

Genesis: God and Man

This Oath

Genesis 24

Abraham sends his servant to find a bride for Isaac

Arranged marriage

Many dads would love it i think

A practice of royalty

Fiddler on the roof

Dating, western culture, marriage and divorce rates

Even among christians

Maybe it's not such a bad idea...however, i don't want it left up to me,

God should be the one who arranges it

Jas 1:17 NKJV - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.

Pray

[1 - 10]

The servant? Eliezar (at least he was the man from 60 years earlier Gen 15:2) Would have been the heir without a son. This is a special man to Abraham. Not named here, and I think the point is put the focus on the Lord...as a picture of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit always points us to Christ in our worship.

Under my thigh - how an oath was sown

“Not take a wife from the daughters of the Canaanites among whom i dwell”

“My country, my family”

Abraham knew God sent him to this land and his descendents would eventually take over it
They were not to intermingle or become Canaanites, but they were to be separate

2Co 6:16-18 NKJV - And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: "I will dwell in them And walk among

[them]. I will be their God, And they shall be My people." Therefore "Come out from among them And be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, And I will receive you." "I will be a Father to you, And you shall be My sons and daughters, Says the LORD Almighty."

BEWARE do not take my son back there

to keep, guard, watch, observe, give heed, be on guard

Mat 10:16 NKJV - "Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves. Therefore be wise as serpents and harmless as doves.

Advice for spreading the gospel, the result of the most important decision of your life, to follow Jesus, but it certainly has **practical application** when making the second most important decision of your life...**who you will or will not marry**

He will send His angel before you

whole process that of the Holy Spirit finding the bride for Christ

If the woman is not willing to follow

It's important that the woman wants to marry the man

Arranged marriage, but not forced marriage

You can't force love

Bad relationships tend to be about forcing "love" and it never is

1Co 13:4-8 NKJV - Love suffers long [and] is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails. But whether [there are] prophecies, they will fail; whether [there are] tongues, they will cease; whether [there is] knowledge, it will vanish away.

If she won't follow, he would be free.

It wasn't the servant's responsibility to make her come. He just had to put the invite out there

Very reminiscent of the gospel

"Being free of the blood of all men"

Marriage advice

1Co 7:10-17 NKJV - Now to the married I command, [yet] not I but the Lord: A wife is not to depart from [her] husband. But even if she does depart, let her remain unmarried or be

reconciled to [her] husband. And a husband is not to divorce [his] wife. But to the rest I, not the Lord, say: If any brother has a wife who does not believe, and she is willing to live with him, let him not divorce her. And a woman who has a husband who does not believe, if he is willing to live with her, let her not divorce him. For the unbelieving husband is sanctified by the wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified by the husband; otherwise your children would be unclean, but now they are holy. But if the unbeliever departs, let him depart; a brother or a sister is not under bondage in such [cases]. But God has called us to peace. For how do you know, O wife, whether you will save [your] husband? Or how do you know, O husband, whether you will save [your] wife? But as God has distributed to each one, as the Lord has called each one, so let him walk. And so I ordain in all the churches.

Mesopotamia the cradle of civilization, fertile crescent

Mesopotamia is a historical region in Western Asia situated within the Tigris–Euphrates river system, in modern days roughly corresponding to most of Iraq, Kuwait, parts of Northern Saudi Arabia, the eastern parts of Syria, Southeastern Turkey, and regions along the Turkish–Syrian and Iran–Iraq borders.[1] wiki

Nahor - Abraham's brother

[11 - 16]

Evening, cooler

Samaritan woman at the well at midday

The servant prays a relationship with God here, even if just through his master

People may come to faith, but they may come to faith through our faith, by testing and trying our faith

“Eliezer was wise enough to ask for a sign that was remarkable, but (in human terms) possible. He didn't tempt God by asking for fire to fall from heaven or for protection as he leapt from an unsafe height.” David Guzik commentary

A big ask - me to drink and the camels

Rebekah ensnarer

Might have run the other way knowing what her name meant, but her beauty was captivating
Interesting that she would have a son named “heal catcher”

Young woman, very beautiful

**Abraham picked a guy with good taste,
but his good taste was tempered by prayer and trust in God's standards**
Proverbs on women/wife

Pro 31:10 NKJV - Who can find a virtuous wife? For her worth [is] far above rubies.

Pro 19:14 NKJV - Houses and riches [are] an inheritance from fathers, But a prudent wife [is] from the LORD.

Pro 11:22 NKJV - [As] a ring of gold in a swine's snout, [So is] a lovely woman who lacks discretion.

Make sure the one you want to marry is Godly. If they're not Godly, don't inspire you to be Godly, then you're in trouble. You can't change them but they will change you. Run.

[17 - 28]

He ran up he wasn't waiting for her to come to him
She was a wise, discrete woman, not going to approach some strange man at the well

She was respectful, quickly served
You want someone who is looking out for the needs of others
Who is respectful
Who is kind

"I will draw water for your camels also, until they have finished drinking"
A typical camel can drink 200 liters (53 gallons) of water in three minutes.
X how many camels?
= A LOT OF WORK

Quickly emptied
Ran back

Wondering at her...to gaze, but in a good way. Could this be her?
I gaze at wonderment at those i love and love me in life

Remained silent - ready to listen if the LORD had made his way prosperous
That's wise
Praying and listening right before the kids were born

Nose ring, ½ shekel

Two brackeleets ten shekels

Not cheap

“ A golden nose ring: There was nothing strange, shocking, or rebellious about wearing a nose ring in that culture.” DGC

Now the deeper inspection - Whose daughter are you?

