

BIBLICAL FOUNDATIONS: WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

READING

---Roly Buys---

Parashah Toldot

INTEGRITY WILL DEFINE OUR HOLINESS

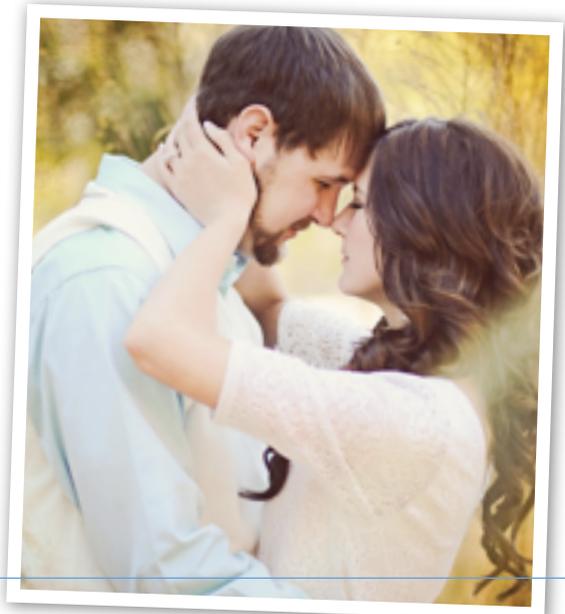
This week's reading come from **Genesis 25:19-28:9, Malachi 1:1- 2:7, and Romans 9:6-16, Hebrews 12:14-17.**

A number of themes (I have selected 3 main ones) emerge as we read this portion. Each theme is radically different from the others. And yet we will see that there is a common thread that is weaved amongst these stories.

THE SANCTITY OF MARRIAGE

Marriage, without doubt is the most fundamental picture or **image of God's Glory**. We see the concept in the story of the Garden of Eden, again at Mount Sinai when the people are presented with a *marriage proposal* in the form of the Ten Commandments, and where they answer – we will do! And then finally we are presented with the picture of the **Wedding Feast of the Lamb** where *Messiah and the Bride* are united forever.

Paul makes it clear that the Bridegroom, the man, has a *specific responsibility*. **Husbands MUST love their wives.**



Ephesians 5:25-28 “**25 Husbands, love your wives** [seek the highest good for her and surround her with a caring, unselfish love], just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her, 26 so that He might sanctify the church, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word [of God], 27 so that [in turn] He might present the church to Himself in glorious splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy [set apart for God] and blameless. 28 Even so husbands should and are morally obligated to love their own wives as [being in a sense] their own bodies. He who loves his own wife loves himself.”

Paul also goes to great lengths to make sure that we understand the, “cause and effect” relationship that God has instituted. **When a husband loves his wife - she will respect him.**

Ephesians 5:32-33 “32 This mystery [of two becoming one] is great; but I am speaking with reference to [the relationship of] Christ and the church. 33 However, **each man among you [without exception] is to love his wife as his very own self [with behavior worthy of respect and esteem, always seeking the best for her with an attitude of lovingkindness], and the wife [must see to it] that she respects and delights in her husband [that she notices him and prefers him and treats him with loving concern, treasuring him, honoring him, and holding him dear].”**

As we continue with this analogy, we (all the believers who have been adopted into the family of God through the work of Messiah, and who are now sons and daughters of Abraham) will become the **Bride**.

The role of the bride is to **RESPECT** the Bridegroom.

So let's try to define *how* Y'shua (Jesus) shows this love for His bride:

A] He Provides.

In EVERY aspect He **provides**... The gift of a harvest, of healing, of being a friend by sending the Holy Spirit to walk along side of us.

We are empowered to walk in victory on this earth...our Bridegroom has proclaimed- stand and have courage! And He has transferred the authority of the Bridegroom to us by the exchange of our shoes...

Joshua 5:15 *The captain of the Lord's army said to Joshua, "Remove your sandals from your feet, because the place where you are standing is holy (set apart to the Lord)." And Joshua did so.*

B] He Protects.

We have security in the form of a covenant, which defines that our Bridegroom will always come to our aid. At the same time we have the confidence that a multitude of angels could be dispatched to be at our side. We have the confidence that in exactly the same way that the Commander of the Army of God came to Joshua's aid, so too would He come to ours! The stones that determine the boundary of the covenant are set and cannot be moved.

C] He Presents.

He presents His bride as ONE, who knows no fear, because we have experienced His love completely.

1 John 4:17-19 *"17 In this [union and fellowship with Him], love is completed and perfected with us, so that we may have confidence in the day of judgment [with assurance and boldness to face Him]; because as He is, so are we in this world. 18 There is no fear in love [dread does not exist]. But perfect (complete, full-grown) love drives out fear, because fear involves [the expectation of divine] punishment, so the one who is afraid [of God's judgment] is not perfected in love [has not grown into a sufficient understanding of God's love]. 19 We love, because He first loved us."*

And as the bride we respond by showing *respect*. Because we are **completely, fully loved**, we walk in obedience to His commandments.

