

Genesis 24
“The Next Generation”

~ LET'S PRAY ~

NOTE TAKERS...

- I've titled this message: “The Next Generation.”

~ INTRO ~

LET'S KICK OFF TONIGHT'S STUDY...

- By once again remembering the big picture and book flow.

FIRST...

- Genesis has a specific plan... WITH specific characters.
 - We call these men “The Patriarchs”
 - Which refers to the line of men God used...
 - To establish the Nation of Israel.

(Gen. 17:4) NKJV

SO...

- In (Gen. 12 – 50) the unfolding plan of God focuses in...
 - On these four main characters:

- 1) Abraham
- 2) Isaac
- 3) Jacob
- 4) Joseph

GOD'S STORYLINE...

- Has a very specific purpose that takes us from eternity past...
 - Into eternity future.¹

IN OTHER WORDS... THE ENTIRE BIBLE...

- Points to... God's plan revealed in Christ!

THAT PLAN IS REVEALED AROUND TWO SEPERAET EVENTS...

- 1st = Jesus coming to defeat sin as the Savior of the world.
- 2nd = Jesus' return in power & glory with the church.

¹ Richard Cimino. *The Ultimate Route 66 Road Trip* PDF (p.19). Sourced from www.MetroCalvary.org.

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THIS IS EXACTLY WHAT WE’RE WAITING FOR RIGHT NOW!

- Jesus is going to appear & reign over this earth...
 - While ruling with those who have been redeemed from sin.

(1 Thess. 5:1-2) NLT

~ **REVIEW** ~

LAST WEEK WE COVERED...

1. (Gen. 21) where the promise of a son was fulfilled in Isaac.
2. (Gen. 22) Abraham was tested with Isaac & surrendered all to God.
3. (Gen. 23) We see the death of Sarah at 127-yrs old.

NOW... TODAY...

- We move into the *Next Generation* as Isaac takes center stage...
 - While God continues the promise of blessing Abraham...
 - And his descendants.

A FEW THINGS TO CONSIDER:

IDEA #1 – PASSING THE TORCH: (Gen. 24:1-14)

THIS IS THE TRANSITION CHAPTER...

- With Isaac marrying Rebekah.

(vv.2-3) “*put your hand under my thigh*” = it’s an oath / a promise...

- About how Isaac is to be cared for and the type of wife he should have.

PERHAPS IT SOUNDS STRANGE TO YOU...

- But if parents were more involved in character evaluation...
 - We would have less divorce.

(vv.7-9)

- Faith in God to help his servant find a wife for Isaac.
 - c.p. (Proverbs 3:5-6) NLT

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(vv.10-14)

- Doing my part = preparation / prayer / & steps of faith.

IDEA #2 – SPOUSE SELECTION: (Gen. 24:15-56)

(v.15)

It happened in the way.

- He kept serving God...
 - And allowed God to connect you with the right person.

AND...

- Here are a FOUR helps to find the right person.

(vv.16-20) We see beauty / character / & servant heart.

- (v.16) NLT
 - Rebekah was about 14-years old & Isaac was about 38-years old.

(v.23) Free to marry only from the family of faith.

- This principal is also seen in the N.T. for the church (1 Cor. 7:39).
 - Also (2 Cor. 6:14-18) being unequally yoked with non-believer.

THE PRINCIPAL IS...

- God desires to save us from a lifetime of unnecessary pain!
 - **His** provision should be greater than our lust.
 - Let God lead!
- He will give you the right person if you don't settle for less.

IN (vv.34-56)...

- Abraham's servant shares how God helped him every step of the way...
 - While searching for a bride for Isaac.

IDEA #3 – DONE DEAL: (Gen. 24:57-67)

Rebekah was given a choice...

- To go on an 800-mile journey with Abraham's servants.

She agrees and takes the trip...

- Along with her childhood nurse (v.59) NLT...
 - Plus a few female servants go with her (v.61) NLT.

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READ (vv.63-67)

(v.67) NLT

In the ancient east marriage was a civil contract & not a religious ceremony!

- Families agreed together about the fit of their kids.
- So marriage was a bond based on something greater than lust.

Sarah had died back at the beginning of (Gen. 23:1)...

- But Rebekah once married comforted Isaac thru this season.

SO...

- I assume the marriage was agreed & consummated in the mom's tent?!

~ IN CLOSING ~

WE END OUR TIME TONIGHT...

- If you need prayer over your marriage... feel free to see the pastors...
 - Down at the front of the stage.
 - They would be happy to serve you.