



Genesis 16-25

Abraham: Growing in Faith

Names used for God

YHWH

(Yahweh / LORD): Translated as "LORD" Genesis 16:2, 18:14, 24:3

El Roi

(The God Who Sees Me)
Genesis 16:13
Hagar' Cry to God

El Shaddai

(God Almighty) Genesis 17:1 establishes covenant with Abraham promises he will be a father of nations

Elohim

(God): The Creator and Mighty One Nothing is too big/God wants to strengthen our faith. Genesis 17:3, 20:13, 21:22

El Olam

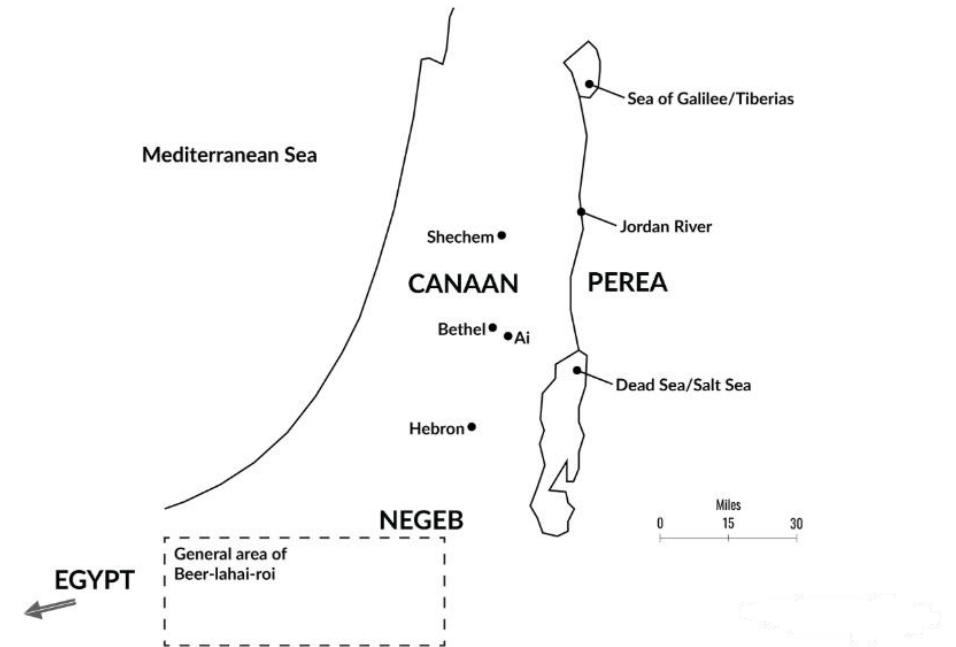
(The Everlasting God)
Genesis 21:33

Jehovah Jireh

(The Lord Will Provide or The Lord will see to it) Genesis 22:14

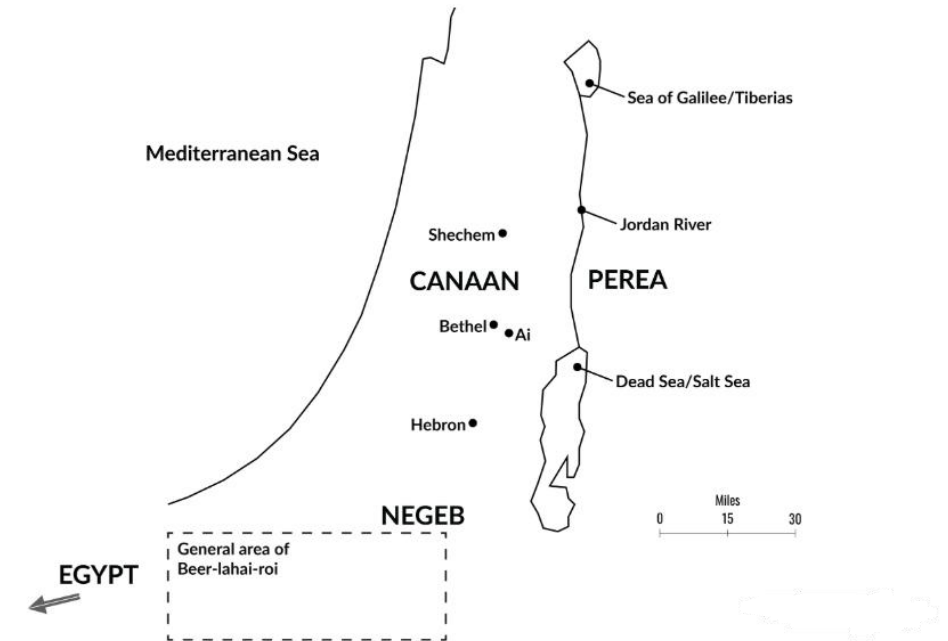
Genesis 16

- **Then Plan:** After waiting 10 years, Sarai (76) & Abraham (86) were impatient with God's promises on having offspring they feel they need to intervene and help God in plan.
- **The Conflict:** Due to pregnancy, Sarai and Hagar are at odds
- **Hagar flees:** Due to Hagar being treated harshly by Sarai she flees to wilderness area.
- **The Promise:** Angel of the Lord meets by a water spring, tells her to go back, and promises a large family for her son, Ishmael.
- Hagar call God El-roi ("the God who sees") because He hears her pain.
- **Lesson learned:**
 - Cry out to God in time of need.
 - It is always better to trust God patiently than to take matters into our own hands in an attempt to solve things more quickly.



