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# WEEK 5 SCRIPTURE READING

5779 / 2018-19

A person wearing a white, textured robe is shown from the chest down, holding a terracotta jug. The jug is tilted, and a stream of water is pouring out from its spout. The jug has a light-colored string tied around its middle. The background is a soft, out-of-focus white.

*by Roly Buys*

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# Parashah Chayei Sarah | “Life of Sarah) ” | חיי שרה

Week 5

## Do you see the Camels approaching?

The verse that stands out for me this week is:

**Genesis 24:62-63** *“Meanwhile, Yitz’chak, one evening after coming along the road from Be’er-Lachai-Ro’i - he was living in the Negev went out walking in the field; and as he looked up, he saw camels approaching.”*



## Consider this ...

This statement recording Isaac’s first viewing of the camel caravan bringing his new wife to him sets off an unusual picture of Rebecca.

The usual translation of this next verse leaves us with 3 ideas / concepts:

- i) Rebecca lifts up her eyes and sees Isaac.
- ii) She dismounts from her camel.
- iii) She asks who he is, and only on hearing the answer does she cover herself with the veil.

**Genesis 24:64-65** *“Rivkah too looked up; and when **she saw Yitz’chak**, she quickly **dismounted the camel**. She said to the servant, “**Who is this man** walking in the field to meet us?” When the servant replied, “It’s my master,” she took her veil and covered herself.*

Now the word that is translated as “**dismount**” has some really interesting meanings.

### Meaning of Strong’s 5307 “*na-fal*”

Strong’s 5307: <b>na-fal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• to fall / to cause to fall</li><li>• to prostrate oneself</li><li>• to fall upon</li><li>• to be accepted / to be revealed</li></ul>
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What you now see is that ***nowhere do we find the word dismount!***

I am not suggesting that Rebecca fell off the camel just because she saw Isaac, or that falling off is the explanation.

As I look at the use of this word in other verses I noticed *another interesting application* - found in:

***Ezekiel 8:1*** “On the fifth day of the sixth month of the sixth year, as I was sitting in my house, and the leaders of Y’udah were sitting there with me, the Hand of Adonai ELOHIM fell on me.

***Ezekiel 11:5*** “The Spirit of ADONAI fell on me, and He said to me, “Say, ‘Here is what ADONAI says:”

As opposed to falling off her camel, or dismounting in a lady-like fashion, I suggest that the Spirit of YHVH had touched her.

It was that very moment ... meeting a man that she had never seen, but who would become her husband – that YHVH reached down in some way to give her the confidence and the surety that she was doing the right thing.

- ◆ She had stepped out in faith
- ◆ She had crossed over (become a Hebrew) on her own
- ◆ Now YHVH makes sure that this is the Bridegroom

### Let us step back to the story of Isaac ...

We note that he “sees” the camels – and seconds later Rebecca “sees” this man.

**Analysis of this “see”** ... Hebrew Strong’s 7200 reveals this to us:

Strong’s 7200: <b>see</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• the action of having a vision</li><li>• the action of causing to be shown - to reveal</li></ul>
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I submit the following:

- ◆ Isaac sees camels but has the vision of the BRIDE
- ◆ Rebecca sees a man walking in the field, but has the vision of a BRIDEGROOM

The next verse proclaims the intimacy of the marriage:

**Genesis 24:67** *“Then Yitz’chak brought her into his mother Sarah’s tent and took Rivkah, and she became his wife, and he loved her.”*

Now, however, we must connect the camels and the marriage!

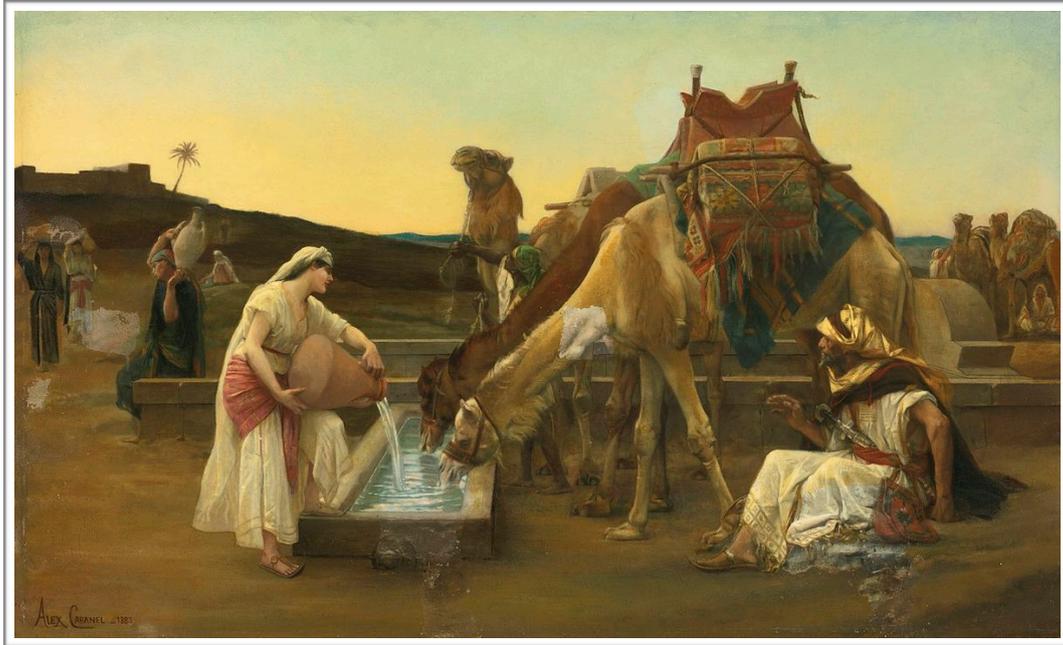
Once again we have an interesting picture that forms.

