

Genesis lec 13

We now will begin lecture 13 on Genesis

This is the 13th lecture on Genesis

We will begin the lecture from ch 23.

The subject of ch 23 is Sarah's death.

1st, Sarah passes away

1-2

2nd, Abraham finds a tomb

3-4

3rd, The Hittites gives permission to Abraham

5-6

4th, Abraham purchases the cave of Machphelah

7-18

5th, Sarah is buried.

19-20

Sarah passed away at 127 years old.

Although she died Abraham did not have a tomb to bury her.

So Abraham purchased a land to bury her from the natives

In the passage today Abraham ends up purchasing the cave of Machphelah from the Hittites

Although God promised to give the land of Canaan to Abraham he still doesn't have any land of his own.

God promised to give the land of Canaan to Abraham in Gen. 12:7

17:8 also has this same promise of God

read v. 5: The Hittites replied to Abraham,

read v. 6: **6** "Sir, listen to us. You are a mighty prince among us. Bury your dead in the choicest of our tombs. None of us will refuse you his tomb for burying your dead."

Hittites called Abraham a mighty prince

Here, to be a mighty prince is to be the head of all people.

So Abraham's neighbors regarded him with respect as a man of very high position.

Abraham was fruitful and multiplied to become this respected individual because God had blessed him.

21:22-31

Here read v. 14: Ephron answered Abraham,

and verse 15: "Listen to me, my lord; the land is worth four hundred shekels^[e] of silver, but what is that between you and me? Bury your dead."

The owner of the land, Ephron quoted 400 Shekels as a price for the land.

Ephron had first said to Abraham to just take the land in v. 11

But Abraham asked for the price of the field and paid for it.

Why did Abraham insist on paying for the land?

One reason could be that he didn't want to receive anything for free.

Second, he didn't want God's glory to be hidden before the Gentiles.

Also, he wanted a clean transaction in dealing with material exchange.

So that there would be no hard feelings later.

which may develop into quarrels and war.

Therefore, he counted out 400 shekels and gave it to Ephron for the land.

And purchased the cave of Machphela and its surrounding fields.

And buried Sarah there.

read v. 19: Afterward Abraham buried his wife Sarah in the cave in the field of Machpelah near Mamre (which is at Hebron) in the land of Canaan.

and v. 20: So the field and the cave in it were deeded to Abraham by the Hittites as a burial site.

So Abraham obtained land in Canaan for the first time and buried Sarah there.

Later, God gave the whole land of Canaan to Abraham.

This concludes the lecture on ch 23.

We will now begin our lecture on ch 24.

The subject of ch 24 is the marriage of Isaac

1st, Abraham entrusted Isaac's marriage into his servant's hands.

1-9

2nd, God reveals Rebekah as the chosen wife for Isaac to Abraham's servant.

10-21

3rd, Gifts are given to Rebekah

22-27

4th, The explanation of the servant's mission to Rebekah's family

28-49

5th, They depart with Rebekah

The servant and Rebekah get ready to leave

50-60

6th, Rebekah meets Isaac

61-67

In the passage today, Abraham sought to find a wife for his son Isaac through the help of his servant.

Because the people in Canaan were foreigners who worshipped idols Abraham wanted to find a wife for Isaac from one of his relatives.

read v. 3: I want you to swear by the Lord, the God of heaven and the God of earth, that you will not get a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, among whom I am living,

So Abraham calls his servant to give the mission.

and he was to swear that he would not marry one of the Canaanites to Isaac but find one from his relatives from his home country.

Even in finding a wife for his son Abraham acted in faith. He did not want Isaac to marry anyone who was without faith in God.

Likewise, we need to choose our marriage partners through faith in God.

And we read vv. 5-7: We can see that Abraham had faith in God that he would provide a partner for Isaac from one of his relatives.

He was sure that God had given the land of Canaan to him and his descendants.

Therefore, when Abraham sent his servant he believed that God would provide a wife for Isaac.

Abraham thought it important to keep God's promise and command.

He thought it more important to obey God's word than one's own success.

Believers must look to God's word in all his dealings in the world.

read vv. 8-9: If the woman is unwilling to come back with you, then you will be released from this oath of mine. Only do not take my son back there." **9** So the servant put his hand under the thigh of his master Abraham and swore an oath to him concerning this matter.

Even if the woman chosen to be wife refuses to come, Isaac must not leave the promise land of Canaan.

Abraham was determined to stay in the land of Canaan laying aside any benefits to himself.

So Abraham's servant departed to Mesopotamia carrying gifts for the bride.

The Mesopotamian area that the servant headed toward is near the Euphrates river.

He went to the town of Nahor and Nahor is Abraham's younger brother.

So in the town of Nahor lived the descendants of Abraham's younger brother.

