

Genesis 25
“*The Family Story Continues*”

~LET'S PRAY~

NOTE TAKERS...

- I've titled this message: **“The Family Story Continues.”**

~INTRO~

OK...

- One more time... remember the big picture and flow of **Genesis**.

WE SEE A SPECIFIC PLAN...

- Unfolding WITH specific characters – “*The Patriarchs.*”

IN...

- (Gen. 12 – 50) God focuses in on **four main characters:**

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

NOW... IN TODAY'S STUDY...

- *The Family Story Continues...*
 - With the death of Abraham...
 - And the birth of Isaac's two sons (Esau & Jacob).

MAIN IDEA – SUMMARIZING THE CHANGES: (Gen. 25)

CHAPTER 25...

- **Backtracks** a little to give us a few more details...
 - About the family of Abraham after Sarah's death.

(vv.1-4)

ABRAHAM LIVED...

- Another 38-years after Sarah died...
 - And he got married again – to a woman named Keturah.

NOW THERE IS SOME DEBATE...

- On weather Keturah was a wife OR concubine?

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A concubine was a woman who willingly entered an exclusive relationship with a man for the purposes of meeting his sexual needs or providing children for him. The woman was often a slave or a single female without male protector. A concubine did not have equal status as a wife, but, unlike a prostitute, she was provided for and considered the sole property of the man.
¹

EITHER WAY...

- It was his third relationship for kids...
➤ Sarah / Hagar / Keturah.

Hagar (Egyptian servant) = Ishmael

Sarah (wife of status) = Isaac

Keturah (concubine or wife?) = six other sons (v.2)

THERE'S A **POWERFUL OBSERVATION** HERE.

- Because we see the lasting effects of the hand of God...
➤ On Abrahams “*reproduction system*”...
 - Because it lasted beyond Sarah’s death.
 - (He’s having kids at 140 years old.)

I LIKE THIS...

- Because it reminds me about the gifts & calling of God on our lives.
➤ Just because I go thru a season of change OR difficulty...
 - God does not retract His gifting upon my life.

(Rom. 11:28-29) NLT

- The point is... I can depend on God’s unchanging character.

(vv.5-11)

NOW THESE SIX YOUNGER SONS...

- Didn’t receive an inheritance.
➤ All the wealth went to the promised son – Isaac.
- These six other sons got “*gifts*” AND while Abraham was still alive...
➤ He sent all of them away... to the east.

¹ Got Questions Ministries 2023. Article sourced from <https://www.gotquestions.org/Keturah-in-the-Bible.html>

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- While Isaac stayed in the promised land.
 - (Gen. 17:7-8) NKJV.

THEN ABRAHAM DIES...

- At a good old age of 175-yrs old.
 - And Isaac & Ishmael bury him in Hebron next to Sarah (v.10).

SO...

- We have the death of Abraham...
 - Followed by the death of Ishmael (vv.12-18).

BUT DON'T MISS...

- The small details of what God was up to (v.11).
 - The focus narrows in on Isaac.
 - As the progression of God's plan for Israel unfolds.

(vv.19-34)

BEGINS THE STORY...

- Of the children born to Isaac & Rebekah (Esau & Jacob).
 - We get to see how they walked by faith...
 - Where they struggled in faith...
 - Where their faith faltered.
- And how God never forsook them!

(v.20) ISAAC MARRIED REBEKAH @ 40-yrs...

- And she was barren for 20-years before getting pregnant (v.26).

WHEN SHE DID GET PREGNANT...

- The pregnancy wasn't normal.
 - Because she had twins in her belly that were fighting.
 - (vv.22-23).

THE N.T. REVEALS...

- God had a plan in His sovereignty...
 - And he selected Jacob (Rom. 9:10-13) NKJV.
 - Followed by a plan **for you** (Eph. 1:3-14) NKJV.

GOD IS ALL KNOWING...

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- And not everyone is going to be saved.
 - In God's foreknowledge He selects.
 - The Gospels reveal His heart for everyone...
 - But not everyone will respond to God's love.

THEOLOGICAL TERMS:

- Election = Chosen by God.
- Predestination = To mark or determine beforehand.
- Adoption = Receive the position as a son of God in Christ.
- Regeneration = Christians receive the nature of a child of God.
- Redemption = Freed from the guilt of sin.

HERE'S THE SIMPLE APPLICATION OF THESE TERMS...

- As revealed in (Ephesians 1):

- The selection of the Father (vv.3-6)
- The sacrifice of the Son (vv.7-12)
- The seal of the Spirit (vv.13-14)

HERE'S WHY THIS MATTERS.

- As our story deepens in (Gen. 25:27-34)... READ.
 - We see Esau despise something sacred –his birthright.
 - To give this up was a big deal!

BIRTHRIGHT:

- a) The head of the family would exercise priestly right over the family.
- b) The oldest son would get the family inheritance.
- c) Under the *Abrahamic Line* he carried the firstborn promise of being a blessing to the earth (Gen. 12:3).
- d) Being in the *Abrahamic Family* he held the promise of bringing forth the one who would bruise the head of the serpent (Gen. 3:15) – Christ.

POINT BEING...

- To give up his birthright for momentary gratification...
 - Was a major disgrace!

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(v.32) Lit = *I'm going to die one day, so who cares!*

CASTING OFF...

- All boundaries of right & wrong to enjoy a sinful moment...
 - Can bring some lasting consequences.

(Heb. 11:24-26) NLT

~IN CLOSING~

AS WE END OUR TIME TONIGHT...

- If you need prayer... please see the pastors...
 - Down at the front of the stage.
 - They're here to serve you.