

E2E: Part 21 – Isaac Gets a Bride

Genesis Chapter 24

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1. Abraham has walked with God for so long now he knows, beyond doubt, he can trust God for the best for his family and future generations.
2. Genesis 24 reveals a strategy for those who seek God's will:
 - you must truly want God's will
 - earnestly pray and seek His guidance
 - be willing to obey what His Word reveals
 - be alert and watch for what God is doing
3. Abraham's chief steward wants the very best. He prays for God's selection; not the one he would select. God's choice is always best. (Gen 24:11-14)
4. The servant's prayer reflects deep insight into human nature as well as total dependence on God. It's God himself who laid the foundation for the answer to this prayer when the girl was born. (Matt 6:7)
5. Rebekah's beauty may have satisfied the standards of lesser men, but her character impressed the chief steward most. (Gen 24:15-21)
6. When God is at work it's obvious. Even Laban and Bethuel must acknowledge God prepared the way for Rebekah. (Gen 24:50-51)
7. Rebekah's family, unknowingly, bless her with the same blessing given to Abraham. (Gen 22:17)
8. In verse 60, the phrase "possess the gate" refers to conquering the enemy. The ultimate picture of "possessing the gate" is Jesus storming the gates of hell when He defeated sin and death. (Matt 16:18)
9. When we intentionally pursue God's purposes through prayer, wisdom, and humility, He will reveal it.

HEBREW WORDS

Kena`an (ken-ah'-an); humiliated; a son of Cham (Ham); also, the country inhabited by him

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How do you go about making decision for your life? Is there some ultimate goal guiding the decisions you make for your life?
2. Many of us make decisions based on what we want (pleasure, security, control, etc). We might even seek to make sure there are no biblical commands that we are violating. However, in doing so we are really just wanting to know what God will tolerate rather than what He desires. Sometimes ignorance feels better to us than direct disobedience. Does this approach resonate with you?
3. Why might you avoid asking God what He wants for your life - first? Is there something you're afraid of? What might that be?
4. Mark mentioned a few principles that can help if you want to know God's will - first. Will you decide today that you will start applying them to your decision-making?
 - take time to earnestly seek God's guidance in His word, His people, and prayer
 - be alert and watchful for where God will direct you
 - humble your heart to be willing to obey what He reveals