(I want to meet the family)

Want to know someone better? Meet their family.

Nahor, Abraham’s father her grandfather - perfect

Godoinces

Bumping into certian people, things in the mail, hearing from the Lord over and over

Inviting - we have straw and feed and room

Hospitable. Especially in that culture, no hotels

The man (not called the servant here) worshipped the Lord

If his faith wasn’t totally in God before this point, it was personal now

She ran again!

Luk 2:49 NKJV - And He said to them, "Why did you seek Me? Did you not know that I must be about My Father's business?"

[29 - 49]

Laban (Jacob and Rachel and Leah)

Laban ran when he saw the expensive jewelry

Oh blessed of the LORD

Did they have faith?

Did he really prepare a place for them?

Maybe he was just taking credit for what was already available looking for a paycheck

The servant doesn’t relax, he doesn’t forget his mission, his oath

That’s an honorable man

Pro 10:26 NKJV - As vinegar to the teeth and smoke to the eyes, So [is] the lazy [man] to those who send him.

Ecc 5:4-6 NKJV - When you make a vow to God, do not delay to pay it; For [He has] no pleasure in fools. Pay what you have vowed-- Better not to vow than to vow and not pay. Do not let your mouth cause your flesh to sin, nor say before the messenger [of God] that it [was] an error. Why should God be angry at your excuse and destroy the work of your hands?

Pro 23:1-3 NKJV - When you sit down to eat with a ruler, Consider carefully what [is] before you; And put a knife to your throat If you [are] a man given to appetite. Do not desire his delicacies, For they [are] deceptive food.

Giving Abraham's credentials...

we're not taking your daughter away to a place and family unworthy.
We will provide for her

Want to get married? Get a job!

The Lord, before whom I walk...what a great way to look at faith

**No pressure if she doesn't want to.
Will not be a forced marriage**

He could go back to a familiar land if he wanted, he was all the way back there

Before i finished speaking in my heart...there was Rebekah
Isn't that how the Lord works?

Mat 6:7-8 NKJV - "And when you pray, do not use vain repetitions as the heathen [do]. For they think that they will be heard for their many words. "Therefore do not be like them. For your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask Him.

She made haste
Not lazy

The LORD God of my master, who had led me in the way of truth

Deal kindly and truthfully with my master - not wanting a big process, wanting a straightforward deal. They weren't here for dishonest gain

Turn to the right or to the left (i'll go either way, let's just have an honest deal)
He was on a straightforward mission, but would leave either way

Probably not advice in "Art of the Deal"

[50 - 61]

Laban and Bethuel (interesting that the brother has any say, maybe the firstborn)

**The thing comes from the LORD...they knew that
We cannot speak to you either bad or good**

Not sure of their faith here, but you can't contest with what the Lord is doing

They didn't ask her, it was not their culture

He worshipped again!

A dowry - weddings are expensive, but a bad marriage will cost you a lot more!

**Here we go...let her stay with us a few days...
this same mentality that Laban gives Jacob years later
Delaying, hoping to win something back**

Time to think about it

They say fools rush in

But when it's right, it's right. This was of the Lord

Marrying young vs. marrying young as a believer

**Do not hinder me, since the Lord has prospered my way
Immediate obedience, do not delay**

"If the world does not succeed in persuading the believer to abide in the world, it will seek to delay his exit...When you decide to go with the Lord, the world will applaud your devotion but will say, 'Don't rush. Abide a few days, at least ten, and then go.'" (Barnhouse)

What does Rebekah say? I will go

She was willing

So we must be willing to Go when and where the Lord calls us

Ready to go like the the virgins with their lamps and oil

**God used all that as a proof that she wanted and was willing to go,
immediate obedience from her heart.**

This was her way out if she didn't want to go

Rebekah and her nurse, her maids her servants...she had some familiar people with her at least

I couldn't imagine moving out her to do this without my family

The prophecy, Israel becomes a great nation and does take over the land of their enemies

[62 - 67]

Beer Lahai Roi - well of the Living One seeing me

Genesis 16, Hagar in the wilderness

Dwelt he dwelt in the south

Isaac went out to meditate in the evening

to meditate, muse, commune, speak, complain, a bit uncertain meaning

Time with God

(same time as the women went out to fetch water)

Walked in the cool of the day in the garden

Jhn 4:10-14 NKJV - Jesus 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." 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? "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?" Jesus 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."

They both lifted their eyes (cue the music and slow motion)

She gets down from her camel

Covered herself

Discretion, marriage, honorable

Who is this man? She noticed him right away

Ashlee and me, church nye party

Servant told Isaac everything

Brought her into his mother's tent

There was still a grieving and a loss and honor for his mom

Gen 2:24 NKJV - Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.

Leave and cleave...so important in a marriage

He loved her. She wasn't just an inheritance to him.

They were a match made in heaven

The comfort only a wife can bring

Marriage is an oath

Til death to us part

Do not break it. Spiritually, Mentally, Emotionally or Physically