

Genesis

The Book of Beginnings

14. A bride for Isaac

An outline of the Book of Genesis *

* Approximate chapter divisions only

Genesis 1 to 11

Creation

Genesis 1 to 2

The Fall

Genesis 3

Before the Flood

Genesis 4 to 5

The Flood

Genesis 6 to 8

After the Flood

Genesis 9 to 11

Genesis 12 to 50

Abraham

Genesis 12 to 23

Isaac

Genesis 24 to 27

Jacob

Genesis 28 to 36

Joseph

Genesis 37 to 50

Abraham's experiences thus far...

About
40
years

- Ch 12 – Abraham went down to Egypt, **almost losing Sarah**, and returned.
- Ch 13 – **Abraham separated from Lot** who chose the Jordan Valley and Sodom.
- Ch 14 – Abraham rescued Lot and the people of Sodom from captivity.
- Ch 14 – **Abraham met Melchizedek** and gave away the spoils of the battle.
- Ch 15 – God made a covenant with Abraham **by sacrifice**.
- Ch 16 – Sarah gave Hagar to Abraham, and **Ishmael was born**.
- Ch 17 – God renewed the covenant and instituted the sign of circumcision.
- Ch 18 – **God visited Abraham and Sarah** and promised a son in the coming year.
- Ch 18 – Abraham interceded for Sodom – Lot was saved, **Sodom was destroyed**.
- Ch 20 – Abraham and Sarah stayed in Gerar, and **Sarah was almost lost again**.
- Ch 21 – **Isaac was born** and soon after Hagar and Ishmael were sent away.

God's promise to Abraham

Go from your country and your kindred
and your father's house
to the land that I will show you.

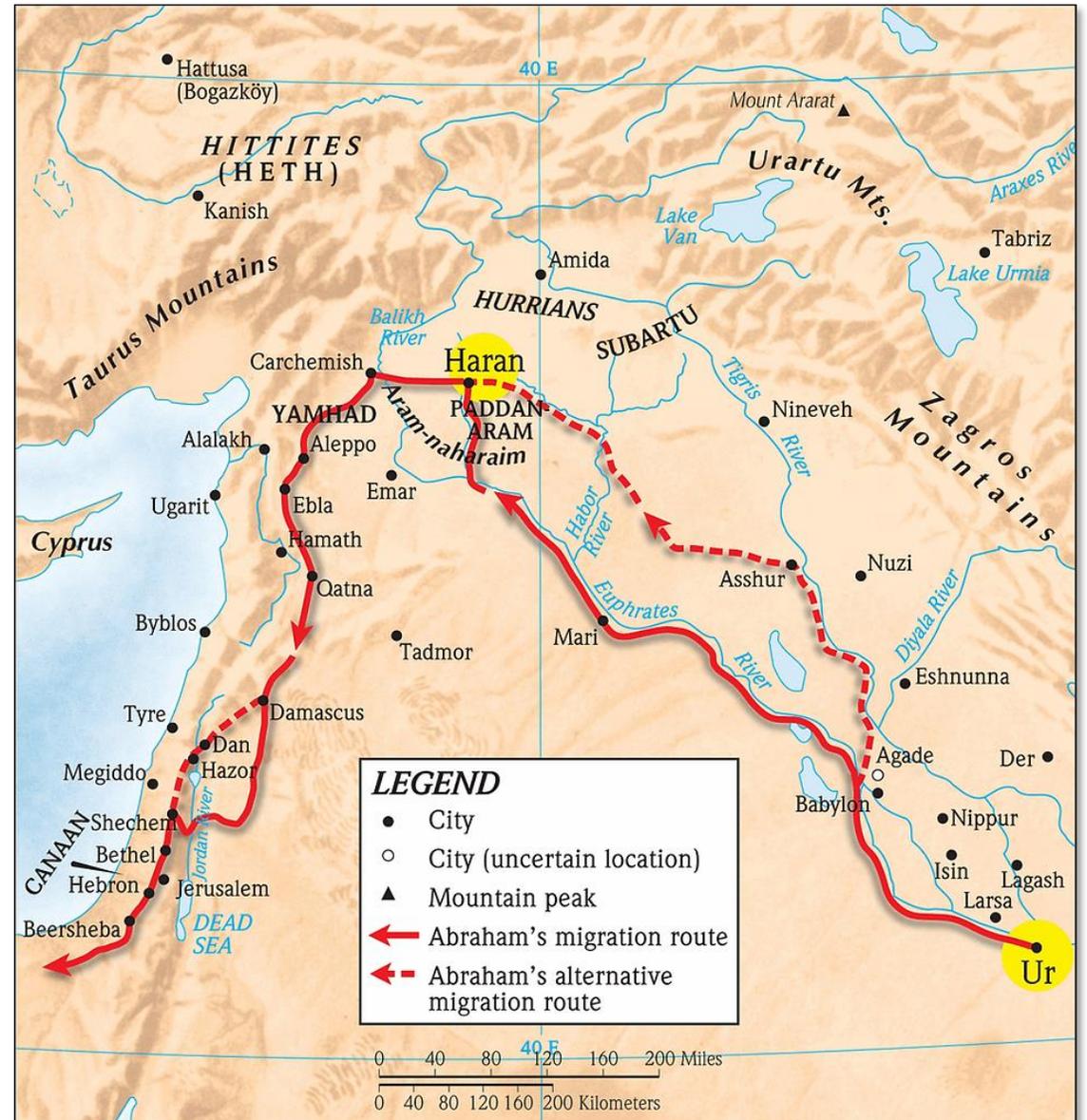
And I will make of you a great nation,
and I will bless you
and make your name great,
so that you will be a blessing.