1 John 5:2-4 “**2 By this we know [without any doubt] that we love the children of God: [expressing that love] when we love God and obey His commandments. 3 For the [true] love of God is this: that we habitually keep His commandments and remain focused on His precepts. And His commandments and His precepts are not difficult [to obey]. 4 For [a]everyone born of God is victorious and overcomes the world; and this is the victory that has conquered and overcome the world—our [continuing, persistent] faith [in Jesus the Son of God].**”

Sadly the story of Isaac and Rebecca follows the pattern of Abraham and Sarah... The husband, who must love by **protecting, providing, and presenting** the bride, instead cause emotional wounds, hurt and rejection when **words of deceit**, reduce the wife's status to something less than an opposite equal.

Genesis 26:6-7 So Isaac stayed in Gerar. 7 The men of the place asked him about his wife, and he said, “**She is my sister,**” for he was afraid to say, “**my wife**”—thinking, “the men of the place might kill me on account of Rebekah, since she is very beautiful.”

To their credit, both women continue to show the respect that God asks of them, and because of their faith in God's righteousness, become Matriarchs of the Nation.

WE ARE NOT TO SEEK PEACE AT ALL COSTS



Isaac remains in the land of Canaan all of his life. At a point in time he too moves down to Gerar, into the land where Abimelekh the king of the Philistines rules.

After a while the Philistines become jealous of his wealth and clear blessing from God, and ask him to leave. He then moves away, but the Philistines continue to harass him, claiming every new well that he digs or reopens as their own.

Genesis 26:20-21 20 the herdsmen of Gerar quarreled with Isaac's herdsmen, saying, “**The water is ours!**” So Isaac named the well Esek (quarreling), because they quarreled with him. 21 Then his servants dug another well, and they quarreled over that also, so Isaac named it Sitnah (enmity).

After a while we find that there is a time of peace and rest...

Genesis 26:22 22 He moved away from there and dug another well, and they **did not quarrel** over that one; so he named it Rehoboth (broad places), saying, “For now the Lord has made room for us, and we shall be prosperous in the land.”

And then the king decides that he needs to make peace!

Genesis 26:28 28 They said, **“We see clearly that the Lord has been with you; so we said, ‘There should now be an oath between us [with a curse for the one who breaks it], that is, between you and us, and let us make a covenant (binding agreement, solemn promise) with you.**

We find a long conversation, where Isaac tries to understand why now, so suddenly they want peace. When he does not get a satisfactory answer, he decides to have meal with them and then sends them on there way.

Importantly, we do not read that Isaac agreed to an oath of peace. And more importantly, he chooses to send them away from him; they most definitely cannot stay in the midst of the family of Isaac.

Genesis 26:26-29 26 Then Abimelech came to him from Gerar with Ahuzzath, his [close friend and confidential] adviser, and Phicol, the commander of his army. 27 Isaac said to them, “Why have you [people] come to me, since you hate me and have sent me away from you?” 28 They said, “We see clearly that the Lord has been with you; so we said, ‘There should now be an oath between us [with a curse for the one who breaks it], that is, between you and us, and let us make a covenant (binding agreement, solemn promise) with you, 29 that you will not harm us, just as we have not touched you and have done nothing but good to you and have sent you away in peace. You are now the blessed and favored of the Lord!”

Man’s words of peace, if spoken by someone who is filled with hate, and whose deeds speak of destruction, robbery, and so forth, can never be accepted as **if without deceit**. And no peace treaty will ever be of any consequence *unless such men repent, make restitution and begin to walk a road of integrity and truth*.

WEARING JACOBS CLOTHES

We have all read the story of how Jacob puts on **the clothes of deceit**.

Genesis 27:15-16 15 Then Rebekah **took her elder son Esau’s best clothes**, which were with her in her house, **and put them on Jacob her younger son**. 16 And she put the skins of the young goats on his hands and on the smooth part of his neck.

You see, since the Garden of Eden, clothes have had a special meaning. By virtue of the wording as God puts on the covering in the Garden “and he dressed them”. A wording that is REPEATED when God has the order of the Levite priests dressed for the first time when they enter the Tabernacle, we can understand that the “correct “ clothes reveal to the world and to God, that we have CRUCIFIED the OLD MAN and stand before God as the ONE NEW MAN.

The common theme in all of these stories... *Deceit*.

CONCLUSION

Let's make it a goal, to crucify the "old man". Let us get rid of the EGO, which demands that we are right, the best, and the greatest... Let's agree to remove every idea and concept of misrepresenting ourselves to our neighbours. Let's stop representing ourselves as something we are NOT. Let's agree to be real... Let's agree to make pure oil for the Menorah this week.



"Y'varekh'kha YHVH v'yishmerekha.
May YHVH bless you and keep you.

Ya'er YHVH panav eleikha vichunekka.
May YHVH make his face shine on you and show you his favour.

Yissa YHVH panav eleikha v'yasem l'kha shalom.
May YHVH lift up his face toward you and give you peace.

In this way they are to put my name on the people of Israel, so that I will bless them."

--Numbers 24:24-27

Shalom!!