

REFINED IMMERSION IN THE PROPHETIC WORD

Series: Genesis – The Beginning

Message 33

The Death of Sarah and The Marriage of Isaac

Bible Reading: Genesis 23:1-20; 24:1-67



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MONDAY

1. When the two disciples were on their way to Emmaus, their hearts burned within them while Jesus spoke to them. Likewise, our hearts should burn within us when we hear the voice of the Lord. How do we know that we are hearing the Lord in a personal and living way? It is when our hearts burn within us (Luke 24:13-32).
2. Through these messages, we desire to hear the living voice of the Lord. We do not want to hear it superficially. May our—my—heart burn again for the Lord! In this way, we will do nothing mechanically. In everything, we need to seek the living word of the Lord, which gives us direction and releases the Spirit, who works miracles in our midst (Galatians 3:2, 5).
3. As we attentively listen to the word of the Lord, our lives grow, because the life of God—which is love—grows within us. When we grow in life, we have a foundation of love upon which to build up with our brothers and sisters. God needs a church that is built up; therefore, we want and should work to build it up (1 John 4:7-8; Ephesians 3:17-19; Matthew 16:18).
4. “Just as in the days of Noah, we live in difficult times and need to walk in purity and holiness, especially in the relationship between brothers and sisters who are not spouses, with respect, prudence, and without giving occasion to the flesh. While we preach the gospel of the kingdom, the enemy tries to strike us through moral breaches. Therefore, we must remain vigilant and holy” (Matthew 24:38-39, 42; Galatians 5:13) (Daily Food, book 5, week 1, Monday, p. 5).

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TUESDAY

1. The best way for someone to be edified by their brothers and sisters is to serve the Lord. Every time you serve the Lord, you are edified, and your life grows. When life grows, there is a greater capacity to serve and to be edified by your brothers and sisters. Thus, these two things—serving and growing in life—happens simultaneously (Romans 12:1).
2. If you do not choose to build the house of God, even if you prosper in the world and succeed in your professional and personal life, in the end you will see that your life will be nothing but a pile of ruins, as happened to Lot. Therefore, we choose to build the church; we choose Bethel. Let us be willing to serve the Lord (Genesis 12:8; Deuteronomy 30:19).
3. Don not let your church life become routine, something mechanical and meaningless. It's necessary to understand the essence of what we practice, to seek the Lord's word and the living action of His life in us. Let us seek new experiences, break out of routine, connect with people on the streets, care for them, and see God transform lives (Romans 7:6; 2 Corinthians 4:16b).
4. "The days in which we live are not so different from the times of Noah, for we are near the coming of the Son of Man. People are focused only on their carnal pleasures, whether in relationships, food, or drink. We, however, are different: we live and work with a purpose—to bring the Lord back. We are part of the Man child, who will bring Him again." (Matthew 24:37-39; Revelation 12:5) (*Daily Food*, book 5, week 1, Tuesday, p. 9).

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WEDNESDAY

1. Abraham was recognized as a prince of God. Similarly, people need to recognize us as those who fight for the kingdom of God. Through our testimony, they will say that we are princes of God, that we belong to His army and His kingdom. We are here to fight for the interests of the kingdom of God (Genesis 23:6; 1 Corinthians 4:1).
2. Abraham was not attached to material things. God promised him the land, but he surrendered his whole life to the Lord so that God would fulfill His will. God needs to win a church that has the same heart as Abraham. If you and I have this heart, God will have a way to accomplish His will through us (Hebrews 11:8-10; Genesis 23:1-4).
3. We are not of this world; we are of the heavenly country. People need to see us as ambassadors of the kingdom, as representatives of the kingdom of heaven. This happens because our hearts are not attached to material things, just like Abraham's (Hebrews 11:10; Philippians 3:20; 2 Corinthians 5:20).
4. "Noah walked with God. What does it mean to walk with God? It means to listen to His word. The two disciples, on the road to Emmaus, saw Jesus approaching, and what did they do? They talked to Him. Whoever walks with someone, walks to talk and gets to know the other person's heart. In the same way, whoever walks with God diligently listens to His word." (Genesis 6:9; Luke 24:13-32) (*Daily Food*, book 5, week 1, Wednesday, page 11).