I will bless those who bless you,
and him who dishonors you I will curse,

and in you

all the families of the earth shall be blessed.

(Genesis 12:1-3)



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- Nahor's family (Genesis 22:20-24)
- Sarah's death and burial (Genesis 23)
- A bride for Isaac (Genesis 24)

➤ Nahor's family (Genesis 22:20-24)

The offering
of Isaac

Now after these things it was told to **Abraham**,
“Behold, **Milcah** also has borne children
to **your brother Nahor**:

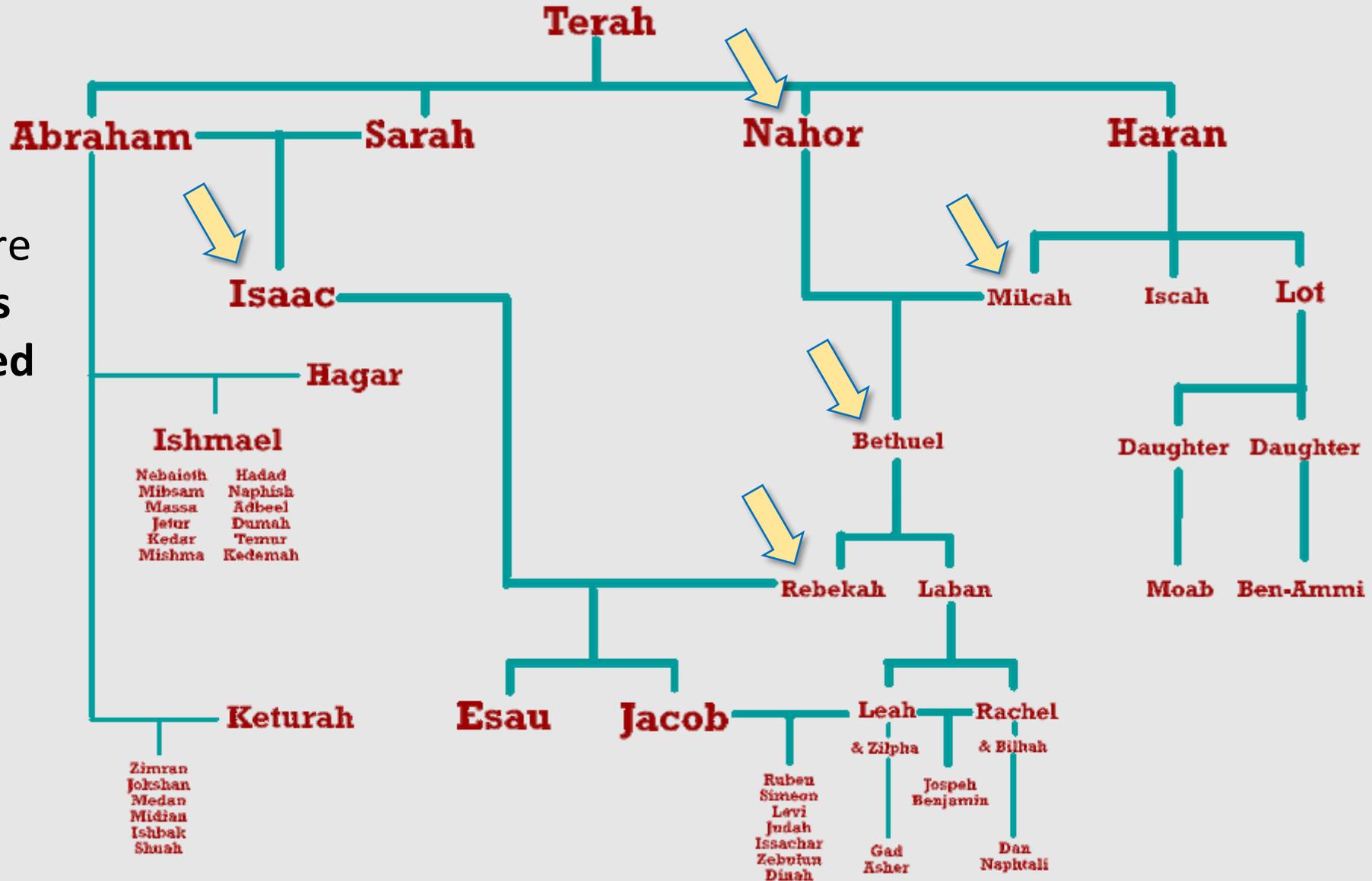
- Eight sons {
- Uz his firstborn,
 - Buz his brother,
 - Kemuel the father of Aram,
 - Chesed, Hazo, Pildash, Jidlaph,
 - and **Bethuel**.”

