

Prayer

Part 4

Prayer is the engine that will drive and push our lives forward as we live our lives unto Him. A prayer to be effective it needs to be uttered from a righteous life person as God's word declared, **"The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective."** (James 5:16b)

We will study in this message a life of a righteous man who served God honestly and whom God answered his prayers effectively.

This servant was the servant of Abraham, as well as he was the servant of God. **"Abraham was now old and well advanced in years, and the LORD had blessed him in every way. 2 He said to the chief servant in his household, the one in charge of all that he had, 'Put your hand under my thigh.'" (Genesis 24:1-2)** Abraham entrusted him with a great task and he did the task wholeheartedly and without compromising. Abraham in his old age was facing the task of finding a wife to his son Isaac. It would not be possible to take for him any woman from the Canaanites around them, so he told to his servant: **"³ I want you to swear by the LORD, the God of heaven and the God of earth, that you will not get a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, among whom I am living," (Genesis 24:1-3)**

And the Lord had put in the heart of Abraham that if there will be a woman from his old family who is willing to come out from that tradition and religion and join them in their new life for God then she will be the right woman for Isaac, **"⁴ but will go to my country and my own relatives and get a wife for my son Isaac."** (Genesis 24:4) Then the servant asked him **"What if the woman is unwilling to come back with me to this land? Shall I then take your son back to the country you came from?" (Genesis 24:5)** The servant knew that it will be hard for a woman to leave her family and move to live far away from them. The point of Abraham that his son Isaac should not go back to the old religion and the old tradition because when God had called Abraham He told him, **"Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you."** (Genesis 12:1) So Abraham now was working to ensure that his son Isaac would not go back to what he had before God's calling. So he told his faithful servant, **"⁶ Make sure that you do not take my son back there," Abraham said." (Genesis 24:6)**

In addition to the above instructions to his servant, Abraham imparted the message of faith as well when he said **"⁷ 'The LORD, the God of heaven, who brought me out of my father's household and my native land and who spoke to me and promised me on oath, saying, 'To your offspring I will give this land'--he will send his angel before you so that you can get a wife for my son from there.'" (Genesis 24:7)** And he made it also clear to him that in no way to compromise and bring his son back there, **"⁸ If the woman is unwilling to come back with you, then you will be released from this oath of mine. Only do not take my son back there."** (Genesis 24:8)

The servant complied with God's call and committed himself to do the task: **"⁹ So the servant put his hand under the thigh of his master Abraham and swore an oath to him concerning this matter. ¹⁰ Then the servant took ten of his master's camels and left, taking with him all kinds of good things from his master. He set out for Aram Naharaim and made his way to the town of Nahor. ¹¹ He had the camels kneel down near the well outside the town; it was toward evening, the time the women go out to draw water." (Genesis 24:9-11)** He moved with faith in God and in His heart he wanted to achieve the task faithfully to God and to his master Abraham. Therefore

when he reached there, **"¹² Then he prayed, 'O LORD, God of my master Abraham, give me success today, and show kindness to my master Abraham. ¹³ See, I am standing beside this spring, and the daughters of the townspeople are coming out to draw water. ¹⁴ May it be that when I say to a girl, 'Please let down your jar that I may have a drink,' and she says, 'Drink, and I'll water your camels too'--let her be the one you have chosen for your servant Isaac. By this I will know that you have shown kindness to my master.'" ¹⁵ Before he had finished praying, Rebekah came out with her jar on her shoulder. She was the daughter of Bethuel son of Milcah, who was the wife of Abraham's brother Nahor." (Genesis 24:12-15)** So before he finished praying God answered his prayer because his heart was clean and was set to serve God wholeheartedly. He knew that God's will not to bring Isaac back to the old tradition so the message of God would be conveyed truthfully to the next generation. **"¹⁶ The girl was very beautiful, a virgin; no man had ever lain with her. She went down to the spring, filled her jar and came up again. ¹⁷ The servant hurried to meet her and said, 'Please give me a little water from your jar.'" ¹⁸ "Drink, my lord," she said, and quickly lowered the jar to her hands and gave him a drink. ¹⁹ After she had given him a drink, she said, "I'll draw water for your camels too, until they have finished drinking." ²⁰ So she quickly emptied her jar into the trough, ran back to the well to draw more water, and drew enough for all his camels. ²¹ Without saying a word, the man watched her closely to learn whether or not the LORD had made his journey successful." (Genesis 24:16-21)** God truly answered his prayer and he confirmed that as he watched closely how God was moving to help him to achieve the mission entrusted to him. As your heart is fully committed to serve God and do His will, then the Lord will help you and uphold you with His grace to do His will. And the things went very smooth after that: **"²² When the camels had finished drinking, the man took out a gold nose ring weighing a beka and two gold bracelets weighing ten shekels. ²³ Then he asked, 'Whose daughter are you? Please tell me, is there room in your father's house for us to spend the night?' ²⁴ She answered him, 'I am the daughter of Bethuel, the son that Milcah bore to Nahor.'" ²⁵ And she added, "We have plenty of straw and fodder, as well as room for you to spend the night." (Genesis 24:22-25)** And he praised and thanked the Lord for that **"²⁶ Then the man bowed down and worshiped the LORD, ²⁷ saying, 'Praise be to the LORD, the God of my master Abraham, who has not abandoned his kindness and faithfulness to my master. As for me, the LORD has led me on the journey to the house of my master's relatives.'" (Genesis 24:26-27)** God confirmed to the servant the instructions that he received from his Master Abraham.

