took a golden nose ring weighing half a shekel, and two bracelets for her wrists weighing ten shekels of gold, 23 and said, "Whose daughter are you? Tell me, please, is there room in your father's house for us to lodge?" 24 So she said to him, "I am the daughter of Bethuel, Milcah's son, whom she bore to Nahor." 25 Moreover she said to him, "We have both straw and feed enough, and room to lodge." 26 Then the man bowed down his head and worshipped the LORD. 27 And he said, "Blessed be the LORD God of my master Abraham, who has not forsaken His mercy and His truth toward my master. As for me, being on the way, the LORD led me to the house of my master's brethren." 28 So the young woman ran and told her mother's household these things. 29 Now Rebekah had a brother whose name was Laban, and Laban ran out to the man by the well. 30 So it came to pass, when he saw the nose ring, and the bracelets on his sister's wrists, and when he heard the words of his sister Rebekah, saying, "Thus the man spoke to me," that he went to the man. There he stood by the camels at the well. (Genesis 24:22-30)*

- A. Golden nose-ring –
- B. Golden bracelets –
- C. Room to lodge –
- D. Worshipped –

- E. Mercy –
- F. Ran and told –
- G. Household –
- H. He saw –
- I. Stood by the well –

**VIII. HONORING THE HOLY SPIRIT (GEN. 24:31-32)**

*And he said, "Come in, O blessed of the LORD! Why do you stand outside? For I have prepared the house, and a place for the camels." 32 Then the man came to the house. And he unloaded the camels, and provided straw and feed for the camels, and water to wash his feet and the feet of the men who were with him. (Genesis 24:31-32)*

- A. Come in, Oh! blessed of the Lord – inviting the presence of the Holy Spirit.
- B. Why do you stand on the outside –
- C. Prepared –
- D. Unloaded –
- E. Provided –

**IX. THE HOLY SPIRIT'S URGENCY (GEN. 24:33-34)**

*Food was set before him to eat, but he said, "I will not eat until I have told about my errand." He said, "Speak on." 34 He said, "I am Abraham's servant." (Gen. 24:33-34)*

- A. Will not eat –
- B. My errand –

C. Abraham's servant –

**X. THE NECESSITY OF THE REVELATION OF GOD (GEN. 24:35-36)**

*The LORD has blessed my master greatly, and he has become great; and He has given him flocks and herds, silver and gold, male and female servants, and camels and donkeys. 36 And Sarah my master's wife bore a son to my master when she was old; and to him he has given all that he has. (Genesis 24:35-36)*

A. My Master is great and greatly blessed with many flocks and gold –

B. Many male and female servants –

C. The supernatural child who is heir of all –

**XI. PREPARED BY THE TESTIMONY OF GOD (GEN. 24:37-48)**

*Now my master made me swear, saying, “You shall not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, in whose land I dwell; 38 but you shall go to my father's house and to my family, and take a wife for my son.” 39 And I said to my master, “Perhaps the woman will not follow me.” 40 But he said to me, “The LORD, before whom I walk, will send His angel with you and prosper your way; and you shall take a wife for my son from my family and from my father's house. 41 You will be clear from this oath when you arrive among my family; for if they will not give her to you, then you will be released from my oath.” 42 And this day I came to the well and said, “O LORD God of my master Abraham, if You will now prosper the way in which I go, 43 behold, I stand by the well of water; and it shall come to pass that when the virgin comes out to draw water, and I say to her, ‘Please give me a little water from your pitcher to drink,’ 44 and she says to me, ‘Drink, and I will draw for your camels also,’ -let her be the woman whom the LORD has appointed for my master's son.” 45 But before I had finished speaking in my heart, there was Rebekah, coming out with her pitcher on her shoulder; and she went down to the well and drew water. And I said to her, “Please let me drink.” 46 And she made haste and let her pitcher down from her shoulder, and said, “Drink, and I will give your camels a drink also.” So I drank, and she gave the camels a drink also. 47 Then I asked her, and said, “Whose daughter are you?” And she said, “The daughter of Bethuel, Nahor's son, whom Milcah bore to him.” So I put the nose ring on her nose and the bracelets on her wrists. 48 And I bowed my head and worshiped the LORD, and blessed the LORD God of my master Abraham, who had led me in the way of truth to take the daughter of my master's brother for his son. (Gen. 24:37-48)*