(Bethuel fathered **Rebekah**.)

(Genesis 22:20-23)

➤ Nahor's family (Genesis 22:20-24)

Isaac and Rebekah were first cousins once removed



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- Nahor's family (Genesis 22:20-24)
- **Sarah's death and burial** (Genesis 23)
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➤ Sarah's death and burial (Genesis 23)

Sarah lived 127 years;
these were the years of the life of Sarah.

And Sarah died at **Kiriath-arba** (that is, **Hebron**)
in the land of Canaan, and Abraham went in
to mourn for Sarah and to weep for her.

(Genesis 23:1-2)

Isaac was then
37 years old



➤ Sarah's death and burial (Genesis 23)

And Abraham rose up from before his dead and said to the Hittites,

“I am a sojourner and foreigner among you;
give me property among you for a burying place,
that I may bury my dead out of my sight.” ...

“Hear us, my lord;

you are a mighty prince among us.

Bury your dead in the choicest of our tombs....”

(See Genesis 23:3-6)



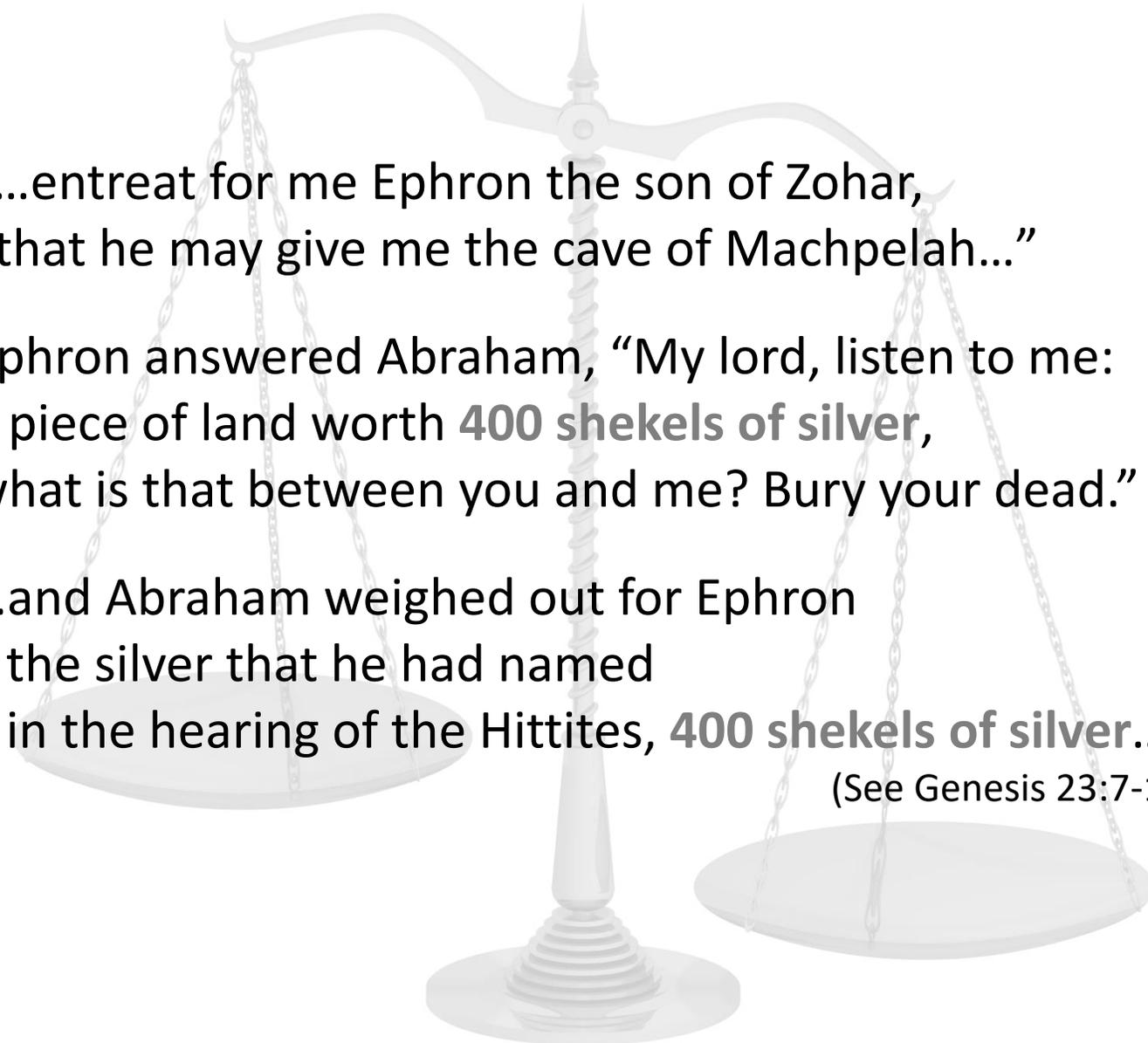
➤ Sarah's death and burial (Genesis 23)

“...entreat for me Ephron the son of Zohar,
that he may give me the cave of Machpelah...”