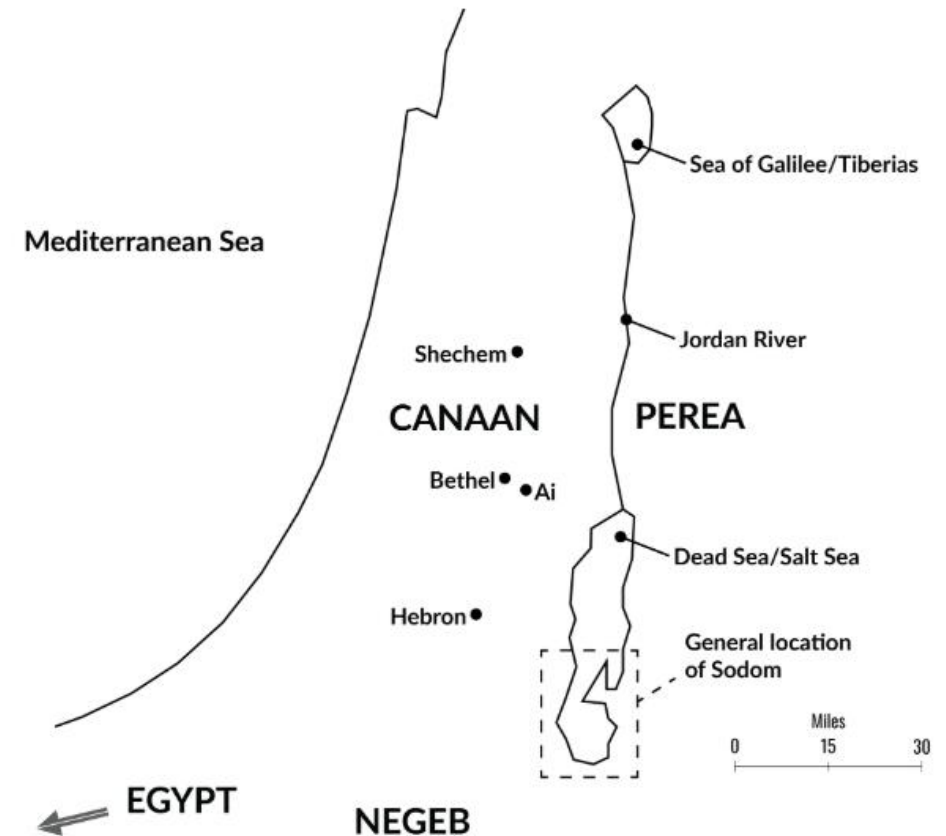
Genesis 17

- **Reaffirming Covenant:** God reaffirms His everlasting covenant to Abram and clarifies that Sarah will give birth to Isaac the heir to promise.
- **Name Changes:** Abram (“exalted father”) to Abraham. (“Father of a multitude”)
- Sarai’s (My Princess) to Sarah. (“Princess”)
- **The Sign:** God institutes circumcision as the physical sign of the everlasting covenant and promises that Sarah will bear the heir.
- **Lesson learned:**
 - Even if we laugh at what God tells us He will still deliver in promises.
 - Immediate Obedience: Abraham obeys God right away by circumcising himself, Ishmael, and every male in his house on that exact day.



