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So They Sent Rebekah on Her Way, Along With Her Nurse and Abraham's Servant 24: 50-60

So they sent Rebekah on her way, along with her nurse and Abraham's servant DIG: What did it cost Rebekah to follow the LORD's will for her life, and what did she receive in return? How did God reveal His will to Abraham's chief servant?

REFLECT: How does ADONAI reveal His will to you today? Have you been putting off a decision that needs to be made?

The **servant** had given the testimony as clearly and convincingly as **he** knew how. It was time for a decision. The consent comes from both the father and the brother. In fact, a brother's participation in these types of negotiations was common in those days. We will see this again in **34:5-7**. Both **Laban and Bethuel** recognize divine providence when **they** answered: **This is from ADONAI and He has plainly revealed His will; we** are not the ones to say yes or no, **we can say nothing to you one way or the other.** Therefore, **they** offered **their** consent. **They** said: **Here is Rebekah; take her and go, and let her become the wife of your master's son, as the LORD has directed (24:50-51). Rebekah** had heard enough about **Isaac** (Hebrew: **Yitz'chak**) from **the servant** to believe that **God** had led **him** to **her. She**, no doubt, had been praying for a husband. At any rate, **she** was more than ready to go. **When Abraham's servant heard what they said, he bowed down to the ground before ADONAI (24:52).**

Then the servant brought out gold and silver jewelry and articles of clothing and gave them to Rebekah; he also gave costly gifts to her brother and to her mother (24:53). The bride of a prince must be provided with new clothing furnished by the father of the prince. These gifts represented the bride price, **which is like the pearl of great price** (see my commentary on **The Life of Christ, to see link click Fc – The Parable of the Pearl**)**.** Jesus said: **The kingdom of Heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it (Matthew 13:34). Rebekah represents the Bride of Christ who can no longer be dressed in the filthy rags of her own righteous acts (Isaiah 64:6), but must be dressed in fine linen, bright and clean (Revelation 19:8).**

Then they finally got around to the festive meal; **the** chief **servant and the men who were with him ate and drank and spent the night there.** All the members of the caravan were finally able to settle down to a good night's sleep. One suspects, however, that there were at least a few who didn't sleep much that night.[394]

When they got up the next morning, the servant surprised everyone by requesting that **he** and **Rebekah** leave immediately. **He** said: **Send me on my way to my master. The servant** wanted to complete **his** mission without a single delay. **Abraham** and **Isaac** were anxiously waiting to hear from **him** – **but her brother, mother** and father were shocked. **They** had been willing to let **her** go, but did it have to be so soon? It had been only half a day since **he** had come into **their** lives, and now **he** was preparing to take **her** away forever? **They** needed more time to say good-bye. **They** pleaded: **Let the girl remain with us ten days or so; then you may go. But** the **servant** had some good reasons to reject the

delay, and said to **them, "Do not detain me, now that ADONAI has granted success to my journey. Send me on my way so I may go to my master" (24:54-56).** Furthermore, delay would only give the flesh more reasons for changing **their** minds.

Then, in a further attempt to delay the servant and **Rebekah's** departure, **they** said: **Let's call the girl and ask her about it. So they called Rebekah** hoping that **she** would want more time to make **her** decision, and asked **her, "Will you go with this man?"** The issue is a personal decision. No one can make it for **her**. And **she** said: **I will go (24:57-58). She** goes to marry a man on faith. **She** leaves home never to return. **Making a decision to follow Christ is a personal decision. No one can make it for you. If you decide to follow the Master, this world is no longer your home. You are an alien and a stranger in it (First Peter 2:11). The Bible teaches that all believers eagerly await a reunion with Jesus Christ in heaven where our citizenship actually exists (Philippians 3:20).**

So they sent their sister Rebekah on her way, along with her nurse, Deborah (35:8), and Abraham's servant and all **his men (24:59).** In the eastern family the **nurse** is a very important person. **She** is esteemed almost like a parent; and accompanies the bride to **her** new home and remains there with **her**. **She** becomes the adviser, the assistant, and the friend of the bride. To the **nurse**, as to a mother, the bride will confide **her** greatest secrets. Thus, **Rebekah** took with **her** on **her** long journey to **her** future home the **nurse** who had cared for **her** since childhood.[395]

And they blessed Rebekah and said to **her, "Our sister, may you increase to thousands upon thousands; may your offspring possess the gates of their enemies" (24:60). Her** decision was the right one. One should not go ahead of **God's** will, but neither should we lag behind, once that **His** will is known. **This principle is most important in connection with the greatest decision of all – whether to accept Christ or not. Once the Holy Spirit has taught someone about Christ, and they understand the implications of the Gospel, he should accept Him and follow Him immediately. Delay can only be dangerous. I tell you, now is the time of God's favor, now is the day of salvation (Second Corinthians 6:2).**