

Isaac And Rebekah

TEXT: Gen. 24:1-4, 67

INTRODUCTION:

- A. ABRAHAM CHOSEN FOR THIS REASON(**Gen. 18:19**).
 - 1. Parents have a responsibility(**Eph. 6:4; Prov. 22:6,15**).
 - 2. Wise children listen(**Prov. 3:1-2**).
- B. ABRAHAM WAS CONCERNED FOR ISAAC'S CHOICE OF A WIFE (**Gen.24:3**).
 - 1. Natural that he should give advice.
 - 2. It's advice we can learn from.

I. ADVISED NOT TO MARRY OF THE UNGODLY CANAANITES

(**Gen. 24:3**).

- A. REBEKAH EQUALLY CONCERNED ABOUT JACOB(**Gen. 27:46; 28:1**).
- B. THE LAW OF MOSES OUTLAWED MIXED MARRIAGES(**Deut. 7:3-5**).
 - 1. The reason(**vs. 4**).
 - 2. Not a racial thing(**Numbers 12**).
- C. THE CONSEQUENCE OF DISOBEDIENCE(**Josh. 23:12-13; 1 Kng 12:1-4**)

II. CHRISTIANS ARE GIVEN THESE INSTRUCTIONS:

- A. CHRISTIANS HAVE THE RIGHT TO MARRY(**1 Cor. 9:5; 7:2**).
- B. TO YOUNG WIDOWS(**1 Tim. 5:14-15; 1 Cor. 7:39**).
- C. SOUND ADVICE TO YOUNG CHRISTIANS(**2 Cor. 6:14-7:1**).
 - 1. General principle with many specific applications.
 - 2. Same dangers today. What does God think?
- D. MARRIAGE IS NOT TO BE TAKEN LIGHTLY(**Heb. 13:4**).
- E. MARRIAGE IS NOT THE MOST IMPORTANT RELATIONSHIP IN THIS LIFE(**Luke 14:26**).
- F. SOME MUST REMAIN CELIBATE TO GO TO HEAVEN(**Mat. 19:9-12**).

III. CRITERIA FOR CHOOSING A MATE:

- A. NOBODY'S PERFECT - DO YOU WANT TO BE AN OLD MAID?
- B. CERTAIN THINGS ARE IMPORTANT FOR A HAPPY LIFE.
- C. CHOOSING A WIFE:
 - 1. Is she a Christian?(**Amos 3:3; 1 Cor. 9:5**).
 - 2. Does she love me?
 - a. LOVE is not "infatuation" or "in love."
 - b. LOVE is not rebellion against Mom and Dad.
 - c. LOVE is sometimes the product of considering the good qualities in a man.
 - 3. Does she love children and domestic life(**1 Tim. 5:14; Titus 2:3-5**).
 - 4. Does she use good judgment and have strong character?
(**Prov. 12:4; 14:1**). Or just strong opinions?
 - 5. A good disposition?(**Prov. 19:13-14; 21:9, 19; 27:15-16**).
 - 6. A wonderful woman(**Prov. 31; 1 Pet. 3:1-6; Eph. 5:22-24**).
- D. CHOOSING A HUSBAND:
 - 1. A Christian? Same considerations. Don't ask for it!
 - 2. Does he love me or my body?(**Eph. 5:25**).
 - 3. Can he provide for me?(**1 Tim. 5:8**).
 - 4. Does he have character?(**Prov. 31:23**).
 - 5. What is his disposition?(**1 Pet. 3:7**).
 - 6. Unselfish?(**1 Cor. 13:5**).
- E. **1 Cor. 13:4-7.**

IV. REMEMBER!! IT IS FOREVER!

- A. DON'T LET SOME PREACHER CONVINCED YOU THAT IF YOUR MARRIAGE DOESN'T WORK OUT YOU CAN START OVER AGAIN AS THOUGH THE FIRST ONE NEVER HAPPENED.
- B. WHEN THERE IS A DIVORCE, AT LEAST ONE SOUL IS LOST.
- C. GOD'S LAW APPLIES TO ALL - BECOMING A CHRISTIAN DOES NOT ERASE THE ERROR. REPENTANCE ERASES THE ERROR.

CONCLUSION:

- A. WHAT YOU DO WILL EFFECT YOUR HAPPINESS HERE AND YOUR ETERNAL DESTINY.
- B. GOD MUST COME FIRST(**Mat. 6:33**).