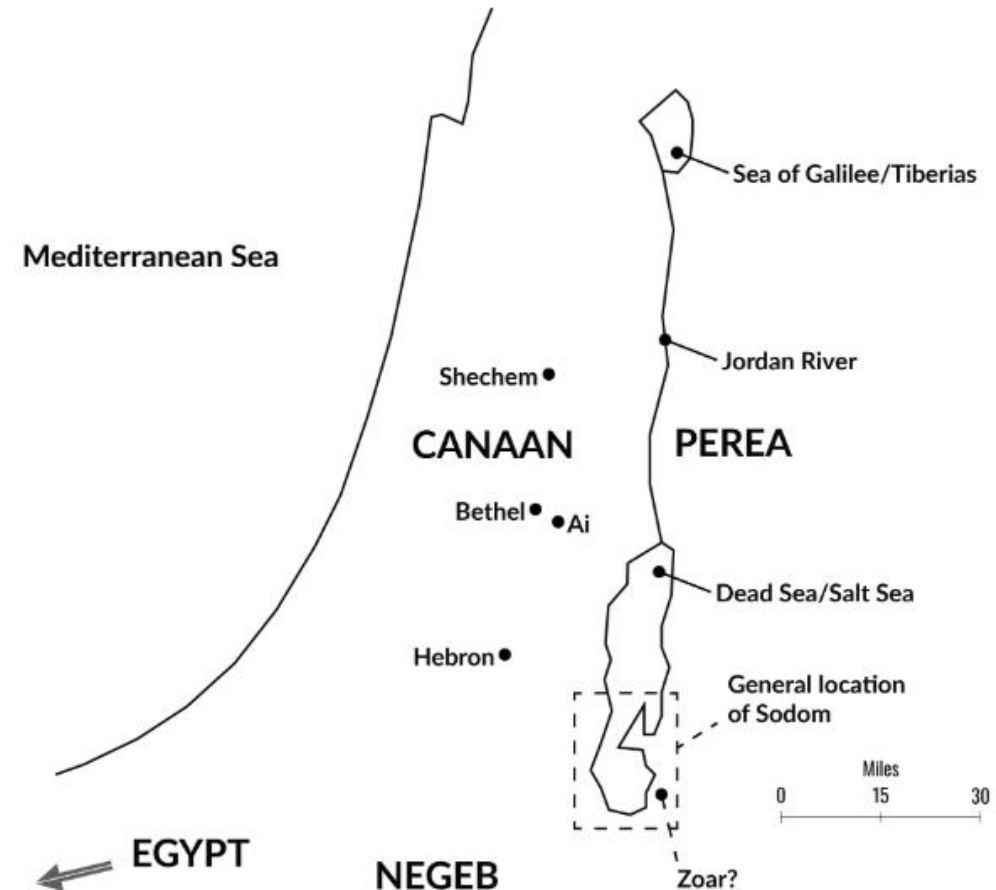
Genesis 18

- **The Visit:** The Lord and two angels appear to Abraham as three men.
- **Kindness:** Abraham runs to welcome them and prepares a large meal.
- **The Promise:** The Lord states that Sarah will have a son by this time next year.
- **Sarah's Laughter:** Sarah laughs quietly inside her tent because they are very old.
- **The Rebuke:** The Lord asks why she laughed and reminds them that nothing is too hard for God.
- **Plea & negotiation:** Abraham asks if God will sweep away the good people? What if 10 are righteous?
- **Lesson learned:**
 - Nothing too difficult for the Lord.
 - God does listen plea/crys to Him.