A. God's plan told –

- B. Prepare a Bride –
- C. God's story told –
- D. Supernatural intervention –
- E. Divine destiny –
- F. Son's inheritance –
- G. Worshipper of God –
- H. Led by God –

**XII. THE HOLY SPIRIT WAITS FOR OUR RESPONSE (GEN. 24:49-53)**

*"Now if you 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." 50 Then Laban and Bethuel answered and said, "The thing comes from the LORD; we cannot speak to you either bad or good. 51 Here is Rebekah before you; take her and go, and let her be your master's son's wife, as the LORD has spoken." 52 And it came to pass, when Abraham's servant heard their words, that he worshiped the LORD, bowing himself to the earth. 53 Then the servant brought out jewelry of silver, jewelry of gold, and clothing, and gave them to Rebekah. He also gave precious things to her brother and to her mother. (Genesis 24:49-53)*

- A. The servant waits for the response of the heart – tell me
- B. Here is Rebekah take her –
- C. Worship –
- D. Jewelry, clothing and precious things –

**XIII. THE HOLY SPIRIT'S JEALOUSY (GEN. 24:54-56)**

*And he and the men who were with him ate and drank and stayed all night. Then they arose in the morning, and he said, "Send me away to my master." 55 But her brother and her mother said, "Let the young woman stay with us a few days, at least ten; after that she may go." 56 And he said to them, "Do not hinder me, since the LORD has prospered my way; send me away so that I may go to my master." (Genesis 24:54-56)*

- A. Send me away –
- B. Ate and drank –
- C. Few days –
- D. Do not hinder me –

#### **XIV. THE BRIDE'S VOLUNTARY LOVE (GEN. 24:57-60)**

*So they said, "We will call the young woman and ask her personally." 58 Then they called Rebekah and said to her, "Will you go with this man?" And she said, "I will go." 59 So they sent away Rebekah their sister and her nurse, and Abraham's servant and his men. 60 And they blessed Rebekah and said to her: "Our sister, may you become the mother of thousands of ten thousands; and may your descendants possess The gates of those who hate them." (Genesis 24:57-60)*

- A. They ask for her response – will you go?
- B. They blessed Rebekah and prophesied of her being mother to multitudes.

#### **XV. THE BRIDE'S JOURNEY THROUGH THE WIDERNESS (GEN. 24:61-65)**

*Then Rebekah and her maids arose, and they rode on the camels and followed the man. So the servant took Rebekah and departed. 62 Now Isaac came from the way of Beer Lahai Roi, for he dwelt in the South. 63 And Isaac went out to meditate in the field in the evening; and he lifted his eyes and looked, and there, the camels were coming. 64 Then Rebekah lifted her eyes, and when she saw Isaac she dismounted from her camel; 65 for she had said to the servant, "Who is this man walking in the field to meet us?" And the servant said, "It is my master." So she took a veil and covered herself. (Genesis 24:61-65)*

- A. Rebekah rode on the camels –
- B. Rebekah followed the man –
- C. Isaac looked for Bride –
- D. Rebekah lifted her eyes then dismounted –

**XVI. THE CONSUMMATION OF THE ETERNAL MARRIAGE (GEN. 24:66-67)**

*And the servant told Isaac all the things that he had done. 67 Then Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah's tent; and he took Rebekah and she became his wife, and he loved her. So Isaac was comforted after his mother's death. (Genesis 24:66-67)*

- A. The servant told Isaac all –
- B. Isaac took Rebekah and she became his wife and he loved her –