- ◆ Isaac is aware that his father has made plans to find a bride.
- ◆ He watched as the 10 camels left laden with and sorts of precious gifts.
- ◆ YHVH, at the moment of creation, places inside of each person, a **unique set of precious gifts** ... talents:
  - the ability to be creative,
  - the insight to flow in ministry of the gifts of the Spirit
  - the compassion to help others

All of these gifts are gold, silver and diamonds in the open hands of a son / daughter of Abraham.

- ◆ Rebecca is waiting at the well, helping her father with his flocks.
- ◆ When the camels arrive, she reacts with the compassion and humility of a daughter of Abraham to serve those who are in need.

**Genesis 24:19-20** “When she was through letting him drink, she said, “I will also draw water for your camels until they have drunk their fill.” She quickly emptied her jug into the trough, then ran again to the well to draw water, and kept on drawing water for all his camels.”



**YHVH has placed the WORD / TORAH** in our hands - it's a well of Life giving Water.

- ◆ As we drink of this Water and listen to the Leading of the Holy Spirit, we are filling up our spirit and soul with Living Water.
- ◆ At any moment a stranger (camel) can stop in front of us ... and we will know what to do / what to say / what to empower them with.
- ◆ Rebecca gave water to 10 camels.
- ◆ A camel can drink 200 L of water in 3 minutes (camels can smell water from far - they also have the ability to remember ... once they have drunk water from a well, spring or river, they will remember that site and walk there without help.)

Now that Rebecca has watered the camels, she can ride back to meet the bridegroom.

**Genesis 24:21** “The man gazed at her in silence, waiting to find out whether ADONAI had made his trip successful or not.”

You need to be filled with Living Water, that you have applied in your daily walk in this world ... in other words, a life of obedience to the Commandments, before you can think to be the Bride of Messiah!

- ◆ It seems to me that our interaction with the world (is with the camels) and how we hear and do whatever it is that YHVH asks us to do, will be a reflection of the amount of Living Water we have been able to transform into practical deeds of service.

- ◆ These works of loving obedience become precious gifts on their own right ... they become the evidence of our life of Worship that we can bring to the Messiah, just like the 3 wise men did.

**Matthew 2:11** *“Upon entering the house, they saw the child with his mother Miryam; and they prostrated themselves and worshipped Him. Then they opened their bags and presented hHim gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.”*

## The exchange of gifts

- ◆ Isaac (Y’shua) gives gold (precious gifts) for a bride.
- ◆ Rebecca (the Bride of Messiah) gives gold (precious gifts of loving obedience) for the Bridegroom.
- ◆ The prophets tell us that Y’shua will return, together with a New Jerusalem.
- ◆ Isaiah tells us that we (the BRIDE) will come up to Jerusalem, bringing gifts - on the backs of camels.

**Isaiah 60:1-6** *“Arise, shine (Yerushalayim), for your light has come, the glory of ADONAI has risen over you. For although darkness covers the earth and thick darkness the peoples; on you ADONAI will rise; over you will be seen his glory. Nations will go toward your light and kings toward your shining splendor. Raise your eyes and look around: they are all assembling and coming to you; your sons are coming from far off, your daughters being carried on their nurses’ hips. Then you will see and be radiant, your heart will throb and swell with delight; for the riches of the seas will be brought to you, the wealth of nations will come to you. Caravans of camels will cover your land, young camels from Midyan and ‘Eifah, all of them coming from Sh’va,*