Genesis 19

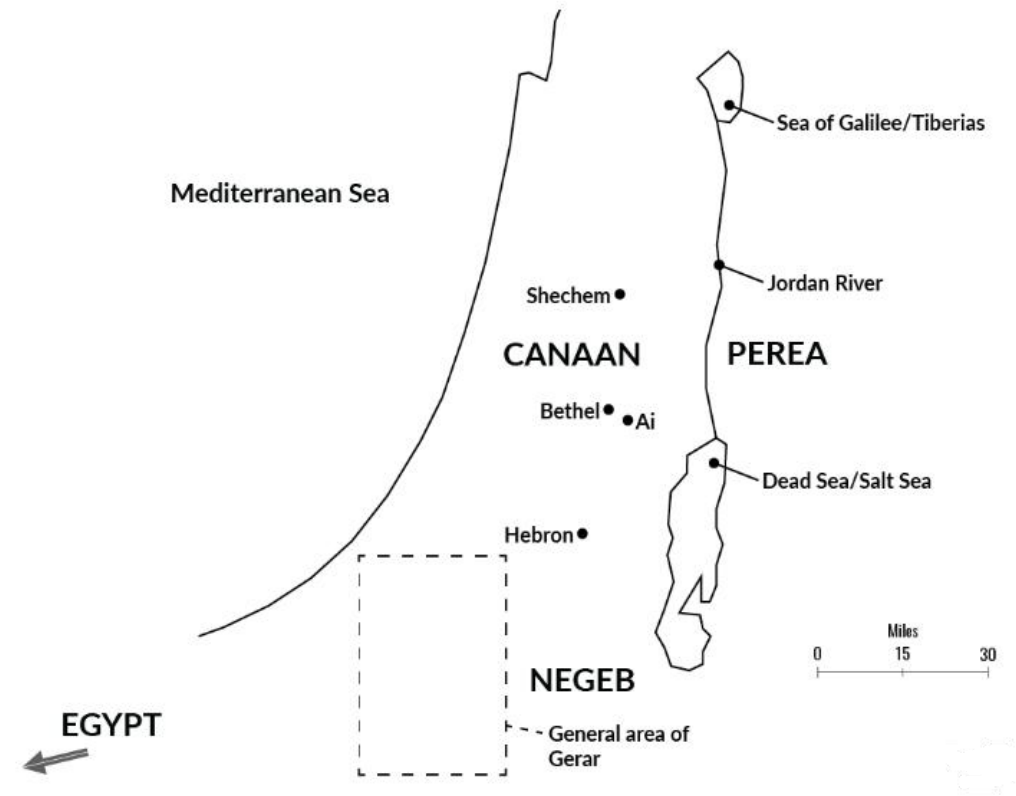
- **The Visitor & the Mob:** Lot invites two visiting angels into his home to protect them. The men of Sodom surround the house and demand to harm the guests. The angels strike the violent crowd blind and pull Lot inside.
- **The Escape:** Lot is told to flee since city will be destroyed, Lot's future sons-in-law refuse to flee & angels drag Lot, his wife, and two daughters out, allowing them to flee to a small nearby town named Zoar.
- **Destruction and Aftermath:** God rains burning sulfur and fire on Sodom and Gomorrah. Lot's wife looks back at the burning city and turns into a pillar of salt. Fearing aftermath, Lot and daughters hide in a cave. The daughters make Lot drunk and have children by him, becoming the ancestors of the Moabites and Ammonites.
- **Lesson learned:**
 - Bad company can corrupt.
 - Grass is not always greener in worldly potential prosperous areas.
 - Look forward in God's plan not backwards.



Genesis 20

Abraham travels to the region of Gerar and tells King Abimelech that his wife, Sarah, is his sister. Fearing for his life, Abraham repeats the same deception he used years earlier in Egypt. King Abimelech takes Sarah, but God intervenes.

