



**Message 11-11-17**  
**Chayei Sarah-Life of Sarah**  
**Genesis 23:1-25:18**  
**1Kings 1:1-31**  
**Revelation 15:2-4**

**Introduction**

After the death of Sarah, Abraham recognizes the need to make sure the covenant is passed on to his son Isaac and beyond. He arranges with his servant to return to his homeland and find a wife for his son Isaac from among his extended family. The servant finds Rebecca, at the well, fulfilling the signs for which the servant had prayed. She brings the servant home to meet her family, and she shares with her brother and father why he has come. They ask Rebecca if she wants to return with the servant and marry Isaac. She does.

**Genesis 24:50-60**

**50** Then Laban and Bethuel answered and said, "The thing has come from the LORD; we cannot speak to you bad or good. <sup>51</sup> Behold, Rebekah is before you; take her and go, and let her be the wife of your master's son, as the LORD has spoken." <sup>52</sup> When Abraham's servant heard their words, he bowed himself to the earth before the LORD. <sup>53</sup> And the servant brought out jewelry of silver and of gold, and garments, and gave them to Rebekah. He also gave to her brother and to her mother costly ornaments. <sup>54</sup> And he and the men who were with him ate and drank, and they spent the night there. When they arose in the morning, he said, "Send me away to my master." <sup>55</sup> Her brother and her mother said, "Let the young woman remain with us a while, at least ten days; after that she may go." <sup>56</sup> But he said to them, "Do not delay me, since the LORD has prospered my way. Send me away that I may go to my master." <sup>57</sup> They said, "Let us call the young woman and ask her." <sup>58</sup> And they called Rebekah and said to her, "Will you go with this man?" She said, "I will go." <sup>59</sup> So they sent away Rebekah their sister and her nurse, and Abraham's servant and his men. <sup>60</sup> And they blessed Rebekah and said to her, "Our sister, may you become thousands of ten thousands, and may your offspring possess the gate of those who hate him!" (ESV)

It's interesting that at first Laban and Bethuel said that what Abraham's servant shared with them was from the Lord. Then, after they receive gifts from the servant and he wants to leave with Rebecca the following day, Laban and Rebecca's mother want her to remain behind for at least ten days. Finally, the decision is left up to Rebecca, and she wants to leave. We do not hear anything from Bethuel, her father. It is Laban who seems to be

guiding the conversation, and when you read what he is trying to do, I get the feeling he is trying to pull something over on Abraham's servant, especially after receiving the gifts he brought. By the time Jacob comes to him, Laban has not really changed his ways, despite saying that the Lord is the one who brought the servant to them all those years ago. Laban is Rebecca's brother, she is sending her son Jacob, Laban's nephew, to him for protection, and all Laban wants to do is take advantage of Jacob and later Laban's sons. All Abraham wanted to do was to ensure his son Isaac had a proper wife, so he turned to his family back in the land from where he had come. Sometimes, family can be a real pain in the *kister*. Most of us probably have stories we can share about something a family member did to us or did not do. But, as we get older, we begin to look back over our lives, and we can see the hand of God in our lives when we did not even realize it. It did not matter what the situation was, good or bad, God was in it because He has a stake in what we do and how our lives are going to turn out.

Does this mean that God controls our lives? I do not believe so. The reason I say this is because acceptance of Yeshua as Messiah depends on us asking for forgiveness for our sins. If we don't ask, we cannot receive. If God has already orchestrated all of this in our lives, then every step we take, good or bad, is because He set it up that way. This is called predestination.

**Romans 8:29** For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. **30** And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified. (Rom 8:30 ESV)

**Ephesians 1:5** He predestined us to adoption as sons through Yeshua the Messiah to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will, <sup>6</sup> to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. (NAU)

**Ephesians 1:10** with a view to an administration suitable to the fullness of the times, *that is*, the summing up of all things in Messiah, things in the heavens and things on the earth. In Him <sup>11</sup> also we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to His purpose who works all things after the counsel of His will, <sup>12</sup> to the end that we who were the first to hope in Messiah would be to the praise of His glory. (NAU)

**Acts 4:28** to do whatever your hand and your plan had predestined to take place. (ESV)

**John 8:31** So Yeshua said to the Jews who had believed him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, <sup>32</sup> and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." <sup>33</sup> They answered him, "We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, 'You will become free'?" <sup>34</sup> Yeshua answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin. <sup>35</sup> The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. <sup>36</sup> So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed. (ESV)

I am not going to beat this point to death, but it is something that comes up and should be discussed. For me, and this is just me, when I read about predestination, the way I see it, based on the rest of Scripture is, Messiah died to redeem us from sin, but was it necessary if God already knew what we would do? What if we have been predestined to be able to receive salvation by accepting Yeshua as Messiah, but the choice is ours? Either we reach out and grab hold of the promise, or ignore it and go our own way to do what we want to do without any regard for what will happen to us in the end and to those we influence along the way.

