

The Bride

March 6, 2011

Oakbrook Community Church (PCA)

Genesis 24

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Longest Chapter in Genesis: Covenant separation & fidelity

2 Cor 6:14-18; 1 Cor 7:39-40

The Chapter is a 'Type' that pictures:

- God the Father getting a bride for the Son (Mt 22; Jn 6:37)
- the Bride is Christ's Church (2 Cor 11:2-3; Eph 5:22-33)
- The Holy Spirit (servant) is calling us to be married to Christ (Rm 7:4)

The Will of the Father

1-9

- Abraham trusting God to find fulfill Covenant blessings thru Isaac
- Calls Servant and sends him (Gen 15; Jn 15:26) with mission

The Work of the Servant

10-49

- Servant is on mission for Master: 'my master' 19x!
- Servant goes to get 'chosen' bride just as Spirit gets 'chosen' Eph 1:4
- Servant prays continually. What about you? 1 Thes 5:17
- Were the requests – 'fleeces' (Jdg 6)? NO!
 - hard worker, joyful, willing to serve, etc.
- 'Whose daughter are you?' - a good question to ask!
- Servant talked about Isaac & great wealth
- We are to witness for God (Acts 1:8) and our gifts (Eph 1:13-14)
- Servant did not argue or force – merely gave facts (Jn 16:7-11)

The Willingness of the Bride

50-60

- All willing but wanted her to wait – just like those who 'wait to be saved' Phil 1:21; Col 3:4; 2 Pt 3:10
- God had chosen Rebekah for Isaac - Jn 6:37; 2 Pt 1:10; Act 16:30-31

The Welcome of the Bridegroom

61-67

- Rebekah had a comfortable life – but she made the difficult journey!
- We are called to make a 'difficult journey' 1 Pt 4:12; Lk 9:23; Rm 8:18; 2 Cor 4:17
- Isaac pictures Christ : miraculous birth (21), willingness to obey & give his life (22)
- Rebekah traveled to meet bride – developed love by servant 1 Pt 1:6-8
- Isaac met the bride at the evening (63) 2 Tim 3:1-4
- Joyous wedding & an account : Rev 19-20; Rm 14:10; 2 Cor 5:9-10

EXTRA: This story is called a "type"; it is an OT story that can be interpreted into a NT reality. Meditate on this:

I. God Desires a Bride for His Son

II. 12 Characteristics of the Bride

1. She must not be an idolater, 24:3
2. She must be related to Me, 24:4
3. The Bride must come to the Son, 24:5;
 - a. First an angel will go and find the bride, 24:7a; 1 Thess. 4:16; Rev.4:1
 - b. You will take the wife from the land, 24:7b.
 - c. The Son will not return back to the land, 24:8 (he does not have to die again)
4. She must be a hard worker, 24:12-14. (To refuel 10 camels with water alone!)
5. She must be willing to serve, 24:12-14
6. She must be a vessel who pours out the Spirit, 24:12-14
(Water is symbolic of the Spirit)
7. She is Beautiful to look at, 24:16.
8. She must not have had divided loyalties (virgin) 24:16
9. She must be in a hurry to go meet her Groom, 24:56-58
10. She must desire to be fruitful and multiply, 24:60
11. She must be covered in prayer, 24:65
(this veil was a shawl; symbolic of the prayer shawl of the Hebrews)
12. She must be submitted to the Lordship of the Son, 24:67

III. How do You Measure Up?

Test Yourself, Are You:

1. Pure from an idols?
2. Saved and related to God?
3. In the "Land" (of blessing surrendered to the Lord)?
4. Working hard for the Lord?
5. Filled with the Spirit?
6. Serving the Lord by serving God's people?
7. Clothed in beauty? (Spiritually clean and prepared to see the savior)
8. Not divided in your loyalties?
9. Expecting the Lord's return at any moment?
10. Bearing much fruit and multiplying the church?
11. Living a life of prayer, covered in prayer?
12. Submitted fully to the Lordship of Jesus?