In vv. 12-14 Abraham's servant prayed to the Lord.

He prayed that God would help him find a wife for Isaac.

He prayed for success for the sake of Abraham.

He had no idea who would be a fitting match for Isaac.

So he prayed to God that He would let the woman who gives him water to drink as well as water for the camels be the one God has chosen.

read v. 15: Before he had finished praying, Rebekah came out with her jar on her shoulder. She was the daughter of Bethuel son of Milkah, who was the wife of Abraham's brother Nahor.

While the servant was praying Rebekah came to meet him.

We can see how God answers prayer.

Is. 65:24

And when the servant asked her for water she said that she would draw water for the camels as well.

We can see here that Rebekah was a kind woman.

She was kind and had a servant heart before God.

Abraham's servant realized that the Lord had answered his prayer.

And the servant gave gifts to Rebekah

read vv. 24-25: She answered him, "I am the daughter of Bethuel, the son that Milkah bore to Nahor." **25** And she added, "We have plenty of straw and fodder, as well as room for you to spend the night."

Rebekah told the servant that she was the daughter of Bethuel the son of Milkah born to Nahor.

So the servant had met a great granddaughter of Abraham's brother, Nahor.

And the servant went to Rebekah's house where Laban her brother also lived.

When he had entered the house he told them about Abraham and the purpose of his journey.

read vv. 50-51: Laban and Bethuel answered, "This is from the Lord; we can say nothing to you one way or the other. **51** Here is Rebekah; take her and go, and let her become the wife of your master's son, as the Lord has directed."

The servant explained in detail of his prayer at the well.

And Laban and Bethuel listened carefully to his words.

So they determined that this whole affair was from the Lord and gave permission to give Rebekah in marriage.

This is because they believed this was God's command.

read v. 54: Then he and the men who were with him ate and drank and spent the night there. When they got up the next morning, he said, "Send me on my way to my master."

read v. **55**: But her brother and her mother replied, "Let the young woman remain with us ten days or so; then you[**e**] may go."

The servant and his men ate and drink and spent the night and rose the next morning to leave.

But her brother and mother said she must stay at least ten days with them.

But the servant replied that he must return at once.

This teaches us that the servant did not allow the mission of God to be hindered by human priorities.

Indeed it is not easy for a woman to leave her family and home to be married afar.

Especially, to leave so suddenly as in Rebekah's situation.

However, when God has provided the way for success one must not be led astray by human influence.

It is important to quickly obey God's will once it is revealed to us.

Hab 2:2-3

And here, Rebekah without hesitation says she will go.

And in v. 59-60 Rebekah's parents and family blessed her on her way.

So Rebekah went to Canaan and became Isaac's wife.

read vv. 66-67: Then the servant told Isaac all he had done. **67** Isaac brought her into the tent of his mother Sarah, and he married Rebekah. So she became his wife, and he loved her; and Isaac was comforted after his mother's death.

Abraham's servant told Isaac all that had happened in his journey.

And he must have been thankful for the grace given him and to his master by God.

And Isaac in marrying Rebekah was comforted from mourning his mother's death.

He was comforted spiritually and physically as he married Rebekah.

Ch 24 has been about Isaac and Rebekah's marriage.

Abraham sought to marry Isaac with faith.

And Abraham's servant was able to find a wife for Isaac easily.

Rebekah left her family for Isaac in just a day's decision.

Rebekah must have done this with faith in God and obeyed God's will.

Therefore, she was able to start a family in faith.

We will now begin the lecture on ch 25.

The subject of ch 25 is the selling of Esau's birthright

1st, Another wife for Abraham, and children of his concubine.

1-4

2nd, Abraham sends away the sons of his concubine

5-6

3rd, The death of Abraham and Isaac receives the blessing

death of Abraham and blessing of Isaac

7-11

4th, the descendants of Ishmael

12-18

5th, Isaac has two sons

19-26

6th, Birthright is sold

27-34

in ch 25 after the death of Sarah Abraham got another wife

Also, there are the names of Ishmael's descendants

Esau has two sons also

read vv. 1-2: Abraham had taken another wife, whose name was Keturah. **2** She bore him Zimran, Jokshan, Medan, Midian, Ishbak and Shuah.

Abraham's wife Sarah died.

After her death Abraham got another wife named Keturah.

Abraham had a son at the age of 100 years
This was accomplished through the power of God.

Now here in this verse Abraham who is old has more children

This is the result of God's power at work in him

He is using a gift given to him by God

When we obey God's word, He gives us the ability to accomplish what we can't do with human strength.

in v. 3 we find the children born through Keturah, Abraham's second wife.

read v. 7: Abraham lived a hundred and seventy-five years.

Abraham passed away at 175 years old

He live with faith in this world and went to heaven.

