

Chayei Sarah – Sarah’s Life

Genesis 23:1-25:18

Genesis 23

Sarah’s death & burial; Abraham is a foreigner and visitor; purchase of Cave of Machpelah

Genesis 24 (Today’s emphasis)

A Bride for Isaac

Genesis 25

Abraham & Keturah
Abraham’s death and burial
Genealogy of Ishmael
Genealogy of Isaac

The Picture of the Search for the Bride for Isaac			
Abraham Genesis 24	Isaac Genesis 27-29	The Bride	Comments
Scene Setting			
When Abraham advanced in age, he made his oldest servant make him an oath to do as he was asked – this was done by putting his hand under Abraham’s thigh.	When Isaac was old and eyes were dim, he asked Esau to hunt game and prepare a tasty meal so he could bless him before he died. Rebekah told Jacob to pretend to be Esau in order to get Esau’s blessing.	Ex 3:10 Come now, therefore, and I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring My people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt." <i>Marriage Language on Mount Sinai:</i> <i>Exodus 6:6-7; 19:8, 24:7</i> <i>Isaiah 54:3 For your Maker is your husband, YHVH of Hosts is His name.</i> <i>(See Col 1:12-16; Rev. 19:11-19)</i> <i>Hosea 1:2</i> <i>"Go, take yourself a wife of harlotry And children of harlotry, For the land has</i>	The covenant on Mount Sinai is both a marriage covenant <i>and</i> a Suzerain-Vassal Treaty. Marriage is supposed to be a perpetual covenant between 2 people while they are alive. It ends at death.

		<p><i>committed great harlotry By departing from the Lord.</i></p> <p><i>Hosea 2:2 "Bring charges against your mother, bring charges; For she is not My wife, nor am I her Husband! Let her put away her harlotries from her sight, And her adulteries from between her breasts; (see also Hosea 2:16-20; Jeremiah 3)</i></p>	
Finding a Wife			
<p>Don't get a wife for my son from the Canaanites; get one from my family from my country.</p> <p>What if she's not willing to come?</p> <p>Don't take my son back there.</p> <p>YHVH promised me and my descendants this land.</p> <p>YHVH will send His angel before you.</p> <p>If the woman will not follow, you are released from this oath; only do not take my son back there.</p> <p>So the servant put his hand under the thigh of Abraham his master, and swore to him concerning this matter.</p>	<p>Rebekah expressed weariness to Isaac over Esau's wives. Isaac told Jacob not to take a wife from Canaan but to go find a wife from the daughters of Laban his mother's brother.</p>	<p>Fall of Babylon – to a nation from the north.</p> <p>Jeremiah 50:4-6 <i>"In those days and in that time," says the Lord, "The children of Israel shall come, They and the children of Judah together; With continual weeping they shall come, And seek the Lord their God. 5 They shall ask the way to Zion, With their faces toward it, saying, 'Come and let us join ourselves to the Lord In a perpetual covenant That will not be forgotten.'</i></p> <p>6 "My people (marriage language) have been <u>lost sheep</u>. (See also Jeremiah 31:31-32)</p> <p>Yeshua's mission was to seek and to save (rescue from death) that which was lost...specifically the lost sheep of Israel (Luke 19:10; Matthew 15:24) but he did help a few outside the covenant (Matthew 15:21-28)</p>	<p>The Father sent a servant to find/bring a wife for his son. In Isaac's case, he sent his son Jacob to find a wife for himself. In Yeshua's case, the Father sent Him to find <i>His</i> lost wife (See also Hosea 3:1-3).</p> <p>Yeshua's main ministry was primarily in Galilee; but, he did send his disciples and 70 others to the lost sheep of the house of Israel to bring them back into the covenant (Luke 9:1-6; 10:1-12).</p> <p>Later, others were sent to bring the Gentiles into the covenant.</p> <p>How should we view the lost sheep of the house of</p>