- **God Warns the King:** God appears to King Abimelech in a dream then warns him he is a dead man because Sarah is a married woman. God acknowledges the king's integrity and keeps Abimelech from touching Sarah.
- **Resolution and Healing:** God orders Abimelech to return Sarah. Abraham prays for Abimelech. Abimelech confronts Abraham for the deception then gives gifts not only to Abraham but also Sarah publicly. God heals the king and his household and lifting a temporary curse of infertility.
- **Lesson learned:**
 - Old sins can return.
 - We should not let fear compromises truth.
 - God Guards His Plan.
 - Integrity matters.



Genesis 21

- **The Birth of Isaac as promised:** God's promise fulfilled and Isaac (laughter) is born. Abraham is 100 and Sarah is 90 at his birth. Isaac is circumcised at eighth day.
- **Hagar and Ishmael are banished:** Sarah see Ishmael mocking Isaac and see tension with who will be heir so want Ishmael and Hagar removed. This distress Abraham but Lord says he should listen and do what Sarah asks. Hagar and Ishmael were given food after banishment, but food & water ran out. God hears cries and angel tell Hagar not to fear and shows a well.
- **Abraham and Abimelech make a treaty:** Abimelech see how God has blessed Abraham so want to make treaty a with him. They resolved issue with seized well and it gets resolved.
- **Lesson learned:**
 - God keeps His promises
 - Obedience matters
 - God Cares for the Outcast



