

Abraham - the Father of Believers

by Erlo Stegen

Abraham's example demonstrates the importance of faith, obedience, and choosing a spouse who shares one's values in order to live a life pleasing to God.

Scripture: Genesis 24:10

Topics: "Faith and Obedience", "Choosing a Spouse"

Description

Erlo Stegen emphasizes Abraham as the spiritual father of believers, illustrating his obedience to God's call to leave his homeland and the importance of choosing a godly spouse for his son Isaac. He highlights Abraham's wisdom in separating from Lot to avoid conflict and his insistence on finding a wife from his own people, warning against being unequally yoked with unbelievers. Stegen challenges parents to follow Abraham's example in guiding their children towards purity and faithfulness in relationships. He stresses the necessity of a pure heart to truly see God and live a life that honors Him.

Transcript

"And the servant took ten camels of the camels of his master, and departed; for all the goods of his master were in his hand: and he arose, and went to Mesopotamia, unto the city of Nahor. And he made his camels to kneel down without the city by a well of water at the time of the evening, even the time that women go out to draw water. And he said, O LORD God of my master Abraham, I pray thee, send me good speed this day, and shew kindness unto my master Abraham. Behold, I stand here by the well of water; and the daughters of the men of the city come out to draw water: And let it come to pass, that the damsel to whom I shall say, Let down thy pitcher, I pray thee, that I may drink; and she shall say, Drink, and I will give thy camels drink also: let the same be she that thou hast appointed for thy servant Isaac; and thereby shall I know that thou hast shewed kindness unto my master." (Genesis 24:10-14).

Abraham is the spiritual father of all believers. God called Abraham to leave his country and his father's house and go where God has called him. So Abraham packed up and went. His father desired to come along and his Nephew Lot. It seems as if Abraham's father noticed God being with him and so wanted to go with him. But God did not tell him to take along his father. For a while God stopped to reveal to Abraham where to go and he settled half-way, where also his father died. After his father's death God renewed His call to Abraham. So Abraham travelled further and took his nephew Lot with him. When they got there, there was friction between the servants of Lot and the servants of Abraham. So Abraham advised Lot that it would be better for them to separate than have friction. Lot should never have separated, but he

did and chose the lush countryside towards the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah.

Isaac was born and after some time Sarah died. Only when Isaac was 40, did Abraham look for a wife for his son Isaac. Abraham had a godly chief-servant who managed everything under Abraham. So Abraham called this chief-servant, Eleazar, to go and choose a wife from his own people, and not of the daughters of the pagans among whom they lived.

Here we see Abraham's godly example. So we must also not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers, with those who love the world and the things of the world.

In the first few verses we read in detail how Abraham made Eleazar to swear to him about the wife he would get for his son.

So we read:

"And Abraham said unto his eldest servant of his house, that ruled over all that he had, Put, I pray thee, thy hand under my thigh: And I will make thee swear by the LORD, the God of heaven, and the God of the earth, that thou shalt not take a wife unto my son of the daughters of the Canaanites, among whom I dwell: But thou shalt go unto my country, and to my kindred, and take a wife unto my son Isaac. And the servant said unto him, Peradventure the woman will not be willing to follow me unto this land: must I needs bring thy son again unto the land from whence thou camest?"

"And Abraham said unto him, Beware thou that thou bring not my son thither again. The LORD God of heaven, which took me from my father's house, and from the land of my kindred, and which spake unto me, and that sware unto me, saying, Unto thy seed will I give this land; he shall send his angel before thee, and thou shalt take a wife unto my son from thence. And if the woman will not be willing to follow thee, then thou shalt be clear from this my oath: only bring not my son thither again. And the servant put his hand under the thigh of Abraham his master, and sware to him concerning that matter." (Genesis 24:2-9).

Do you hear, fathers and mothers? Are you and your children followers of Abraham?

If you follow the Lord and you marry one who doesn't follow the Lord you create your own problems, like the wife of Lot who was in love with Sodom and Gomorrah.

Woe to you if your marriage was brought together because of the lust of the eyes. The days will come when your husband will have eyes for girls, even younger than your own daughters, and it will be the ruin of your marriage.

Jesus said blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

Are you pure in heart? Deep inside, are you pure? You might even be very quiet and shy, but perhaps deep inside there are wicked churnings.

You will not see God unless He has made you pure in heart. Cry to Him today for a pure heart, so that you and your family might see God and live for Him.

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