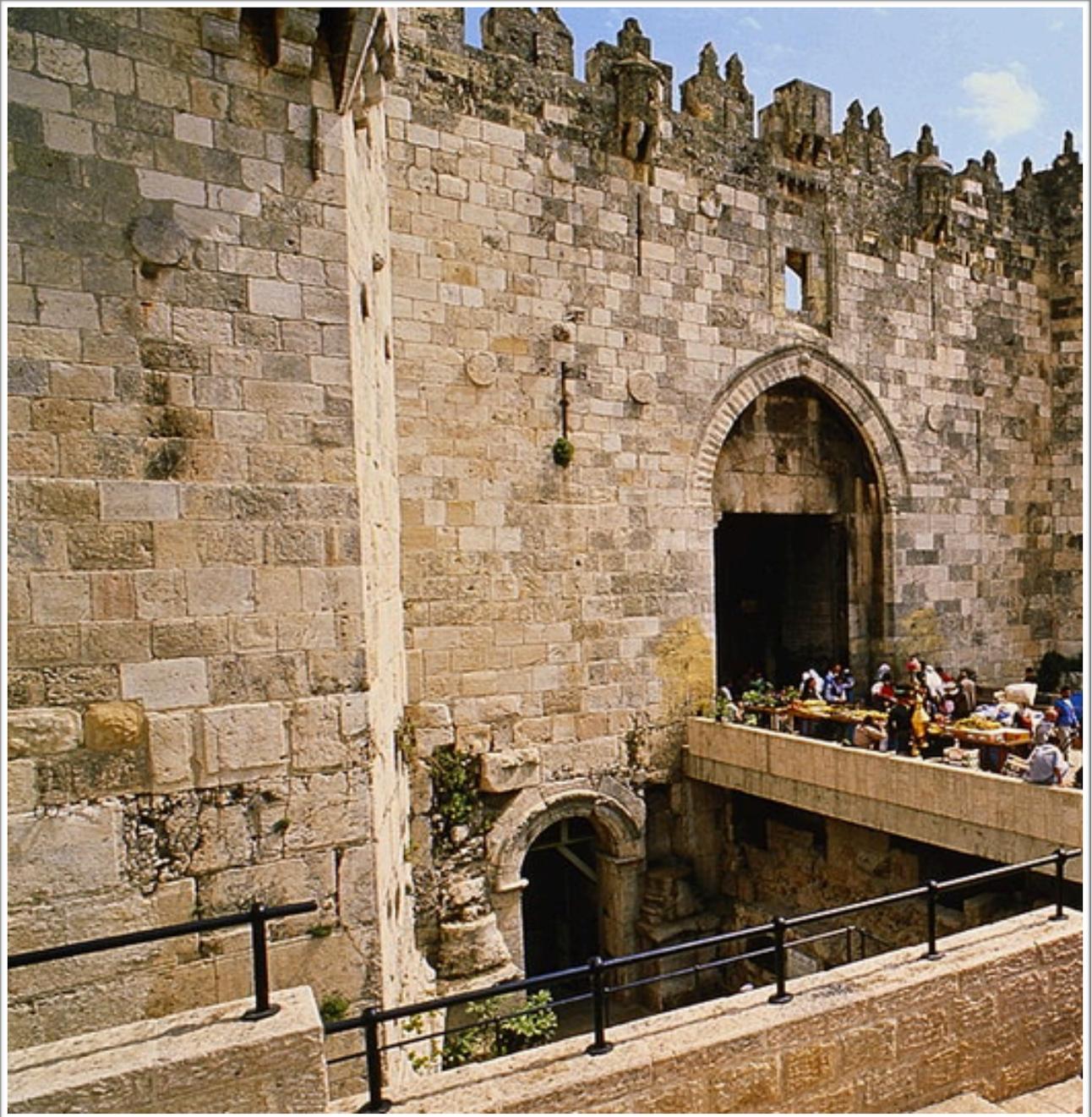
## WHAT SHOULD WE THINK ABOUT THIS WEEK?

1. Do you have a vision to be the Bride of Messiah, and what are you doing to make sure that your robe has no spots or wrinkles?
2. Are you producing a 100% harvest from the seed that YHVH has planted inside of you?
3. Do the camels of this world know that you will have compassion for them and will go out of your way to give them the water of life?

## A FINAL THOUGHT

In **Matthew**, we read about the rich man and the camel that must pass through the eye of the needle.

**Matthew 19:24** *“Furthermore, I tell you that it is easier for a camel to pass through a needle’s eye than for a rich man to enter the Kingdom of God.”*



Today, you can **see this** at the **Damascus gate**.

### **There is a lovely story about this verse.**

- ❖ They say that when the Jerusalem city gates close at night ... that there is a small gate on the side of one of those gates.
- ❖ But that gate is so small, that you have to take the load off the camel, and then get the camel to crawl through the opening on its knees until you are safely inside.

**It's only a story ... these walls and this gate was only built in the 1600's**

# BLESSING

Numbers 6:24-27

*“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.

