



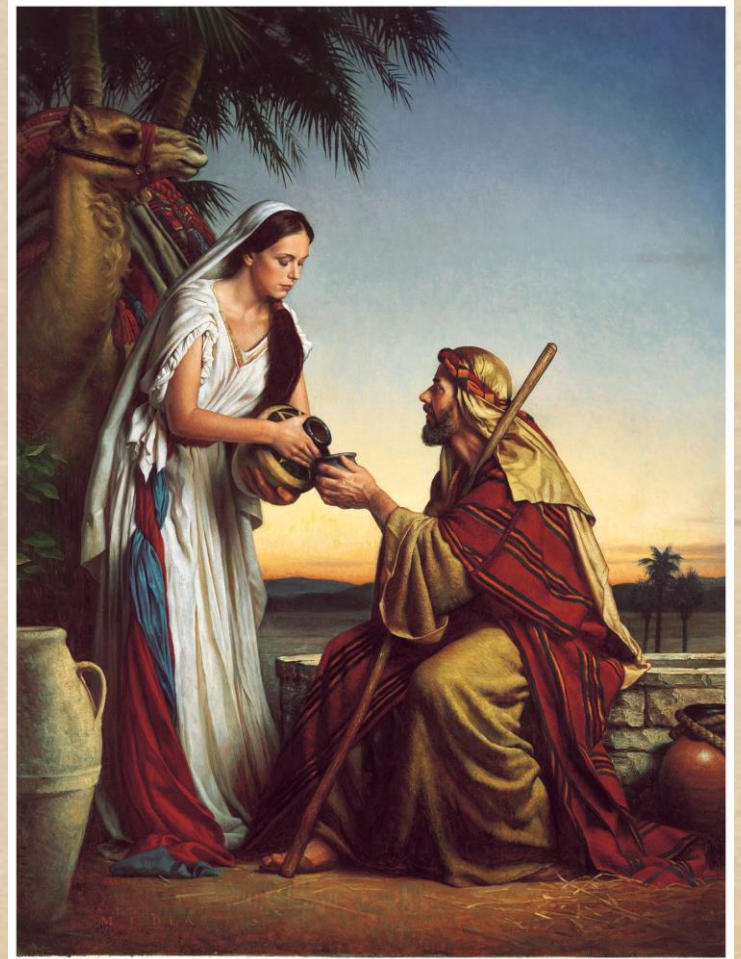
# Genesis 24-28

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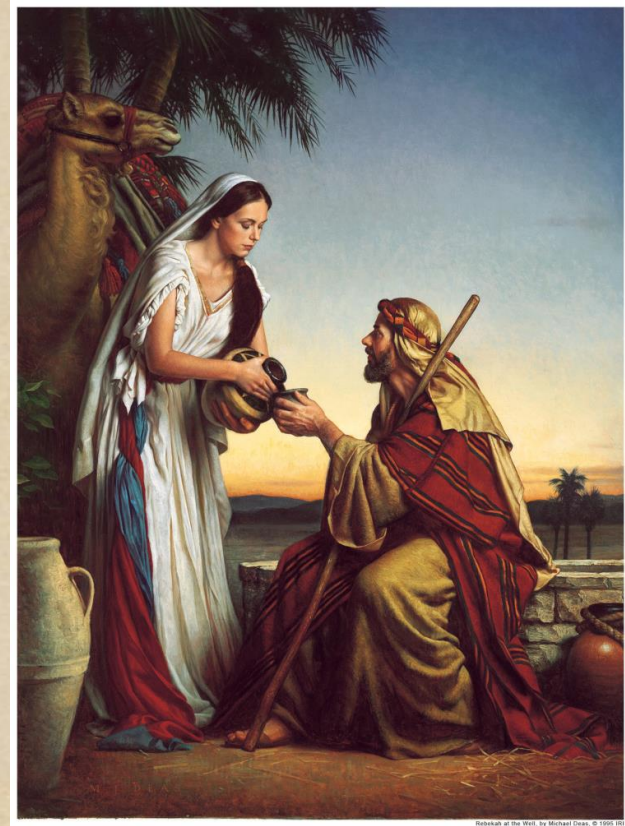
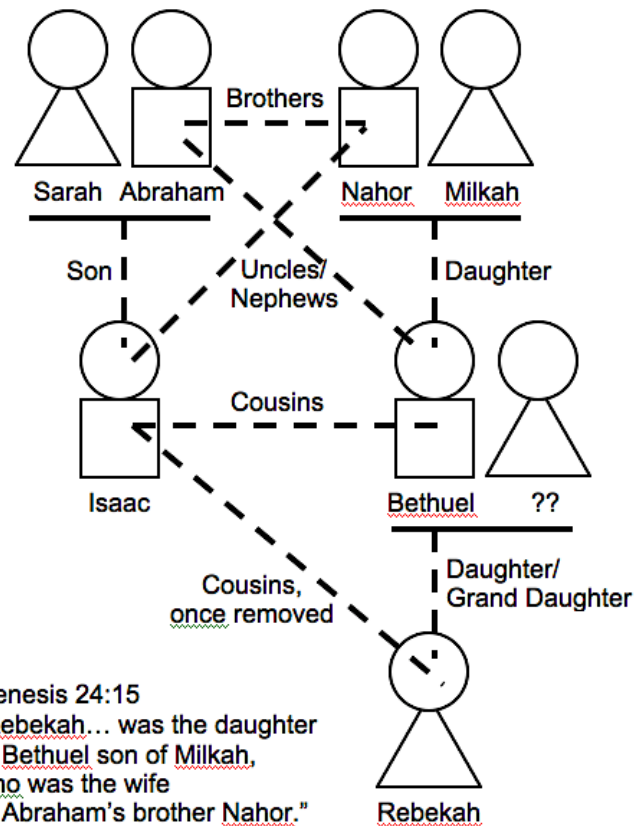
# Genesis 24 Abraham's servant finds Rebekah

# Genesis 24 | Isaac and Rebekah



Rebekah at the Well, by Michael Deas, © 1995 IRI

# Genesis 24 | Isaac and Rebekah



## Genesis 24:45

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The task is to draw close enough to the Lord that we progress to the point where we petition Him according to His will, not ours. "And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us." (1 John 5:14.) In modern revelations the Lord has declared His willingness to grant us the requests contained in our petitions if what we ask for is expedient for us. (D&C 88:64-65.)

## Genesis 24:45

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When we become sufficiently purified and cleansed from sin, we can ask what we will in the name of Jesus “and it shall be done.” (D&C 50:29.) The Lord even promises us that when one reaches a certain spiritual condition, “it shall be given you what you shall ask.” (D&C 50:30.)

Thus we clearly need to have the Spirit with us as we petition, because “in the Spirit” we will ask “according to the will of God wherefore it is done even as he asketh.” (D&C 46:30.) (Neal A. Maxwell, *All These Things Shall Give Thee Experience* Salt Lake City: Deseret Book Co., 1979, 95)

## Genesis 24:49-50

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Now, there may be cases from time to time where the Lord reveals to someone whom they are going to marry. My grandmother, Willmia Brown, for example, once heard an audible voice identify Joseph E. Robinson as her future husband, and it turned out to be so. But in such cases the revelation will be kept confidential until the other party has come to the same conclusion. Such a sacred insight will not be used like a crowbar to try to pry someone else into compliance. If it is genuine, it will come to pass on its own.

The Saints need to become more sophisticated in detecting spiritual snake-oil dealers. Whether they're peddling marriage or plural marriage or revelations or books or politics or special doctrines or special diets or herbs and vitamins or the "original" Greek (or Hebrew) or financial advice or "LDS" investments or whatever—if they are using religion to help sell their product or point of view, then they represent the cunning snares of Satan. (Stephen Robinson, *Following Christ: The Parable of the Divers and More Good News* Salt Lake City: Deseret Book Co., 1995, 104)



## Genesis 25 A Lineage history & Rebekah's revelation

And YHWH said to her:

Two nations are in thy womb,

and two manner of people shall be separated from thy bowels,

and the one people shall be stronger than the other people,

and the elder shall serve the younger. (Genesis 25.23)