			<p>Israel? Are they distant family?</p> <p>(See Ezekiel 37; John 10:11-16)</p>
On the road...			
<p>Abraham's servant took ten camels to Mesopotamia to the city of Nahor. The camels kneeled down at evening time when the women came to draw water.</p>	<p>So Isaac sent Jacob away and he went to Padan Aram, to Laban the son of Bethuel the Syrian, the brother of Rebekah, the mother of Jacob and Esau.</p>	<p>Yeshua was on his way to Galilee but needed to go through Samaria (John 4).</p>	<p><i>Yeshua was constantly on a mission to seek and to save the lost.</i></p> <p><i>His goal:</i> <i>Hosea 2:16-20</i> <i>You will call Me My Husband...I will betroth you to Me forever (le-olam).</i></p> <p>(See also Romans 7:4-6; 2 Corinthians 11:2)</p>
<p>The Righteous, as the Bride of Messiah are a picture of YHVH's former bride and a picture of the future Bride of the Lamb (the New Jerusalem). Each picture brings us closer to the actual reality or God's goal. <i>They are essentially the same but appear to apply to a different age (olam).</i></p>			
They have unique encounters ...			
<p>Abraham's servant prayed to YHVH for success and kindness to Abraham his master.</p> <p>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've appointed for Your servant Isaac and by this I'll know you have shown kindness to my master.</p>	<p>Jacob lay down to sleep and dreamed of a ladder between heaven and earth; with angels ascending and descending on it. He encountered YHVH, the God of His forefathers. YHVH promised him numerous descendants, and that in him and his seed all the families of the earth would be blessed. YHVH promised to be with him and bring him back to this land. He named the place Beth-el (House of God) and said it was the gate of heaven. He made a vow that YHVH would be his</p>	<p>John 1:43-51 Nathanael declares Yeshua to be the Son of God, the King of Israel.... (previously Yeshua called him an Israelite in whom there was no deceit; Yeshua knew Nathanael because He had seen him under a fig tree)</p> <p>And Yeshua said to him [Nathanael], "Most assuredly, I say to you, hereafter you shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.</p> <p>(Yeshua is the Gate/Door of the sheepfold – John 10:7-</p>	<p>Abraham's servant encountered the future bride of Isaac</p> <p>Jacob encountered YHVH, the God of his forefathers.</p> <p>Nathanael encountered Yeshua the Son of God, the King of Israel.</p>

	god if YHVH would guide him, feed him, and bring him back in peace.	18)."	
They came to a well...			
A virgin came to the well with a pitcher on her shoulder	Jacob came to a well with 3 flocks of sheep lying by it. Jacob inquired if they knew Laban the son of Nahor. They said yes and said Rachel his daughter is coming with the sheep.	Yeshua came to a well in Sychar (סִיכָר), Samaria, near a plot of ground that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. He was weary from His journey so he sat by the well. It was about noon (6 th hour). A woman of Samaria came to draw water.	Rebekah Rachel Samaritan woman (How shall we view her in relation to all of Israel? Is she comparable to a distant relative or a lost sheep of Israel?)
Water			
<p>Abraham's servant ran to meet Rebekah and said, "Please let me drink a little water from your pitcher."</p> <p>Rebekah let Abraham's servant drink and offered to draw water for the camels until they were finished drinking. The servant remained silent to know if YHVH made his journey prosperous or not. When Rebekah was done, he gave her a golden nose ring (1/2 shekel) and 2 bracelets for her wrists weighing 10 shekels of gold.</p>	<p>Jacob suggested they water the sheep and go and feed them. They said they couldn't until all the flocks were gathered and the stone from the well was rolled away.</p> <p>Rachel came while Jacob was still speaking to the men. When Jacob saw her, he rolled the stone away and watered the flock of Laban his mother's brother.</p> <p>Jacob kissed her (he had nothing to give her), lifted up his voice and wept.</p>	<p>Yeshua asked her for a drink of water because His disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.</p> <p>John 4:9-15 Then the woman of Samaria said to Him, "How is it that You, being a Jew, ask a drink from me, a Samaritan woman?" For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.</p> <p>Yeshua answered and said to her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, 'Give Me a drink,' you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water."</p> <p>The woman said to Him, "Sir, You have nothing to draw with, and the well is deep. Where then do You get that living water?"</p>	<p>We all have a thirst for drinking physical water and spiritual water.</p> <p>Now we have a contrast between different kinds of water:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dead • Living • Spiritual <p>Jeremiah 2:13 'For My (YHVH) people have committed two evils: They have forsaken Me, the fountain of living waters, And hewn themselves cisterns — broken cisterns that can hold no water.</p> <p>(See also Jeremiah</p>