Then after **"²⁸ The girl ran and told her mother's household about these things. ²⁹ Now Rebekah had a brother named Laban, and he hurried out to the man at the spring. ³⁰ As soon as he had seen the nose ring, and the bracelets on his sister's arms, and had heard Rebekah tell what the man said to her, he went out to the man and found him standing by the camels near the spring. ³¹ "Come, you who are blessed by the LORD," he said. "Why are you standing out here? I have prepared the house and a place for the camels." ³² So the man went to the house, and the camels were unloaded. Straw and fodder were brought for the camels, and water for him and his men to wash their feet." (Genesis 24:28-32)** Truly the feet of the righteous man is ordained by the Lord as God's word said **"²³ The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD: and he delighteth in his way." (Psalm 37:23)**

"³³ Then food was set before him, but he said, 'I will not eat until I have told you what I have to say.'" "Then tell us," Laban said." (Genesis 24:33) The servant was so faithful to his master and to God, that even after long journey he would not in their house unless he will tell them why he came and unless they will agree with him and send with the girl. So he told them the whole story: **"³⁴ So he said, 'I am Abraham's servant. ³⁵ The LORD has blessed my master abundantly, and he has become wealthy. He has given him sheep and cattle, silver and gold, menservants and maidservants, and camels and donkeys. ³⁶ My master's wife Sarah has borne him a son in her**

old age, and he has given him everything he owns.³⁷ And my master made me swear an oath, and said, 'You must not get a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, in whose land I live,³⁸ but go to my father's family and to my own clan, and get a wife for my son.'³⁹ 'Then I asked my master, 'What if the woman will not come back with me?'⁴⁰ 'He replied, 'The LORD, before whom I have walked, will send his angel with you and make your journey a success, so that you can get a wife for my son from my own clan and from my father's family.'⁴¹ Then, when you go to my clan, you will be released from my oath even if they refuse to give her to you--you will be released from my oath.'⁴² 'When I came to the spring today, I said, 'O LORD, God of my master Abraham, if you will, please grant success to the journey on which I have come.'⁴³ See, I am standing beside this spring; if a maiden comes out to draw water and I say to her, 'Please let me drink a little water from your jar,'⁴⁴ and if she says to me, 'Drink, and I'll draw water for your camels too,' let her be the one the LORD has chosen for my master's son.'⁴⁵ 'Before I finished praying in my heart, Rebekah came out, with her jar on her shoulder. She went down to the spring and drew water, and I said to her, 'Please give me a drink.'⁴⁶ 'She quickly lowered her jar from her shoulder and said, 'Drink, and I'll water your camels too.' So I drank, and she watered the camels also.'⁴⁷ 'I asked her, 'Whose daughter are you?' 'She said, 'The daughter of Bethuel son of Nahor, whom Milcah bore to him.'⁴⁸ 'Then I put the ring in her nose and the bracelets on her arms,⁴⁸ and I bowed down and worshiped the LORD. I praised the LORD, the God of my master Abraham, who had led me on the right road to get the granddaughter of my master's brother for his son.'⁴⁹ Now if you will show kindness and faithfulness to my master, tell me; and if not, tell me, so I may know which way to turn.' (Genesis 24:34-49) So he told them everything and waited for their decision; if they will agree he will eat, if not then he will go back. There is no way that Isaac will go back, but Rebekah to come out and followed the way of God that Abraham and Isaac are following.