Ephron answered Abraham, “My lord, listen to me:
a piece of land worth **400 shekels of silver**,
what is that between you and me? Bury your dead.”

...and Abraham weighed out for Ephron
the silver that he had named
in the hearing of the Hittites, **400 shekels of silver**....

(See Genesis 23:7-18)



➤ Sarah's death and burial (Genesis 23)

After this, Abraham buried **Sarah** his wife in the cave of the field of Machpelah east of Mamre (that is, **Hebron**) **in the land of Canaan.**

The field and the cave that is in it were made over to Abraham as property **for a burying place** by the Hittites.

(Genesis 23:19-20)

Where later were buried **Abraham**, **Isaac** and **Rebekah**, and **Jacob** and **Leah**

(See Genesis 49:31)

➤ Sarah's death and burial (Genesis 23)

Some observations...

- By this account we share a little in Abraham's grief at Sarah's death.
- Abraham did not think to take Sarah's body (or bones) to Mesopotamia.
- He had no inheritance in the land – the purchase was for the dead.
- He believed God's promise, even knowing of the 400 years of bondage.

*“...your offspring will be sojourners
in a land that is not theirs ...
and **they will be afflicted for 400 years.**”*

(Genesis 15:13)

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- Nahor's family (Genesis 22:20-24)
- Sarah's death and burial (Genesis 23)
- **A bride for Isaac** (Genesis 24)

➤ **A bride for Isaac** (Genesis 24)

What can we expect to see in this beautiful chapter?

- ✓ Abraham's faith and Isaac's place in God's purpose
- ✓ An example of the way of a faithful servant of God
- ✓ A picture of God's great eternal purpose in Christ

➤ **A bride for Isaac** (Genesis 24)

About 140
years old

Now **Abraham** was old, well advanced in years.

Genesis 12:2

And the LORD had blessed Abraham in all things.

And **Abraham** said to his servant,
the oldest of his household,
who had charge of all that he had

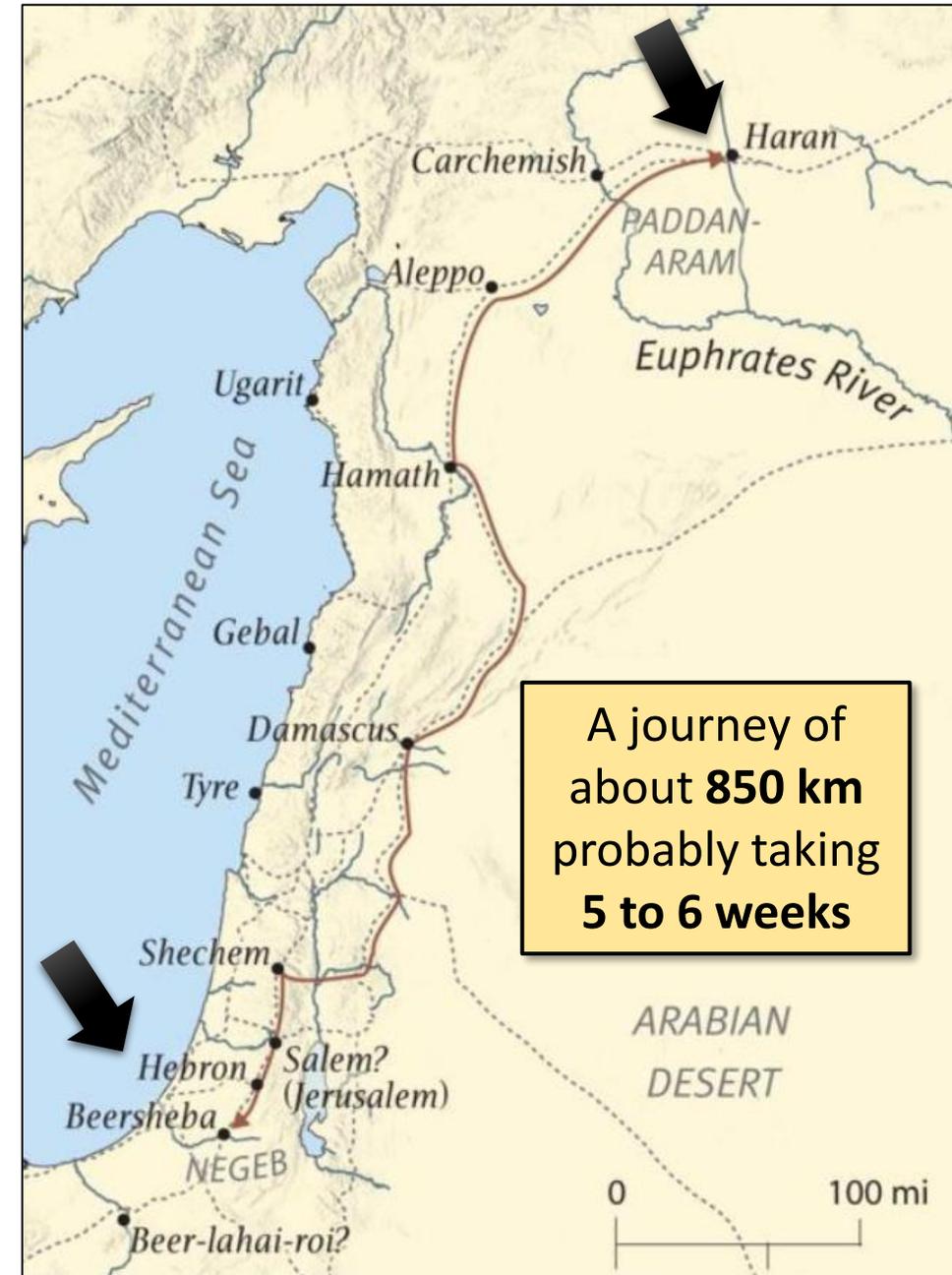
Eliezer of Damascus?

