



Way Point Chronicles

Traveling through the Old Testament by Chronological Stories

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in *Genesis 23:1-2* “And Sarah was an hundred and seven and twenty years old: these were the years of the life of Sarah. 2 And Sarah died in Kirjatharba; the same is Hebron in the land of Canaan: and Abraham came to mourn for Sarah, and to weep for her.”

This made Isaac 37 years old when his mother died. She was 90 at birth and 127 at her death. Abraham is now 137 years old. By the way, *The Reese Chronological Bible* dates the death of Job three years after the death of Sarah.

III- Not Just Any Girl Will Do:

The line must be perpetuated by children born to Isaac. He is now about 40 years of age. Abraham is about 140 years old. We pick up the narrative in *Genesis 24:1-4* *And Abraham was old, and well stricken in age: and the LORD had blessed Abraham in all things. 2 And Abraham said unto his eldest servant of his house, that ruled over all that he had, Put, I pray thee, thy hand under my thigh: 3 And I will make thee swear by the LORD, the God of heaven, and the God of the earth, that thou shalt not take a wife unto my son of the daughters of the Canaanites, among whom I dwell: 4 But thou shalt go unto my country, and to my kindred, and take a wife unto my son Isaac.*

Abraham had a great sense of purpose that Isaac not marry just any girl. Not just any girl would do of the pagan nations among which he lived. He calls the servant, you remember him, he was the one that Abraham had asked God if it was through him that the promise seed would descend. He makes his servant swear an oath that he would not allow Isaac to marry a Canaanite that would turn his heart from the one true God to the pagan gods. He wanted him to retrace his steps to Haran the place where Abraham had dwelled a while to where his brother now dwelled.

IV- She Must Come Isaac Should Not Go:

The servant covered all his bases. He asks what if she will not come. Notice Abraham’s faith in trusting that God will pave the way for this to happen. Notice the story in *Gen 24:5-9* *And the servant said unto him, Peradventure the woman will not be willing to follow me unto this land: must I needs bring thy son again unto the land from whence thou camest? 6 And Abraham said unto him, Beware thou that thou bring not my son thither again. 7 The LORD God of heaven, which took me from my father’s house, and from the land of my kindred, and which spake unto me, and that sware unto me, saying, Unto thy seed will I give this land; he shall send his angel before thee, and thou shalt take a wife unto my son from thence. 8 And if the woman will not be willing to follow thee, then thou shalt be clear from this my oath: only bring not my son thither again. 9 And the servant put his hand under the thigh of Abraham his master, and sware to him concerning that matter.*



Coordinates:

Gen 22:20-23; 24:1-67; 25:20

Sights to See:

- 1- God is orchestrating the events of history by His hand.
- 2- God’s specific will for our lives can be known.
- 3- We must be sensitive to the voice, silent movement and hand of God to see His working.
- 4- God’s mission is one that requires us to be focused and not get sidetracked.
- 5- God knows the needs and the answers to prayers are often on their way before they are prayed.
- 6- God was faithful in keeping His promise to Abraham that his seed would be innumerable.
- 7- The lineage goes from Abraham to Isaac and on to Messiah.



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V- Praying at the Well of Nahor:

I remind us that Nahor, Abraham's brother, lived in the city of Nahor. Eliezer, the servant, journeys to the north with gifts for the family of the potential bride. We pick up the story in *Gen 24:10* ***And the servant took ten camels of the camels of his master, and departed; for all the goods of his master were in his hand: and he arose, and went to Mesopotamia, unto the city of Nahor. 11 And he made his camels to kneel down without the city by a well of water at the time of the evening, even the time that women go out to draw water. 12 And he said, O LORD God of my master Abraham, I pray thee, send me good speed this day, and shew kindness unto my master Abraham. 13 Behold, I stand here by the well of water; and the daughters of the men of the city come out to draw water: 14 And let it come to pass, that the damsel to whom I shall say, Let down thy pitcher, I pray thee, that I may drink; and she shall say, Drink, and I will give thy camels drink also: let the same be she that thou hast appointed for thy servant Isaac; and thereby shall I know that thou hast shewed kindness unto my master.***

This servant prayed to God for guidance in this matter. He asked God very specific to lead him to the one God had chosen for Isaac. Please do not miss this very important point, God is concerned with the detail of who we, our children and their children marry. Also do not miss the point that the servant of Abraham had been lead to the faith by Abraham. Eliezer was originally from Damascus and was probably not Jewish but had been in Abraham's house many years.

