Rebekah

"In the Beginning"



"Behold, Rebekah is before you, take her and go, and let her be the wife of your master's son, as the LORD has spoken." Genesis 24:51

Rebekah was the wife of Isaac, but it was not a romantic "first love" as we may think. After Sarah died, Abraham was concerned that Isaac marry the right woman.

He called in his servant and gave him the job of making sure Isaac had the wife he wanted him to have. He said "You shall not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, among whom I live, but you shall go to my country and to my relatives, and take a wife for my son Isaac" (Gen. 24:3, 4).

So the servant left his land to go get a bride for Isaac. The servant went loaded down with gifts to seek the perfect wife for Isaac! But the servant was worried. He knew his God would take care of him. As he neared the land he

prayed that God would lead him to the right woman and then, he wanted to have her offer to help water the camels also! He seemed to be asking for a lot, but he was in a tough situation!

The Bible tells us that the words were barely out of his mouth when Rebekah came out with a water jug on her shoulder. She was beautiful, and she offered to hold the jug while he drank and offered to get water for his camels also. God had answered his prayer.

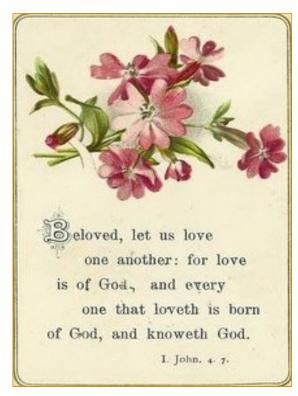
When the camels had finished drinking, the man gave Rebekah the gifts. Then he asked if she could help him with lodging for the night. She answered that there was plenty of room for him and food and lodging for his animals at her home. We can see that God is the matchmaker in this situation.

When they returned they found Isaac meditating in the field. Rebekah dismounted the camel and covered herself with a veil as was the custom. After he had heard all the exciting details of the trip, he knew the guidance of God had found a bride for him.

Beauty is how you feel inside, and it reflects in your eyes. It is not something physical.

Sophia Loren

The married life of Isaac and Rebekah had its problems. She was very beautiful according to Scripture. For many years they were unable to conceive. Eventually did conceive. Rebekah bore twins, Esau and Jacob, to Isaac. As the children grew, Isaac favored Esau, but Rebekah favored Jacob.



Incidentally Isaac showed the same weakness that was in his father Abraham. Once, Isaac said she was his sister because he feared the Philistines, but he got caught and explained that he was afraid for them. The king protected them and threatened anyone who would harm either one of them.

Rebekah helped her favorite, Jacob, to get the family blessing over Esau who was the elder through disguising Jacob. Soon, Jacob had to leave because Esau was upset with him. Jacob was sent to live with Rebekah's brother, Laban. Jacob married from the land that his mother and father requested, but Rebekah never saw him again. Actually, God had also guided this according to many authorities because Jacob married the right person to carry on God's plan. Esau married



a woman that did not meet with the family 's approval.

Through Rebekah, God's plan was accomplished, but she was an interfering person by taking favoritism of one son over the other. God was able to move forward in the creation of nations even though conditions were not always perfect.

We also know that our conditions and thoughts are not always to the liking of God, but His plan will be accomplished. I have often thought how messed up things would be if we were in control all the time. One small example would be to have rain when we wanted it!!! Of course it wouldn't be the time everyone else wanted it. But God works it out. Our very lives are watched over and we know God cares for us.

"Outer beauty attracts, but inner beauty captivates."

-KATE ANGELL

A wonderful portion of the Bible tells us how important we are to God. In Luke we read "Consider the lilies how they grow: they toil not, they spin not; and yet I say unto you, that Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. If then God so clothe the grass, which is to day in the field, and tomorrow is cast into the oven; how much more will he clothe you, O ye of little faith?" Luke 12:27-28

Rebekah had many good qualities that were given to her, but she was also allowed free will to do things as she chose, and she, like us, messed things up. God cares for us though; He is always there to guide and protect us. How wonderful to know that He cares for the flowers which we think are just a passing fancy and hold no importance. If we transfer that to us and our loved ones, we have a wonderful promise that we can't even comprehend.



Prayer: Lord, You are an awesome God and Savior. Before we can do anything, we know that You know us and are always there to help us. When we fall, You pick us up. Thank You for Your guidance as we seek to do Your will here on this earth. Amen

- 1. Why did Abraham want to arrange a good marriage for Isaac?
- 2. Is it important that we marry the right person? What steps should we take to try to marry the right person?
- 3. Rebekah was willing to go and marry Isaac. Can we expect God to guide us in marriage?
- 4. Should we help our children to find the correct mate? How?
- 5. Is it wrong to have favorites among your children? What are some of the problems? What situations sometimes make one child favored over another?

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"A STRONG MARRIAGE REQUIRES TWO PEOPLE WHO CHOOSE TO LOVE EACH OTHER EVEN ON THOSE DAYS WHEN THEY STRUGGLE TO LIKE EACH OTHER."

DaveWillis.org