➤ **A bride for Isaac** (Genesis 24)

And **Abraham** said to his servant,
the oldest of his household,
who had charge of all that he had

“Put your hand under my thigh,
that I may make you swear by the LORD,
the God of heaven and God of the earth,
**that you will not take a wife for my son
from the daughters of the Canaanites,**
among whom I dwell,
but will go to my country and to my kindred,
and take a wife for my son **Isaac.**”

(See Genesis 24:1-4)



➤ **A bride for Isaac** (Genesis 24)

**Perhaps the woman
may not be willing
to follow me
to this land.**

**Must I then take
your son back
to the land from
which you came?**

**See to it that you do not
take my son back there.**

The LORD, the God of heaven...

He will send His angel before you,
and you shall take a wife for my son from there.

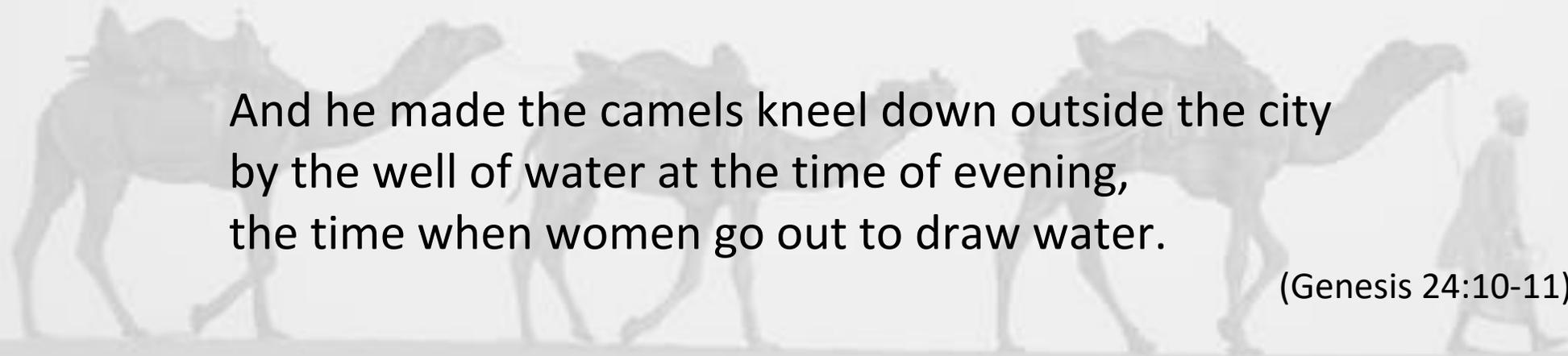
But if the woman is not willing to follow you,
then you will be free from this oath of mine;
only you must not take my son back there.

➤ **A bride for Isaac** (Genesis 24)

Then the servant took ten of his master's camels and departed...
and went to Mesopotamia to the city of Nahor.

And he made the camels kneel down outside the city
by the well of water at the time of evening,
the time when women go out to draw water.

(Genesis 24:10-11)



➤ **A bride for Isaac** (Genesis 24)

And he said,

“O LORD, God of my master Abraham...

Let the young woman to whom I shall say,

‘Please let down your jar that I may drink,’

and who shall say,

‘Drink, and I will water your camels’

—let her be the one whom **you have appointed** for your servant Isaac.

By this I shall know that you have shown **steadfast love** to my master.”

(Genesis 24:12-14)

checed = kindness, goodness, faithfulness,
strength + steadfastness + love.

➤ **A bride for Isaac** (Genesis 24)

Before he had finished speaking, behold, **Rebekah...** came out with her water jar on her shoulder.

The young woman was very attractive in appearance, a maiden whom no man had known. ...

Then the servant ran to meet her and said,
“Please give me a little water to drink from your jar.”

She said, *“Drink, my lord.”*

And she quickly let down her jar upon her hand and gave him a drink.

(Genesis 24:15-18)



➤ **A bride for Isaac** (Genesis 24)

Up to 100
litres each!