VI-Answer to the Prayer

Will God answer specific prayers? Certainly He can and does. Does this mean we obligate God to anything when we asks specific things of Him? Certainly not, He is God and we be mortal men who seek to know His will. We see here however that the prayer is quickly answered. *Gen 24:15-20* ***And it came to pass, before he had done speaking, that, behold, Rebekah came out, who was born to Bethuel, son of Milcah, the wife of Nahor, Abraham's brother, with her pitcher upon her shoulder. 16 And the damsel was very fair to look upon, a virgin, neither had any man known her: and she went down to the well, and filled her pitcher, and came up. 17 And the servant ran to meet her, and said, Let me, I pray thee, drink a little water of thy pitcher. 18 And she said, Drink, my lord: and she hastened, and let down her pitcher upon her hand, and gave him drink. 19 And when she had done giving him drink, she said, I will draw water for thy camels also, until they have done drinking. 20 And she hastened, and emptied her pitcher into the trough, and ran again unto the well to draw water, and drew for all his camels.***

My, my, my can this be any clearer. God had indeed went before Eliezer just as Abraham had believed. He had Rebekah on the way before the prayer.

One more detail had to be confirmed. Was she of the right lineage. John said in *1 John 4:1* ***Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.*** Eliezer was not going to be fooled. Notice what he asks.

Genesis 24:21-28 ***And the man wondering at her held his peace, to wit whether the LORD had made his journey prosperous or not. 22 And it came to pass, as the camels had done drinking, that the man took a golden earring of half a shekel weight, and two bracelets for her hands of ten shekels weight of gold; 23 And said, Whose daughter art thou? tell me, I pray thee: is there room in thy father's house for us to lodge in? 24 And she said unto him, I am the daughter of Bethuel the son of Milcah, which she bare unto Nahor. 25 She said moreover unto him, We have both straw and***



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provender enough, and room to lodge in. 26 And the man bowed down his head, and worshipped the LORD. 27 And he said, Blessed be the LORD God of my master Abraham, who hath not left destitute my master of his mercy and his truth: I being in the way, the LORD led me to the house of my master's brethren. 28 And the damsel ran, and told them of her mother's house these things.

VII- Purpose of the Mission:

Laban runs to the well and brings Eliezer to the house. This servant realized that he had not come for a social visit. He would not eat until he stated his purpose. *Genesis 24:33 And there was set meat before him to eat: but he said, I will not eat, until I have told mine errand. And he said, Speak on.*

He tells of the blessings that God had bestowed upon Abraham and that he had a son born in his old age and that he had promised to take a bride for the son of Abraham from his kin. He recounts the story of how he prayed at the well and the coming of Rebekah.

They requested that she stay with them a few days to say goodbye. We pick up again in *Genesis 24:59 And they sent away Rebekah their sister, and her nurse, and Abraham's servant, and his men.*

So God had guided, Eliezer had been sensitive to the guidance of God, and the bride had been found for Isaac. *Genesis 24:60* says, *"And they blessed Rebekah, and said unto her, Thou art our sister, be thou the mother of thousands of millions, and let thy seed possess the gate of those which hate them."*

God had promised Abraham that this would be and they unknowingly of this promise asks the same blessing upon Rebekah that was upon Isaac.

VIII- Love at First Sight:

We live in a culture where we pick our brides for the most part. It is almost impossible for parents now days to buy their children clothes and shoes that suit them much less a bride. But this was a different time and now Isaac bride is on her way home. Chosen not by Isaac but by God. Isaac must have felt that he was waiting for the ultimate blind date that would last a lifetime.

Gen 24:61-67 And Rebekah arose, and her damsels, and they rode upon the camels, and followed the man: and the servant took Rebekah, and went his way. 62 And Isaac came from the way of the well Lahairoi; for he dwelt in the south country. 63 And Isaac went out to meditate in the field at the eventide: and he lifted up his eyes, and saw, and, behold, the camels were coming. 64 And Rebekah lifted up her eyes, and when she saw Isaac, she lighted off the camel. 65 For she had said unto the servant, What man is this that walketh in the field to meet us? And the servant had said, It is my master: therefore she took a vail, and covered herself. 66 And the servant told Isaac all things that he had done. 67 And Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah's tent, and took Rebekah, and she became his wife; and he loved her: and Isaac was comforted after his mother's death.

Genesis 25:20 "And Isaac was forty years old when he took Rebekah to wife..."

We now know that Isaac has a bride, the lineage can continue. The promises of God are true.

Another interesting item often overlooked is how many of the early patriarchs knew each other. It says in *Genesis 11:11 And Shem lived after he begat Arphaxad five hundred years, and begat sons and daughters.* The Reese Chronological Bible gives the death of Shem in 1817 BC or about ten years after Isaac married Rebekah. Abraham married again also after Isaac and had eight more children according to *Genesis 25:1-4* and *1 Chronicles 1:32-33* but Isaac what the son of promise, the one through which the covenant blessing passed.