

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE CLASS
NOVEMBER 30, 2022
GENESIS 24:1-9

INTRODUCTION:

1. The Old Testament unfolds the plan of God which He had in mind “*before the foundation of the world*” (1 Pet. 1.20).
2. As God’s plan unfolds, Genesis 24 transitions away from Abraham and moves to the next major section of history as our attention is focused on Isaac.
3. **GENESIS 24.1:** “*Now Abraham was old, well advanced in age.*”
 - a) We do not know the age of Abraham. (cf. Gen. 25.1,7).
 - b) Abraham’s life had been blessed by God “*in all things*” (Gen. 24.1; 12.1; 13.2; 24.35).
4. Genesis 24 directs our attention to Abraham finding a wife for Isaac.

I. THE PROCESS

- A. **GENESIS 24.2:** “*So Abraham said to the oldest servant of his house, who ruled over all that he had, “Please, put your hand under my thigh”* (cf. Gen. 15.2).
 1. Only mentioned twice in the Old Testament, very little is known about the significance of this custom (Gen. 47.29-31). There are four possibilities:
 - a) “Under the thigh” was the origin of posterity. (cf. Gen. 21.12,13)
 - b) Oaths were made by holding something sacred. (Gen. 17.10,11)
 - c) It is believed that the thigh was where men held their sword representing the consequence of breaking the oath.
 - d) Some suggest that the phrase “under my thigh” is literal symbolizing submission.
 2. The origin of the word “testimony” can be traced back to this process.
- B. This was not the only unusual custom. (Gen. 15.17; 31.44-53)

II. THE PROMISE

- A. **GENESIS 24.3:** “*and I will make you swear by the LORD*”
 1. To whom was the oath made?
 - a) **GENESIS 24.3:** “*the God of heaven and the God of the earth*” (cf. Gen. 1.1)
 - b) This was an oath to the Creator of all things. (Acts 17.24)
 2. **GENESIS 24.3:** “*that you will not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, among whom I dwell.*”
 - a) Why did Abraham not want Isaac to marry a Canaanite woman? (Deut. 7.3,4)
 - b) Solomon was a great king, “but...” (1 Kings 11.1-4)
 3. **GENESIS 24.4:** “*but you shall go to my country and to my family*” (cf. Gen. 22.20-24)
- B. Is it dangerous to marry someone who is not a Christian?
 1. It can be dangerous, but it is not sinful. (1 Cor. 7.12-14)
 2. Instead of being seen as a danger, it can be an opportunity. (1 Pet. 3.1,2)

III. THE PROBLEM

- A. **GENESIS 24.5:** “*Perhaps the woman will not be willing to follow me to this land.*”
 1. Why was it important for the woman to come to Canaan? (Gen. 24.6)
 2. Finding a wife for Isaac would be accomplished with divine help. (Gen. 24.7)
- B. **GENESIS 24.8:** “*if the woman is not willing to follow you, then you will be released*”