When she had finished giving him a drink, she said,
*“I will draw water for your camels also,
until they have finished drinking.”*

So she quickly emptied her jar into the trough
and ran again to the well to draw water,
and she drew for all his camels.

The man gazed at her in silence to learn whether
the LORD had prospered his journey or not.

(Genesis 24:19-21)



➤ **A bride for Isaac** (Genesis 24)

When the camels had finished drinking, the man took a gold nose ring weighing a half shekel, and two bracelets for her arms weighing ten gold shekels, and said,

*“Please tell me whose daughter you are.
Is there room in your father's house
for us to spend the night?”*

She said to him...

*“I am the daughter of **Bethuel** the son of **Milcah**...
We have plenty of both straw and fodder,
and room to spend the night.”*

(Genesis 24:22-25)



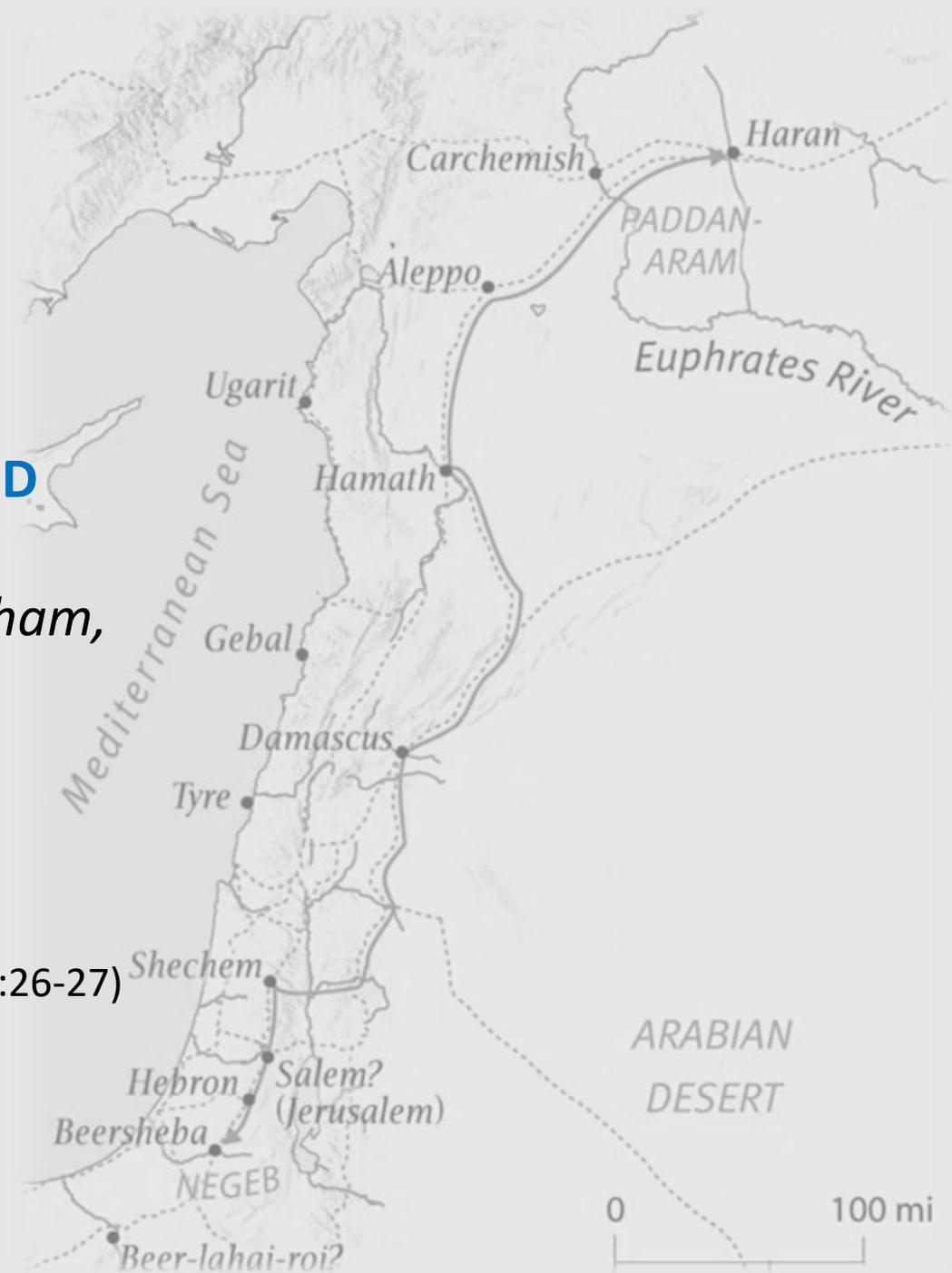
➤ **A bride for Isaac** (Genesis 24)