And praise the Lord they agreed, "⁵⁰ Laban and Bethuel answered, 'This is from the LORD; we can say nothing to you one way or the other.'⁵¹ Here is Rebekah; take her and go, and let her become the wife of your master's son, as the LORD has directed.' (Genesis 24:50-51)

And "⁵² When Abraham's servant heard what they said, he bowed down to the ground before the LORD.⁵³ Then the servant brought out gold and silver jewelry and articles of clothing and gave them to Rebekah; he also gave costly gifts to her brother and to her mother.'⁵⁴ Then he and the men who were with him ate and drank and spent the night there.'"

"When they got up the next morning, he said, 'Send me on my way to my master.'⁵⁵ But her brother and her mother replied, 'Let the girl remain with us ten days or so; then you may go.'⁵⁶ But he said to them, 'Do not detain me, now that the LORD has granted success to my journey. Send me on my way so I may go to my master.'⁵⁷ Then they said, 'Let's call the girl and ask her about it.'⁵⁸ So they called Rebekah and asked her, 'Will you go with this man?' 'I will go,' she said.' (Genesis 24:55-58) The family of Rebekah after they agreed they wanted to delay the servant ten days more and most likely what they will do in these ten days the traditional and the ritual things that they use to practice and may be they will ask from him money or even they may change their minds. But the servant was firm with them and his mind was clear, he challenged them that he is going back and he will not delay and forced them to ask the girl if she is willing to go with him then he will take her. Truly they were put in their right place and comply with God's will. "⁵⁹ So they sent their sister Rebekah on her way, along with her nurse and Abraham's servant and his men.⁶⁰ And they blessed Rebekah and said to her, 'Our sister, may you increase to thousands upon thousands; may your offspring possess the gates of their enemies.'⁶¹ Then Rebekah and her maids got ready and mounted their camels and went back with the man. So the servant took Rebekah and left.' (Genesis 24:59-61) The servant was so faithful to the mission of God. Someone else might stay and enjoy food and celebration or have a

tour in the region around and see the nature. But that will not help us in our walk with God but it make our life and our mission work with God more difficult.

"⁶² Now Isaac had come from Beer Lahai Roi, for he was living in the Negev.⁶³ He went out to the field one evening to meditate, and as he looked up, he saw camels approaching.' (Genesis 24:62-63) Isaac was meditating on God's goodness and was waiting for answer prayer, as well as Rebekah she was looking forward to the new plan of God in her life: "⁶⁴ Rebekah also looked up and saw Isaac. She got down from her camel.⁶⁵ and asked the servant, 'Who is that man in the field coming to meet us?' 'He is my master,' the servant answered. So she took her veil and covered herself.' (Genesis 24:64-65)

"⁶⁶ Then the servant told Isaac all he had done.' (Genesis 24:66) The faithful servant reported the whole story of how God led him and how God answered his prayer and how He gave him the wisdom to speak and how finally Rebekah came out from that tradition and faith, Then, "⁶⁷ Isaac brought her into the tent of his mother Sarah, and he married Rebekah. So she became his wife, and he loved her; and Isaac was comforted after his mother's death.' (Genesis 24:67)

My Dear and Beloved: Take head of the message and be faithful to God and to the instructions that you received. As that servant obeyed the instruction of Abraham and secured a godly wife for Isaac and for the future to have godly children and the truth of God's word will be going to the next generation. You do the same, stand firm, be on your guard and not compromise in order that the truth and the message of God will pass faithfully to the next generation as you agree to pray.

My Prayer: Father God thank you for your clear message to me. I commit myself to stand firm in doing the mission and the task that you entrust to me. Lord I have a clear mind and I will not compromise; I will serve you faithfully to bring your message and the truth of your word to the next generation. Give me the strength and the good health to do that, protect me and provide for me, this all I ask and pray in Jesus name Amen.

Jesus christ



The Bread Of Life