

## DAILY BIBLE READINGS - Week of October 27, 2024

### THEME: "Isaac"

#### MIRACLE BIRTH

**Sunday** ..... **Read Genesis 21:1-3**

*"For Sarah conceived, and bare Abraham a son in his old age, at the set time of which God had spoken to him."* There are many parallels between the life of Isaac and the life of the Lord Jesus. One is that we could call the birth of both miracle births. Although Isaac was not born of a virgin, as Jesus was, it was a miracle in the sense that she became pregnant with Isaac long after what you would call the normal time of pregnancy. The fact that Abraham had a son with the maid only shows the impatience of man. God's timing is best!

#### RIVALRY

**Monday** ..... **Read Genesis 21:9-10**

*"And Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, which she had born unto Abraham, mocking. Wherefore she said unto Abraham, Cast out this bondwoman and her son: for the son of this bondwoman shall not be heir with my son, even with Isaac."* The fact that Abraham had a son by Sarah's maid Hagar and then a son by his wife caused a real domestic problem. The contention between Sarah and Hagar became so great it proved intolerable. As a result, Hagar was asked to leave. The result of the birth of two children by two different women became the development of two nations with the passing of time: Israel and what became the Arab nations. The conflict in Abraham's home was just the beginning of the ongoing problems between Israel and the Arab nations.

#### THE ALTAR

**Tuesday**..... **Read Genesis 22:1-9**

*"And he said, Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee into the land of Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of."* God gave Abraham unbelievable instruction for a father to obey: offer his son Isaac as a sacrifice on the altar when the normal for the Jewish people would be a lamb. Abraham, being the man of faith that he was, obeyed God and placed Isaac on the altar as a sacrifice. Isaac obeyed his father and allowed himself to be a sacrifice. After seeing Abraham's compliance, God sent an angel to stop Abraham and provided a lamb instead. We can see in Isaac's life a parallel to Jesus, God's Son: a miracle birth and a sacrificial lamb!

## **DIVINE ARRANGEMENTS**

**Wednesday ..... Read Genesis 24:1-7**

*"But thou shalt go unto my country, and to my kindred, and take a wife unto my son Isaac."* Abraham felt it important to have his son marry a woman of like faith. That is consistent with the teaching of the Holy Spirit for believers as stated in II Corinthians 6:14: *"Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?"* Although it was not an easy assignment, the servant did as instructed. It is important to note that the servant approached his assignment very prayerfully, and prayed for wisdom. He was very specific in seeking God's guidance to find the woman of God's choosing to be Isaac's wife. God, as He always does, honored the servant's request and directed him to the right woman. Praise God that Rebekah responded to God's leading.

### **MARRIAGE**

**Thursday ..... Read Genesis 24:63-67**

*"And Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah's tent, and took Rebekah, and she became his wife; and he loved her: and Isaac was comforted after his mother's death."* As hard as it must have been for Rebekah and her family, she agreed to go with the servant and left home to meet and to marry Isaac. It is evident that Isaac was very attached to his mother Sarah, and rightfully so. After meeting Rebekah, Isaac brought her home to meet his mother. It was there that the marriage took place. The Messianic family line was perpetuated, just as God had promised to Abraham. It is obvious that the fingerprints of God are all over this relationship. Our Father in heaven is just as interested in the marriages of all His children; and He tries to direct believers today.

### **THE DECEPTION**

**Friday ..... Read Genesis 27:8-13**

*"Now therefore, my son, obey my voice according to that which I command thee."* The normal pattern in the Jewish family in the Messianic line was for the blessing to be passed on to the oldest son which would be Esau. Obviously, Rebekah wanted Jacob, her son that she loved, to receive the blessing. As a result, she plotted with Jacob to deceive Isaac, who was suffering from reduced vision and hearing in his old age, by disguising himself, by altering the feel of his skin and the sound of his voice.

### **THE BLESSING**

**Saturday ..... Read Genesis 27:27-29**

*"And he came near, and kissed him: and he smelled the smell of his raiment, and blessed him, and said, See, the smell of my son is as the smell of a field which the Lord hath blessed."* When it was time for Isaac to pass the blessing on to his oldest son

Esau, he asked his son to make proper preparations. Esau complied with his father's request and went out into the fields to retrieve what would be necessary for the special feast. Esau's departure gave Rebekah the opportunity she was looking for. She did what she could to have Jacob appear to be Esau and she prepared a special meal for Isaac. Although Isaac was suspicious, the plan of Rebekah worked and Isaac did pass on the family blessing to Jacob before Esau got back. When the older son returned, the plot was uncovered, and Isaac gave a second blessing to Esau, but that was not the Messianic line, that privilege went to the younger son Jacob.