

# OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO MARRIAGE: FINDING A MATE

February 4, 2024

*"And this day I came to the well and said, 'O LORD God of my master Abraham, if You will now prosper the way in which I go, <sup>43</sup> behold, I stand by the well of water; and it shall come to pass that when the virgin comes out to draw water, and I say to her, 'Please give me a little water from your pitcher to drink,' <sup>44</sup> and she says to me, 'Drink, and I will draw for your camels also,'—let her be the woman whom the LORD has appointed for my master's son.' <sup>45</sup> "But before I had finished speaking in my heart, there was Rebekah, coming out with her pitcher on her shoulder; and she went down to the well and drew water. And I said to her, 'Please let me drink.' <sup>46</sup> And she made haste and let her pitcher down from her shoulder, and said, 'Drink, and I will give your camels a drink also.' So I drank, and she gave the camels a drink also. <sup>47</sup> Then I asked her, and said, 'Whose daughter are you?' And she said, 'The daughter of Bethuel, Nahor's son, whom Milcah bore to him.' So I put the nose ring on her nose and the bracelets on her wrists. <sup>48</sup> And I bowed my head and worshiped the LORD, and blessed the LORD God of my master Abraham, who had led me in the way of truth to take the daughter of my master's brother for his son.*

**Genesis 24:42-48 (NKJV)**

NOT ALL MARRY:

*For I wish that all men were even as I myself. But each one has his own gift from God, one in this manner and another in that.*

**1 Corinthians 7:7 (NKJV)**

**BUT MOST DO WANT TO MARRY AND THAT IS GOD'S PLAN FOR MOST**

*And the LORD God said, "It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him."*

**Genesis 2:18 (NKJV)**

He who finds a wife finds a good thing, And obtains favor from the LORD.

**Proverbs 18:22 (NKJV)**

*Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral.*

**Hebrews 13:4 (NIV)**

**THERE IS A TIME TO MARRY GENESIS 24:1-2**

*Now Abraham was old, well advanced in age; and the LORD had blessed Abraham in all things. <sup>2</sup> So Abraham said to the oldest servant of his house, who ruled over all that he had, "Please, put your hand under my thigh, **Genesis 24:1-2 (NKJV)***

The custom was to involve a third party in selecting a wife. For our culture, it is dating or courtship which is rarely used.

**WHY THIS IS IMPORTANT— GENEALOGY OF THE FAITH**

*Salmon the father of Boaz, whose mother was Rahab, Boaz the father of Obed, whose mother was Ruth, Obed the father of Jesse, <sup>6</sup> and Jesse the father of King David. David was the father of Solomon, whose mother had been Uriah's wife,*

**Matthew 1:5-6 (NIV)**

*But did He not make them one, Having a remnant of the Spirit? And why one? He seeks godly offspring. Therefore take heed to your spirit, And let none deal treacherously with the wife of his youth.*

**Malachi 2:15 (NKJV)**

**THERE MUST BE STANDARDS ESTABLISHED GENESIS 24:3-4**

*"I will make you swear by the LORD, the God of heaven and the God of the earth, that you will not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, among whom I dwell; <sup>4</sup> but you shall go to my country and to my family, and take a wife for my son Isaac."*

**Genesis 24:3-4 (NKJV)**

YOU SHOULD BE PARTICULAR—"FROM MY FAMILY"

"NOT FROM THE CANAANITES"—NOT WORLDLY

BELIEF IN GOD

*Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness?*

**2 Corinthians 6:14 (NKJV)**

SOMEONE TO STAND WITH YOU SPIRITUALLY

SOMEONE WITH WHOM TO BUILD A HOME

## **TRUST GOD TO LEAD--GENESIS 24:7b**

*The LORD God of heaven, who took me from my father's house and from the land of my family, and who spoke to me and swore to me, saying, 'To your descendants I give this land,' He will send His angel before you, and you shall take a wife for my son from there. **Genesis 24:7 (NKJV)***

*But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. **Matthew 6:33 (NKJV)***

## **GET WITH IT, GO TO WHERE THE PEOPLE ARE—GENESIS 24:10-11**

*Then the servant took ten of his master's camels and departed, for all his master's goods were in his hand. And he arose and went to Mesopotamia, to the city of Nahor. <sup>11</sup> And he made his camels kneel down outside the city by a well of water at evening time, the time when women go out to draw water. **Genesis 24:10-11 (NKJV)***

WAITING IS NOT PASSIVE

## **PRAY, ASK GOD FOR HIS GUIDANCE—GENESIS 24:12-15**

*Then he said, "O LORD God of my master Abraham, please give me success this day, and show kindness to my master Abraham. <sup>13</sup> Behold, here I stand by the well of water, and the daughters of the men of the city are coming out to draw water. <sup>14</sup> Now let it be that the young woman to whom I say, 'Please let down your pitcher that I may drink,' and she says, 'Drink, and I will also give your camels a drink'--let her be the one You have appointed for Your servant Isaac. And by this I will know that You have shown kindness to my master." <sup>15</sup> And it happened, before he had finished speaking, that behold, Rebekah, who was born to Bethuel, son of Milcah, the wife of Nahor, Abraham's brother, came out with her pitcher on her shoulder. **Genesis 24:12-15 (NKJV)***

## **BE BOLD**

*Food was set before him to eat, but he said, "I will not eat until I have told about my errand." And he said, "Speak on." **Genesis 24:33 (NKJV)***

### **From "Waiting and Dating: A Sensible Guide To A Fulfilling Love Relationship**

Munroe, Myles. *Waiting and Dating: A Sensible Guide to a Fulfilling Love Relationship* (Kindle Locations 324-332). Destiny Image. Kindle Edition.

You are ready to date when you are fully aware of both the benefits and the dangers of dating.

You are ready to date when you have worked out beforehand a clear set of guidelines for behavior based on God's Word.

You are ready to date when you have resolved in your spirit that you will not lower or compromise those standards for any reason, even if it means losing dates.

You are ready to date when you don't need to.

You are ready to date when you have first learned how to be alone. A whole person has a healthy self-concept. A whole person has a clear and solid faith.

A whole person grows his or her own roots in God.

You should be preoccupied with preparing yourself for whomever God is preparing for you.

Our first priority as believers is to seek the Kingdom and righteousness of God.

Don't ever become so preoccupied by who you want that you forget to be who you are.

Unity of mind and thought—walking in agreement—is the kind of relationship believers must have in order to experience God's power.

Intimacy is a state of existence in which both partners in a relationship trust the other more and more with their innermost thoughts.

The chief purpose of dating is to develop true intimacy—a oneness of spirit—between a man and a woman.

True friendship—not casual acquaintance, but people who are joined together heart and soul—is the foundation for all successful long-term relationships.