			17:13; Zechariah 14:8; John 7:38; Revelation 21:6-8)
<p>John 4:10-15</p> <p>In Hebrew, mayim chayyim (literally, living water) means running water from a stream or spring, in contrast with water stored in a cistern. Figuratively, with Yeshua, it means spiritual life; compare 7:37-39.</p> <p>(from Jewish New Testament Commentary Copyright © 1992 by David H. Stern. All rights reserved. Used by permission.)</p>			
Identities revealed			
<p>Abraham's servant asked whose daughter Rebekah was and if there was room to lodge.</p> <p>She answered that she was Bethuel's daughter, Milcah's son, whom she bore to Nahor. We have both straw and feed enough, and room to lodge.</p> <p>Then the man bowed down his head and worshiped YHVH. He blessed YHVH for not forsaking His mercy and truth toward Abraham, and for being with him on the way and leading him to the house of his master's brethren.</p>	<p>Jacob told Rachel he was her father's relative and that he was Rebekah's son.</p>	<p>The Samaritan woman asked, "Are You greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well, and drank from it himself, as well as his sons and his livestock?"</p> <p>Yeshua answered and said to her, "Whoever drinks of this water will thirst again, but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life."</p> <p>The woman said to Him, "Sir, give me this water, that I may not thirst, nor come here to draw."</p> <p>He told her to call her husband. She said she didn't have one. He said you're right, the one you are with is not your husband. She perceives he's a prophet so she asks which is the proper place to worship. He says a time is coming when true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth. She acknowledges that the Messiah is coming.</p>	<p>Who are we?</p> <p>Who are believers in Yeshua?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Betrothed as a virgin to Messiah (2 Corinthians 11:2) • Children of God; (Galatians 3:26; Romans 8:14-17) • Heirs (Titus 3:4-7; James 2:5; Ephesians 3:6; Galatians 3:29; Romans 8:17) <p>What kind of water are we drinking?</p>

		Yeshua admits He is the Messiah.	
Sharing the Gospel			
<p>The young woman ran and told her mother's household these things.</p> <p>Upon hearing Rebekah's news and seeing her gifts, her brother Laban went out to the well to invite him to stay.</p>	<p>She ran and told her father</p> <p>When Laban heard the report, he ran to meet him, embraced him, kissed him, and brought him into his house</p>	<p>The disciples came and marveled that he was talking to a woman. She left her waterpot, went into the city, and told the men to come see a Man who told her all things she'd ever done. "Could he be the Messiah?"</p>	<p>Note how the good news of someone's arrival brought excitement to those who heard it.</p>
Food			
<p>Laban gave him water to wash his feet and for the men who were with him. He provided straw for the camels. Food was set before Abraham's servant to eat.</p>	<p><i>No mention of food and drink is made here. Obviously, they did eat since he remained there.</i></p>	<p>The disciples asked if anyone brought Yeshua food. Yeshua said His food was to do the will of the Father and finish His work (reaping the harvest).</p>	<p>We need to study the Scriptures and share what spiritual food we find with others.</p>
Got married; entered/returned to the covenant...			
<p>He told them he was Abraham's servant; about Sarah bearing Isaac; his promise to Abraham to find a wife for Isaac; and how God prospered him through Rebekah.</p> <p>Laban and Bethuel said they could take Rebekah and go, and be Isaac's wife.</p> <p>Abraham's servant heard their words and worshiped YHWH.</p>	<p>So Jacob told Laban all these things. He stayed with him for a month. Laban asked what his wages should be for serving him.</p> <p>Jacob suggested having Rachel as his wife. He worked for 7 years to have Rachel.</p> <p>In the evening, Laban gave him Leah instead of Rachel.</p>	<p>Many Samaritans of that city believed in Him because of the woman's testimony. They urged Him to stay with them; He stayed 2 days.</p> <p>And many more believed because of His word that He was the Messiah, the Savior of the world.</p> <p><i>By believing in Yeshua as the Messiah, they entered/returned to the original covenant.</i></p> <p><i>Their belief would have been demonstrated by action - obedience to the terms of the covenant.</i></p>	<p>Marriage is comparable to entering a perpetual covenant.</p>
Gifts			
<p>Abraham's servant gave Rebekah more gifts, and also gave gifts to Laban</p>	<p>Laban gave his maid Zilpah to his daughter Leah as a maid.</p>	<p><i>The Holy Spirit (Ruach HaKodesh) was poured out on the Day of Pentecost</i></p>	<p>1 Corinthians 12:4-11 There are</p>