Isaac and Ishamel buried him at the cave of Macphelah

From v. 12 we find Ishmael's descendants.

Ishmael had 12 sons who became tribal leaders.

17:20

They lived East of Egypt

16:7

Ishmael was not the child of promise

He was born through the flesh

So these children who belong to the flesh are mentioned just briefly.

v. 19 begins the account of Isaac's descendants.

Rebekah became pregnant

And Esau and Jacob were born

read v. 22: The babies jostled each other within her, and she said, "Why is this happening to me?" So she went to inquire of the Lord.

Rebekah gave birth to twins.

Even in her womb they were fighting

Rebekah watched in prayer.

in v. 23 God said that the older will serve the younger

God said two nations will be formed in them

The two kids will grow up to be two nations

This shows that God has chosen Jacob over Esau

Mal. 1:2-3

This passage speaks of God election

It is God's predetermined choice.

Before the kids have done any right or wrong God had made a choice

Before they knew right from wrong God made a choice

This is an example of God's good predetermined plan

Rom 9:10-12

Mal. 1:2-3

God's promise will be fulfilled through Jacob

read vv. 24-26: When the time came for her to give birth, there were twin boys in her womb. **25** The first to come out was red, and his whole body was like a hairy garment; so they named him Esau.**[d]** **26** After this, his brother came out, with his hand grasping Esau's heel; so he was named Jacob.**[e]** Isaac was sixty years old when Rebekah gave birth to them.

Esau was a hairy man

He had a lot of hair.

Jacob came out of the womb grasping the heel of his brother Esau.

Jacob means "grasped the heel"

So the two children were fighting from the womb.

After growing up they fought over their father's blessing and inheritance.

read vv. 27-28: The boys grew up, and Esau became a skillful hunter, a man of the open country, while Jacob was content to stay at home among the tents. **28** Isaac, who had a taste for wild game, loved Esau, but Rebekah loved Jacob.

Esau and Jacob grew up.

Esau liked going outdoors.

So he became a hunter.

Jacob was quiet and stayed home.

He dwelled inside tents.

So Isaac liked Esau who was more manly

And enjoyed eating the game Esau caught.

But Rebekah liked Jacob who stayed near her more.

So the father loved the elder son and mother loved the younger son.

The parents played favorites over their sons.

Therefore strife arose between the sons.

read vv 29-30: Once when Jacob was cooking some stew, Esau came in from the open country, famished. **30** He said to Jacob, "Quick, let me have some of that red stew! I'm famished!" (That is why he was also called Edom.[f])

Esau came home famished and tired.

He saw his brother Jacob cooking some red stew and asked for some.

Esau was also called Edom.

Edom means "red"

Esau like red stew so that is why he was also called Edom.

So Jacob told Esau to sell his birthright.

What is this birthright?

First, is receiving from the father the authority to rule over the family and household.

vv. 27-29

Also, the one with the birthright has the right to a double portion of the inheritance

double portion of the inheritance

Deut. 21:17

Third, it the the right to receive the covenant God gave to Abraham and Isaac.

It is the right to receive the promise of God

12:3

15:5

22:18

26:3-4

28:4

It is the right to participate in the salvation history of Jesus Christ

Heb. 12:23

Jacob wanted to receive the blessing of Jesus Christ.

This is the special characteristic of having the birthright

Then what kind of faith was Jacob acting on in trying to get this birthright.

First, it was faith to participate in the blessing of Christ

2nd, it is faith that values future rewards in God than the present rewards.

3rd, It is faith that values the spiritual blessings over material things.

But Esau sold this very important birthright.

For a bowl of stew he sold his birthright

This is entirely a foolish decision

Heb. 12:16

Heb. 12:16

Therefore, Esau went after the material

He valued present needs over future blessings

He despised the blessings that God promised Abraham and Isaac.

So he was denied this right when he tried to retrieve it back.

Heb 12:17

We must not be foolish like Esau who look to serve our belly rather than God.

Phil. 3:19

Jesus Christ should be the most precious person in our lives

We should value the truth and the Spirit.

Matt. 7:6

We should hold preciously to eternal life, truth, and heaven.

upholding the gospel and life.

Jacob made an effort to purchase the birthright from Esau

However, it was actually not Jacob's effort that brought him the birthright.

As stated in v. 23: this happened according to God's election and predetermined plan.

Even if Jacob had not use any trickery God would have gave him the birthright.

Our goals and the methods must both be pleasing to God.

We must wait upon God putting our faith in His promises and power.

Still, Jacob had faith in making an effort to purchase the birthright by using any means necessary

Let us become a participant in the blessing that is in Christ through faith.

This concludes the lecture on ch 25 of Genesis

It was the 13th lecture on Genesis

Thank you.