# The Sale of the Birthright

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Genesis 25.24-34

# Esau, Nimrod, and the garment of power

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1 And Esau at that time, after the death of Abraham, frequently went in the field to hunt. 2 And Nimrod king of Babel, the same was Amraphel, also frequently went with his mighty men to hunt in the field, and to walk about with his men in the cool of the day. 3 And Nimrod was observing Esau all the days, for a jealousy was formed in the heart of Nimrod against Esau all the days. 4 And on a certain day Esau went in the field to hunt, and he found Nimrod walking in the wilderness with his two men. 5 And all his mighty men and his people were with him in the wilderness, but they removed at a distance from him, and they went from him in different directions to hunt, and **Esau concealed himself for Nimrod**, and he **lurked for him in the wilderness**. 6 And Nimrod and his men that were with him did not know him, and Nimrod and his men frequently walked about in the field at the cool of the day, and to know where his men were hunting in the field. 7 And Nimrod and two of his men that were with him came to the place where they were, when Esau started suddenly from his lurking place, and **drew his sword, and hastened and ran to Nimrod and cut off his head**. 8 And Esau fought a desperate fight with the two men that were with Nimrod, and when they called out to him, Esau turned to them and **smote them to death with his sword**. 9 And all the mighty men of Nimrod, who had left him to go to the wilderness, heard the cry at a distance, and they knew the voices of those two men, and they ran to know the cause of it, when they found their king and the two men that were with him lying dead in the wilderness. 10 And when Esau saw the mighty men of Nimrod coming at a distance, he fled, and thereby escaped; and **Esau took the valuable garments of Nimrod, which Nimrod's father had bequeathed to Nimrod, and with which Nimrod prevailed over the whole land, and he ran and concealed them in his house.**

# Esau, Nimrod, and the garment of power

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11 And Esau took those garments and ran into the city on account of Nimrod's men, and he came unto his father's house wearied and exhausted from fight, and he was ready to die through grief when he approached his brother Jacob and sat before him. 12 And he said unto his brother Jacob, Behold I shall die this day, and wherefore then do I want the birthright? And Jacob acted wisely with Esau in this matter, and Esau sold his birthright to Jacob, for it was so brought about by the Lord. 13 And Esau's portion in the cave of the field of Machpelah, which Abraham had bought from the children of Heth for the possession of a burial ground, Esau also sold to Jacob, and Jacob bought all this from his brother Esau for value given. 14 And Jacob wrote the whole of this in a book, and he testified the same with witnesses, and he sealed it, and the book remained in the hands of Jacob. 15 And when Nimrod the son of Cush died, his men lifted him up and brought him in consternation, and buried him in his city, and all the days that Nimrod lived were two hundred and fifteen years and he died. 16 And the days that Nimrod reigned upon the people of the land were one hundred and eighty-five years; and Nimrod died by the sword of Esau in shame and contempt, and the seed of Abraham caused his death as he had seen in his dream. 17 And at the death of Nimrod his kingdom became divided into many divisions, and all those parts that Nimrod reigned over were restored to the respective kings of the land, who recovered them after the death of Nimrod, and all the people of the house of Nimrod were for a long time enslaved to all the other kings of the land. (*The Book of Jasher*, ch. 27)

# Genesis 26 Comparing Isaac to Esau

26.1 – The “Philistines” – the repeated anachronism here

26.1-7 – She is my sister (the 3<sup>rd</sup> such story in Genesis)

26.8 – “sporting” – קִנְיָה *tsachaq*, a leitwort

26.9-11 – Abimelech’s command of protection

26.12-14 – Isaac’s fruitfulness

26.15-22 – Chaos, Water, War! קִשְׁיָה *esek*, “strife/contention”

26.23-25 – Isaac’s theophany- he sees Yahweh!

26.26-33- A covenantal meal, peace, Isaac departs Abimelech

26.34-35 – Esau breaks his mother’s heart

# Genesis 27

## Shedding the Tears of Esau

Birthright stories:

1. Esau sells it – Genesis 25.29-34
2. Esau's marriage outside of the covenant – Genesis 26.34-35
3. Trickery – Genesis 27.1-41



Genesis 28  
Jacob's Ladder

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# Genesis 33.1-4

Brothers are reunited