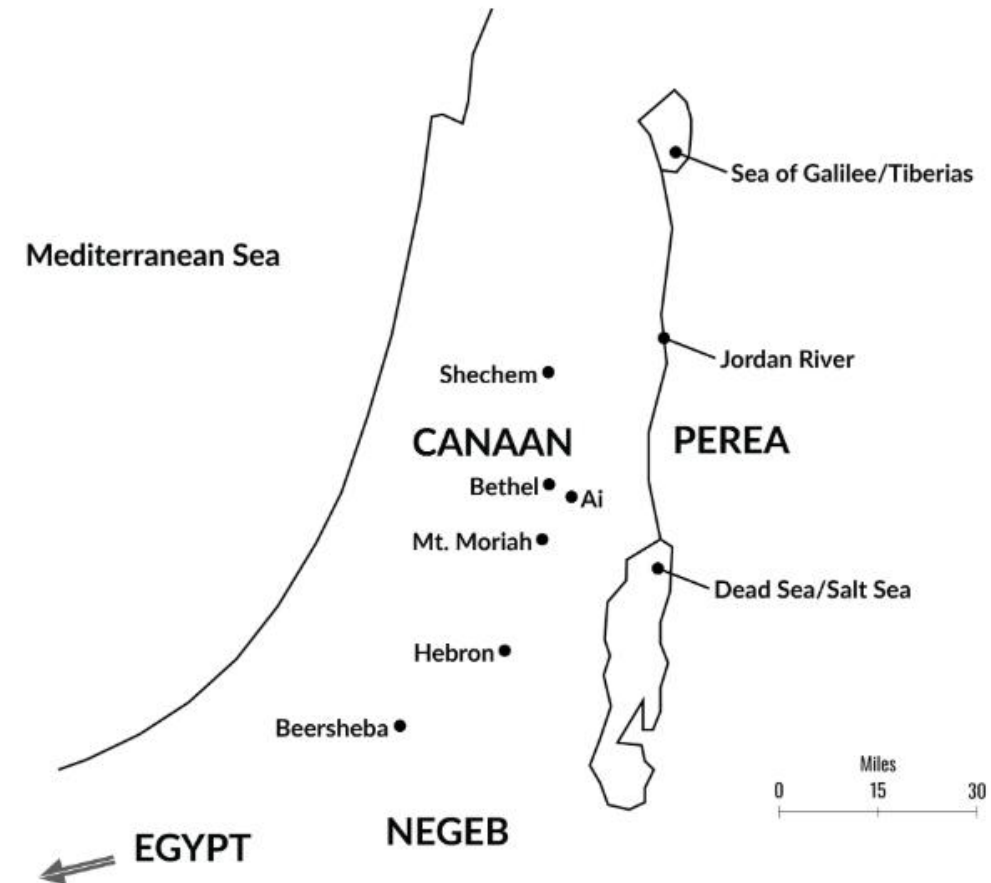
Genesis 22

- **Abraham's Test of Faith:**

- God tested Abraham's faith by commanding him to go to the land of Moriah and offer Isaac as a sacrifice.
- Abraham obeys immediately. He travels for three days with Isaac and two servants.
- Abraham leaves the servants behind and has Isaac carry the wood for the sacrifice up the mountain. Isaac asks where the lamb is, and Abraham replies that God will provide one.
- Abraham builds an altar, binds Isaac, and places him on the wood. Just as Abraham raises the knife to sacrifice his son, an angel of the Lord stops him.
- Abraham sees a ram caught in a thicket by its horns and sacrifices it instead of Isaac. He names the place "The Lord Will Provide" (Jehovah Jireh).

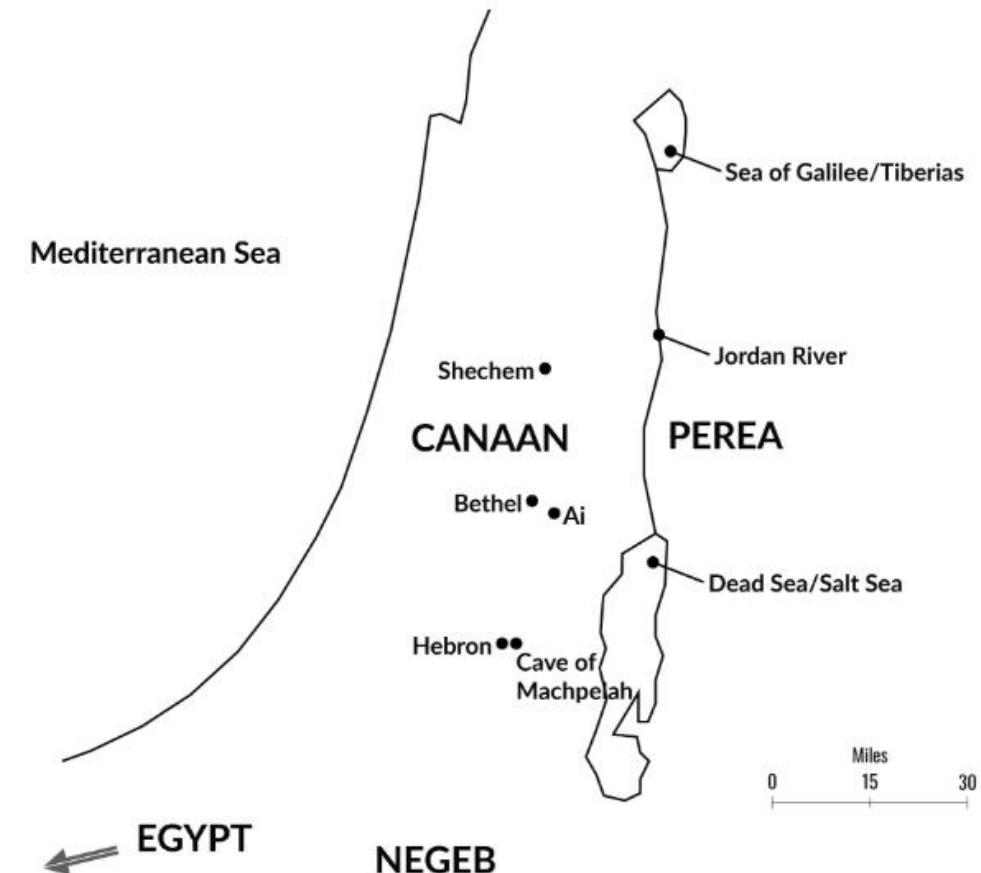
- **Lesson learned:**

- Faith requires action
- God Will Provide
- Testing Refines Faith
- A Shadow of Things to Come