<p>and her mother. He and those who traveled with him ate and drank, and stayed all night.</p>		<p>(Shavuot). Acts 2:1-4</p>	<p>diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all: for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.</p>
Stay longer			

<p>They wanted to leave in the morning but were asked to stay a few more days. He asked not to be hindered. They asked Rebekah and she agreed to go.</p> <p>They sent Rebekah and her nurse with Abraham's servant and his men.</p> <p>He told them he was Abraham's servant; about Sarah bearing Isaac; his promise; how God prospered him through Rebekah.</p> <p>Laban and Bethuel said they could take Rebekah and go, and be Isaac's wife. Abraham's servant heard their words and worshiped YHVH.</p>	<p>Jacob agreed to serve another 7 years for Rachel.</p> <p>Rachel became his wife.</p>	<p>Many Samaritans of that city believed in Him because of the woman's testimony. They urged Him to stay with them; He stayed 2 days.</p> <p>And many more believed because of His word and that He was the Messiah, the Savior of the world.</p>	<p>Luke 24:49 Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high."</p> <p>(See also John 7:37-39; 14:15-17, 26-27)</p>
More gifts...			
<p>He gave Rebekah more gifts, and also gave gifts to Laban and her mother. He and those who traveled with him ate and drank, and stayed all night. They wanted to leave in the morning but were asked to stay a few more days. He asked not to be hindered. They asked Rebekah and she agreed to go. They sent Rebekah and her nurse with Abraham's servant and</p>	<p>Laban gave him his maid Bilhah to his daughter Rachel as a maid.</p>	<p><i>After the Holy Spirit (Ruach HaKodesh) was given to every believer (both Jew and Gentile); they received the gifts that the Spirit deemed appropriate to help the body of Messiah function as it should.</i></p> <p><i>Note that the maids of Leah and Rachel were to provide acts of service.</i></p> <p><i>In the same way, the Spirit equips us for spiritual acts of service.</i></p>	<p>Romans 12:4-8 For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function, so we, being many, are one body in Messiah, and individually members of one another. Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us</p>

his men.			prophesy in proportion to our faith; or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.
Innumerable descendants			
They blessed her: may you become the mother of thousands of ten thousands ; and may your descendants possess the gates of those who hate them.	Jacob had 12 sons : Leah (6): Reuben, Simeon, Lev, Judah, Issachar, Zebulun (+ Dinah) Bilhah (R2): Dan, Naphtali Zilpah (L2): Gad, Asher Rachel (2): Joseph, Benjamin	<i>Believers/the righteous are grafted into the olive tree of the whole house of Israel.</i>	<i>Revelation 7:9-11 After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!"</i>
Hidden identity			
They departed with Rebekah and her maids. Isaac was dwelling in the South and went out to meditate in the evening. He saw them coming. Rebekah saw him and	Leah's identity was hidden from Jacob on their wedding night.	<i>Yeshua's identity was hidden from many.</i> <i>Isaiah 6:9-10; Matthew 13:13-17</i> <i>The veil of the Tabernacle kept most from seeing the</i>	<i>The removal of the veil creates a level of access and intimacy not previously known.</i> <i>2 Corinthians 3:14-18</i>

<p>asked who he was. When she heard it was Isaac, she covered herself with a veil. The servant told Isaac everything that he had done. Isaac brought her into his mother's tent; she became his wife and he loved her.</p>		<p><i>presence of YHVH. Direct access was limited yet all could potentially come to worship.</i></p> <p><i>Upon Yeshua's death, this physical veil was torn in two.</i></p>	<p><i>But their minds were blinded. For until this day the same veil remains unlifted in the reading of the Old Testament, because the veil is taken away in Christ. But even to this day, when Moses is read, a veil lies on their heart. Nevertheless when one turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.</i></p>
Comfort			
<p>Isaac was comforted after his mother's death.</p>	<p><i>When he got Rachel as his wife, it likely appeased his grief over getting Leah first.</i></p>	<p>2 Corinthians 1:3-5</p> <p>Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, 4 who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.</p>	<p>(See Revelation 19:9 – call to marriage supper of the Lamb)</p> <p>Revelation 21:3-4 And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God</p>

			<p>Himself will be with them and be their God.</p> <p>And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away."</p>
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