### **1 Kings 1:5-10**

**5** Now Adonijah the son of Haggith exalted himself, saying, "I will be king." And he prepared for himself chariots and horsemen, and fifty men to run before him. <sup>6</sup> His father had never at any time displeased him by asking, "Why have you done thus and so?" He was also a very handsome man, and he was born next after Absalom. <sup>7</sup> He conferred with Joab the son of Zeruah and with Abiathar the priest. And they followed Adonijah and helped him. <sup>8</sup> But Zadok the priest and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada and Nathan the prophet and Shimei and Rei and David's mighty men were not with Adonijah. <sup>9</sup> Adonijah sacrificed sheep, oxen, and fattened cattle by the Serpent's Stone, which is beside Enrogel, and he invited all his brothers, the king's sons, and all the royal officials of Judah, <sup>10</sup> but he did not invite Nathan the prophet or Benaiah or the mighty men or Solomon his brother. (ESV)

Adonijah, the son of David, decided to exalt himself and to declare that he was king while his father was still alive. What he did was to try to usurp his father and his father's right to choose who would be king after him. Truthfully, it should be God who chooses who will be king, or it should be God. David was chosen as king by God to replace Saul once he died. Saul's son was not to be king and would die with his father in battle. God chose Moses to lead Israel, not anyone else. God chose Joshua to lead Israel after Moses died, yet later in the history of Israel, the king who sat on the throne was the one who would decide who would be king, and usually it was one of their offspring.

The rightful king of Israel is Yeshua, the only begotten Son of God, the Father. His Father set Him on the throne that He established. All man has done is make a mess out of everything he touches, and if we would finally admit that, things would get much better that much quicker, but that is not how God's plan will work out. These earthly kings, presidents, prime ministers, etc. are nothing more than an earthly show backed by the father of lies, Satan. He is using the men and women of this world to do his bidding, whether they know it or not, by taking mankind's eyes off Messiah and on to the one who would like nothing better than to be able to take the throne of His Creator. Consider this: With what Scripture tells us about who created what, the reality is the Father created Satan through His Son Yeshua as part of the Creation process. We don't need to be playing this Game of Thrones, people. I don't watch this show, but I have heard about it, and the essential point is the truth in this show is the same as what goes on in the real world.

Adonijah took his eyes off the Creator, and in doing that, he chose to follow Satan and was led down a rose covered path that brought him to his death. It is the same end for

anyone who believes he or she can take God and His Son out of this world. They tried long ago to unseat God from His throne, and God cast the tower down, confounded the language of man, and broke his unity apart. We are still that way today as we have built our own towers trying to gain entrance into heaven when we can only come into the presence of the father through the Son.

### **Revelation 15:2-4**

**2** And I saw something like a sea of glass mixed with fire, and those who had been victorious over the beast and his image and the number of his name, standing on the sea of glass, holding harps of God. <sup>3</sup> And they sang the song of Moses, the bond-servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, "Great and marvelous are Your works, O Lord God, the Almighty; Righteous and true are Your ways, King of the nations! <sup>4</sup> "Who will not fear, O Lord, and glorify Your name? For You alone are holy; For ALL THE NATIONS WILL COME AND WORSHIP BEFORE YOU, FOR YOUR RIGHTEOUS ACTS HAVE BEEN REVEALED." (NAU)

They sang the son of Moses, the bond-servant of God. Did you read that line? Moses was a bond-servant of God, meaning he had willingly entered the service of the Lord for as long as the Lord required him to serve him. Moses served God for forty years, from the time he saw the burning bush and had his conversation with God trying to get out of serving Him. Amazing, isn't it? Moses struggled against God's call on his life only to give in and serve him for forty years building a nation, an army, organizing the priesthood, the Tabernacle, etc. Moses gave himself totally to God and to His service, apparently forsaking a life like other people had. Serving God, the way he did, bringing, and teaching the covenant of Torah to the people, to be passed down from generation to generation and to have it shared all the world was awesome! God knew who He needed to do this work, and He called out the man He knew could do it. Where do you stand for God in this messed up world today, my friends?

**Jeremiah 10:7** Who would not fear you, O King of the nations? For that is your due; among all the wise ones of the nations and in all their kingdoms there is no one like you. (NRS)

Who would not fear God? Who is the King of the nations? Messiah Yeshua, descendant of the royal line of David through the tribe of Judah is the living covenant for all mankind. In Him we find what we need. We are told we need a new covenant and that Yeshua is that new covenant. The truth is the new covenant the church speaks about is the covenant of Torah. What makes it different? Because the promise is that the covenant that was first given to Israel was one that was written on the stone hearts of men, and the new covenant of Torah is one that will be written on the flesh of our hearts for now and forevermore.

That is the beauty of it all. It is not a difficult covenant to have if you truly surrender yourself to God through His Son Yeshua.

**Psalms 86:9** All the nations you have made shall come and worship before you, O Lord, and shall glorify your name. (ESV)

**Isaiah 66:23** From new moon to new moon, and from Sabbath to Sabbath, all flesh shall come to worship before me, declares the LORD. (ESV)

That day is coming people. Are you ready?

***Torah Man says, "To get the true measure of a man's capacity, note how much more he does than is required of him."***

Blessings in Messiah Yeshua,

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