Genesis 23

- **Sarah Death:** Sarah dies at the age of 127 in Kiriath Arba (also called Hebron) in Canaan. Abraham mourns her death. Isaac is 37
- **Abraham procures land for burial:** Abraham asks the local Hittites (the sons of Heth) to sell him a piece of land for a tomb.
- The Hittites respect Abraham and tell him he can use any of their best burial sites for free, but Abraham insists on paying fair price. Ephron offers the field and the cave of Machpelah as a gift but Abraham purchases land for 400 shekels of silver.
- Abraham buries Sarah in Cave of Machelah.
- **Sarah was an example of faith:** Despite her moments of doubt and laughter she was mentioned in Hebrews 11 as an example faith.
- **Hebrews 11:11** By faith even Sarah herself received ability to conceive, even beyond the proper time of life, since she considered Him faithful who had promised.
- **Lesson learned:**
 - Abraham show honesty and integrity by paying for land.
 - As a stranger Abraham was example of Godly character.



Genesis 24

- Abraham sending his trusted servant to his home country in Mesopotamia to find a God-fearing wife for his son Isaac, rather than choosing a woman from the local Canaanites. Guided by prayer and divine providence, the servant meets Rebekah at a well, secures her family's blessing, and brings her back to marry Isaac.
- **Abraham asks servant to find Isaac a wife:** Abraham advance in years makes his chief servant swear an oath to get wife from own people/relative for Isaac since he did want him to marry a Canaanite. The servant travel back to Abraham's relatives in Haran/Mesopotamia approximately 550 miles.
- **The Sign at the Well:** The servant travels with ten camels and stops at a well outside the city of Nahor then prays for sign, asking God that the specific woman chosen for Isaac should offer a drink to him and volunteer to water his camels. Rebekah arrives, completes this exact kindness.
- **Rebekah is chosen and brought to Isaac:** Rebekah reveals she is the granddaughter of Abraham's brother Nahor. The servant gives her costly gifts and meets her family, including her brother Laban. The family agrees to the marriage after asking Rebekah if she is willing to go. Rebekah returns to Canaan, meets Isaac while he is meditating in a field, and they are married.



Genesis 24: Key Lessons Learned

The Power of Prayer: Abraham's servant begins his mission by praying for clear direction, and God answers him even before he finishes speaking

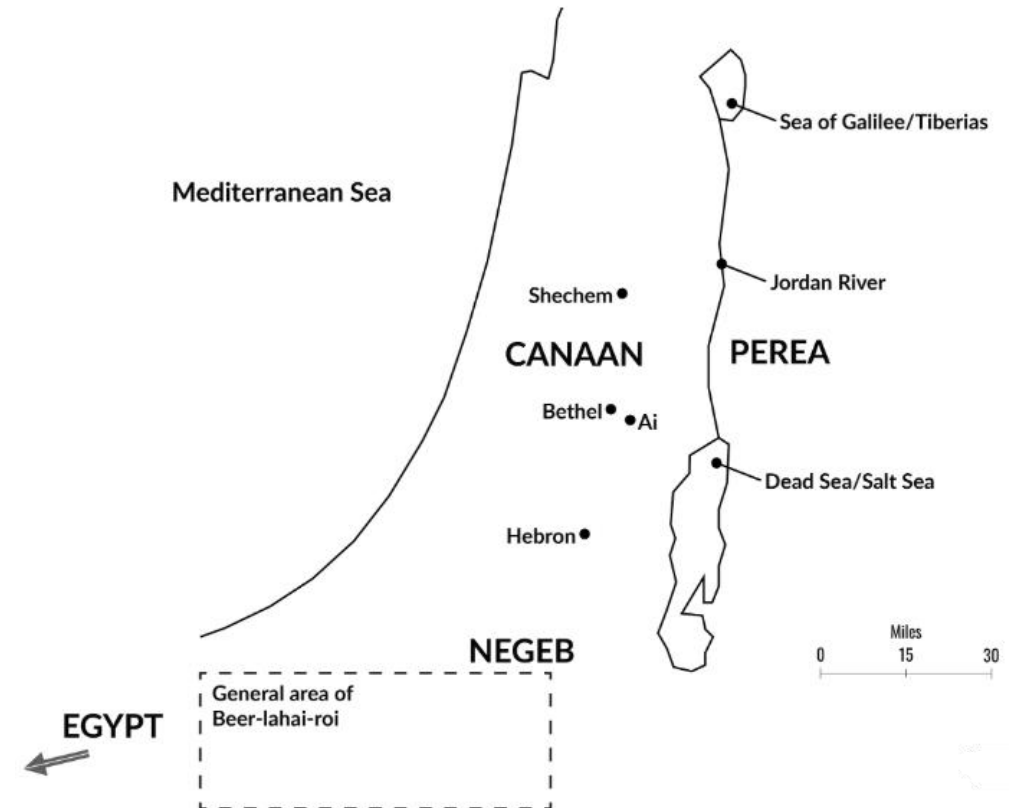
Trusting God's Timing: The passage shows that God goes ahead of us to prepare the way, aligning circumstances according to His perfect plan.