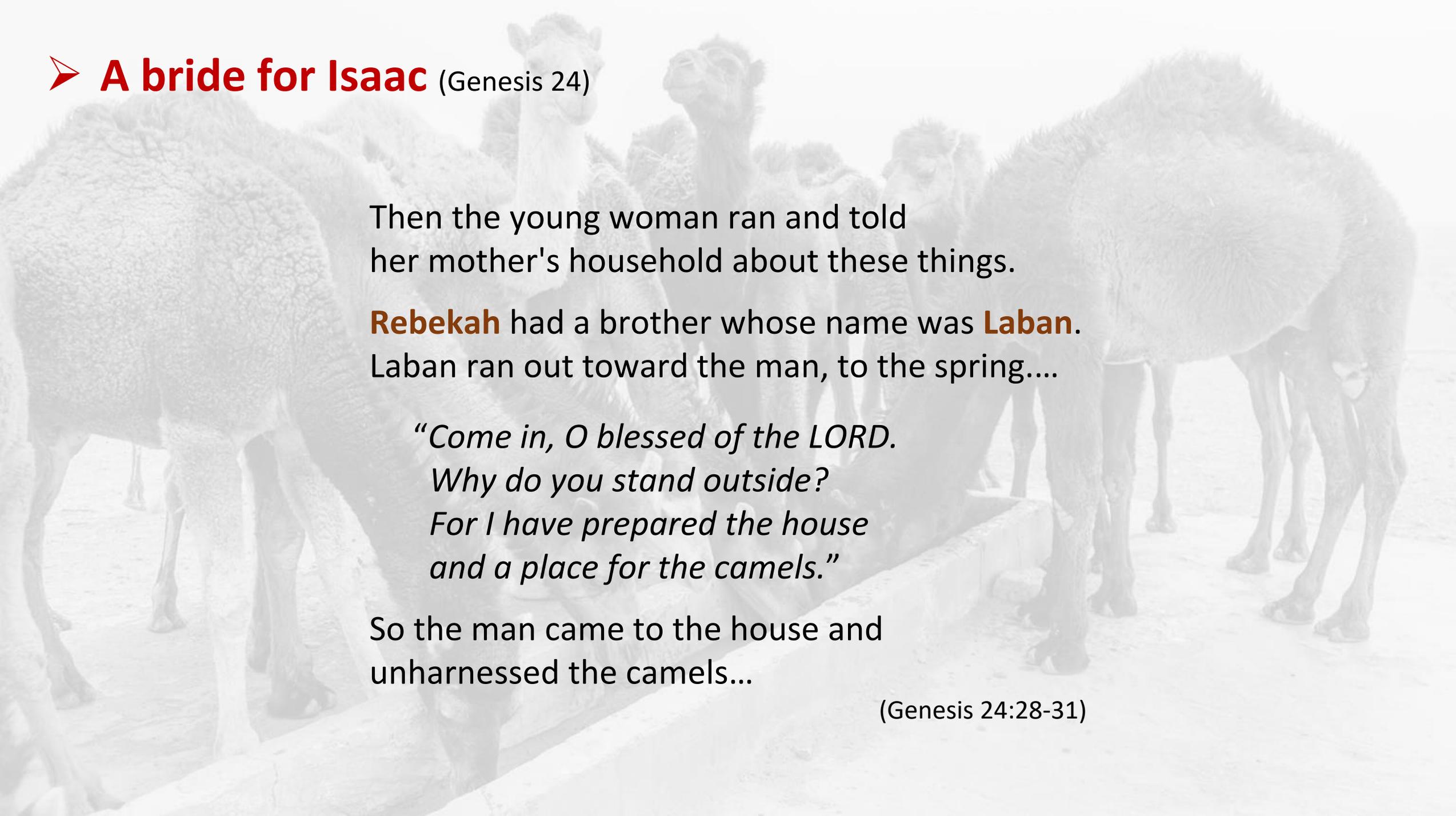
The man bowed his head and worshiped the LORD
and said,

*“Blessed be the LORD, the God of my master Abraham,
who has not forsaken **His steadfast love**
and **His faithfulness** toward my master.*

*“As for me, **the LORD has led me in the way**
to the house of my master's kinsmen.”*

(Genesis 24:26-27)



A herd of camels is shown in a desert setting, standing near a stone water trough. The camels are of various shades of brown and tan, and their long necks and humps are prominent. The background is a bright, hazy desert landscape.

➤ **A bride for Isaac** (Genesis 24)

