

IN SEARCH OF A BRIDE

Genesis 24

Text: Gen.24:4, “Thou shalt go and take a wife unto my son Isaac.”

This is one of the most wonderful seed-plots in the whole field of Revelation. It is an epitome of the scheme of salvation, and an outline history of the Church of God (James Smith).

Abraham—A Type of the Father

The intention of Abraham was for Isaac to have a wife. Out of love for his son, he desired to bring the appointed one (Rebekah), who was far away, into great blessing.

This is a striking depiction of Christ and His Church (2 Cor. 11:2; Eph. 5:32). God the Father saw that it would be good for His Son to have a Bride with Him in the glory of His Father's presence (Matt. 22:1-14).

Isaac—A Type of the Bridegroom

“*Unto him hath he given all that he hath*” (v.36). Isaac, like Jesus, received his inheritance after passing through the throes of death (Gen. 22:9-10). On Mt. Moriah, Isaac *virtually* died and rose again. Before he gets his possessions or bride, he is the risen heir; and therefore he is a type of our Lord, who had to first die for His Church before He could have her with Him in glory.

Eliezer— A Type of the Spirit

To accomplish his intention, Abraham sends his servant to another land to find a wife for his son. The servant is a picture of the Holy Spirit who was sent out of the heavenly Canaan to do this (John 14; 26a).

In this current age, God the Father seeks out a suitable bride that He can give as a love-gift to His beloved Son Jesus. This He does through the Spirit who works upon the earth, convicting people of their need of the One who died for them (John 16:8-11).

Rebekah—A Type of the Church

Rebecca yielded to the pleadings of Eliezer, the Church (the Bride of Christ) yields to the pleadings of the Holy Spirit. Rebecca did not see Isaac until the journey across the desert was accomplished, but he came to meet her when the desert sand was left behind; he came to meet her when she had reached the lush fields of Canaan.

Jesus will leave Heaven and come to meet His Bride, the Church, in the air, to take her home (1 Thess. 4:14-16). *And so we will be with the Lord forever* (v17). This bright, “*blessed hope*” should fill our souls with inexpressible and glorious joy!

“I shall see Him in His beauty,
He Himself His Bride will meet;
I shall be with Him for ever,
In companionship complete.”

Soli Deo Gloria