Faithful Obedience: The servant obeys his master's instructions completely, showing that carrying out duties with loyalty and humility leads to success.

Character Matters: Rebekah is chosen not just for her appearance, but for her hard work and kindness in watering the servant's camels.

Genesis 25

- **Abraham's Final Years and Death:** Abraham marries Keturah and has six more sons. Dies at age of 175, giving gifts to sons from Keturah and sending them away from Isaac eastward. Isaac & Ishmael reunite to bury Abraham with Sarah.
- **The Descendants of Ishmael:** Ishmael fathers 12 sons who become tribal leaders and princes, fulfilling God's promise.
- **The Birth of Jacob and Esau:** Isaac prays for his barren wife Rebekah, and she gives birth to twin boys when Isaac is 60 years old. God tells Rebekah that the twins represent two rival nations and that the older brother will serve the younger. The first twin is red and hairy, named Esau. The second twin emerges grasping Esau's heel and is named Jacob. Isaac favors the hunter Esau, while Rebekah favors the quiet homebody, Jacob.
- **Esau Sells His Birthright:** Esau returns from the field exhausted and starving. Jacob refuses to feed him unless Esau trades his valuable firstborn birthright for a bowl of lentil stew. Esau agrees, despising his birthright and finalizing the trade for temporary physical relief.
- Lesson learned:
 - Value eternal spiritual blessings rather than temporary, physical desires. Be wary of impulsive decisions value long term effects on decisions.



Abraham in New Testament examples

- **Was reckon/credited/imputed Righteousness in Romans 4 & Galatians 3 because of his trust in God not due to good works.**
- ²For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. ³For what does the Scripture say? “ABRAHAM BELIEVED GOD, AND IT WAS CREDITED TO HIM AS RIGHTEOUSNESS.” ⁴Now to the one who works, his wage is not credited as a favor, but as what is due. ⁵But to the one who does not work, but believes in Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is credited as righteousness, ⁶just as David also speaks of the blessing on the man to whom God credits righteousness apart from works.
- **Enduring Obedience. Hebrews 11**
- ⁸By faith Abraham, when he was called, obeyed by going out to a place which he was to receive for an inheritance; and he went out, not knowing where he was going. ⁹By faith he lived as an alien in the land of promise, as in a foreign *land*, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, fellow heirs of the same promise;
- **Living by a faith that works! James 2**
- ²²You see that faith was working with his works, and as a result of the works, faith was perfected; ²³and the Scripture was fulfilled which says, “AND ABRAHAM BELIEVED GOD, AND IT WAS RECKONED TO HIM AS RIGHTEOUSNESS,” and he was called the friend of God. ²⁴You see that a man is justified by works and not by faith alone.

Key things to remember about God

- God's promises are kept due to His righteousness not ours. (He is faithful even when we are not)
- God keeps promises in His timing not ours. (God is eternal we are not!)
- Walking in obedience to God requires patience.
- Nothing is too big/impossible for God.
- Seek God's direction with all your heart. (Abraham servant seeking wife for Isaac)
- God wants to strengthen our faith.