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THURSDAY

1. Abraham bought Ephron's field to bury Sarah. This is a principle of our conduct: we should not be attached to earthly things, but what we do for the Lord involves a price. We do not seek political favors or benefits from people. What belongs to the Lord is treated with seriousness; everything is paid for (Genesis 23:6-20; Psalm 118: 8-9; Jeremiah 17:5, 7).
2. If we are "Abrahams" in our day, we can be sure that God will bless us in everything. Even in difficulties, pressures, and many struggles for His kingdom, we can count on the Lord's blessing. Something that accompanies the man of God—who does not fight for himself and possesses a pure heart detached from personal things—is divine blessing until the end of life (Genesis 24:1; 12:1-3; Acts 20:24).
3. Abraham is an example of faith and obedience to God, which all should follow to be blessed. He believed and surrendered his whole life to God without reservation to fulfill His will, according to His word. Abraham's relationship with God was based on listening to His word. In this way, he became the father of all who believe (Romans 10:17; Genesis 15:6; Romans 4:3, 11-12).
4. "The account in Genesis 6 mentions that the ark should be constructed of gopherwood, covered inside and out with pitch (v. 14). Gopherwood is a resinous wood, resistant to water. It prefigures Christ crucified, resistant to the attacks of death [...] It is because of Christ crucified that we are saved today." (Genesis 6:14; Acts 2:24) (Daily Food, book 5, week 1, Thursday, page 13).

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FRIDAY

1. Like the church of Philadelphia, the church of Zion, the church of the overcomers and workers of the last hour, we want to do God's will, bring this age to a close, and restore His kingdom to Earth. To do this, we must walk in the footsteps of Abraham, without personal ambition and surrendering our whole lives to the Lord (Romans 4:12; Matthew 20:6-7).
2. We live by the word of God, by what He says. We do not know what the next step will be, but we live day by day by faith, by hearing faith. We need God's word, because when He speaks, our faith is strengthened, He guides us and shows us the next step (Romans 10:17; Galatians 3:2).
3. The blessing comes through the Spirit. The Spirit has brought us all the riches of God and granted us divine blessing. Christ came, died for us, God resurrected Him, and He became the Spirit. Today, whoever believes in Him receives Him as the Spirit and has access to this blessing—to God Himself and all His riches (Gal 3:14; Eph 1:3; 1 Corinthians 15:45; John 7:37-39).
4. “The blood of Christ gives us peace, because He accomplished eternal redemption for us (Hebrews 9:13-14). And the pitch applied outside is for God’s satisfaction (Exodus 12:13). The blood on the doorposts and lintel was for God. Looking at that blood, He knew that it would not bring destruction. The pitch was inside and out.” (Genesis 6:14; Romans 5:1) (Daily Food, book 5, week 1, Friday, p. 15).

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SATURDAY

1. Abraham sent the oldest servant of his household, who managed all his possessions, to find a wife for his son. In this episode, Abraham represents God the Father; the servant represents the Holy Spirit; and Isaac represents Christ. God sends the Holy Spirit to find a bride for Christ—which is us, the church (Genesis 24:2-4; 2 Corinthians 11:2-3).
2. We were dead in trespasses and sins, but Christ came to meet us, redeemed us, saved us, and brought us into the church. We are not yet fully holy; we need to be sanctified. How does God sanctify us? By the flowing water of the word. The word is the water that flows and washes us, removing impurities and all unholy nature. And not only this; it also communicates to us more of God's holy nature (Ephesians 5:25-27).
3. Abraham's descendants were not to marry Canaanites. There is a spiritual principle here: God desires that His children marry someone who will help them serve the Lord. Marriage is not merely for personal satisfaction; our life and our marriage exist to fulfill God's will (Genesis 24:3-4; Deuteronomy 7:1-4).
4. "The only window, the only opening in the ark, is in the roof. This roof symbolizes midday, with the sun at its zenith, indicating that the ark's illumination came from heaven, just as the church today is guided by heavenly vision. We are not guided by our philosophies or knowledge, but by the vision and revelation that come from heaven" (Acts 2:42; 2 Peter 1:19) (Daily Food, book 5, week 1, Saturday, p. 17).

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SUNDAY

1. Rebekah's attitude in drawing water for the servant and the camels revealed diligence and a willingness to serve. Thanks be to the Lord, we see this same attitude in the churches, in colporteurs, and in the brothers and sisters who serve: they are not lazy or negligent, but diligent. Let us all be helpful, ready to give people a drink (Genesis 24:15-20; Romans 12:11).
2. Rebekah's nose ring and bracelets were made of gold, symbolizing God's holy life. As the church, the bride of Christ, we must commit ourselves to living His holy life. Our hands no longer serve the world, but the living God. The nose ring indicates this, on our path, we are not guided by ourselves, but by divine life (Genesis 24:47; Romans 6:19).
3. From now on, I, like Rebekah, commit myself to being the bride of Christ, to follow only the direction that life indicates, and to use my hands to serve the True God. Then, on that day, we will participate in the wedding feast of the Lamb, the greatest wedding feast in the universe, which will last a thousand years (Ephesians 5:31-32; Revelation 19:7-8).
4. "Noah did everything as God had commanded. This model of hearing God's word and obeying immediately is the path to prosperity for every man [...] This attitude teaches us something fundamental: we must be simple before the Lord, keeping a pure heart. When we walk with God, He speaks to us, and whatever He says we must do promptly" (Ex 19:5; Dt 6:6-7) (Daily Food, book 5, week 1, Sunday, p. 21).

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