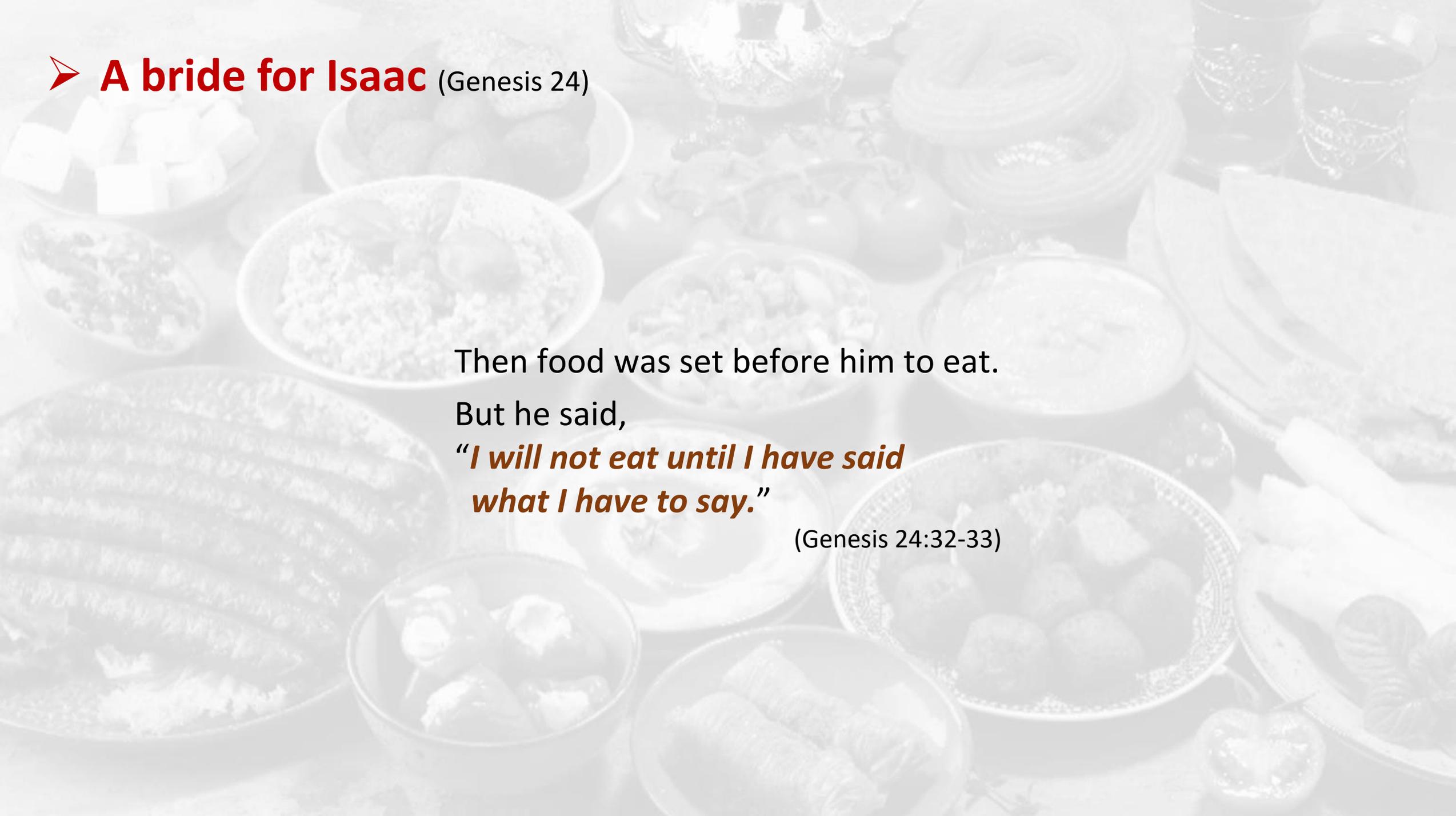
Then the young woman ran and told her mother's household about these things.

Rebekah had a brother whose name was **Laban**. Laban ran out toward the man, to the spring....

*“Come in, O blessed of the LORD.
Why do you stand outside?
For I have prepared the house
and a place for the camels.”*

So the man came to the house and unharnessed the camels...

(Genesis 24:28-31)



➤ **A bride for Isaac** (Genesis 24)

Then food was set before him to eat.

But he said,

***“I will not eat until I have said
what I have to say.”***

(Genesis 24:32-33)

➤ **A bride for Isaac** (Genesis 24)

Genesis 12:2

“I am Abraham's servant.

*“The LORD has greatly blessed my master,
and he has become great....*

*“And Sarah my master's wife bore a son
to my master when she was old,
and to him he has given all that he has.”*

[The servant then tells them
of the oath sworn to Abraham
and of all that happened at the well.]

(See Genesis 24:34-48)

➤ **A bride for Isaac** (Genesis 24)

*“Now then, if you are going to show **steadfast love** and **faithfulness** to my master, tell me; and if not, tell me, that I may turn to the right hand or to the left.”*

Then **Laban** and **Bethuel** answered and said,
*“**The thing has come from the LORD**;
we cannot speak to you bad or good.*

*“Behold, **Rebekah** is before you; take her and go, and let her be the wife of your master's son, **as the LORD has spoken.**”*

(Genesis 24:49-51)

➤ **A bride for Isaac** (Genesis 24)

When **Abraham's servant** heard their words,
he bowed himself to the earth before the LORD.

And the servant brought out jewelry
of silver and of gold, and garments,
and gave them to Rebekah.

He also gave to her brother and to her mother
costly ornaments.

(Genesis 24:52-53)



➤ **A bride for Isaac** (Genesis 24)

When they arose in the morning, he said,

“Send me away to my master.”

Her brother and her mother said,

*“Let the young woman remain with us a while,
at least ten days; after that she may go.”*

But he said to them,

***“Do not delay me,
since the LORD has prospered my way....”***

They said,

“Let us call the young woman and ask her.”

(Genesis 24:54-57)

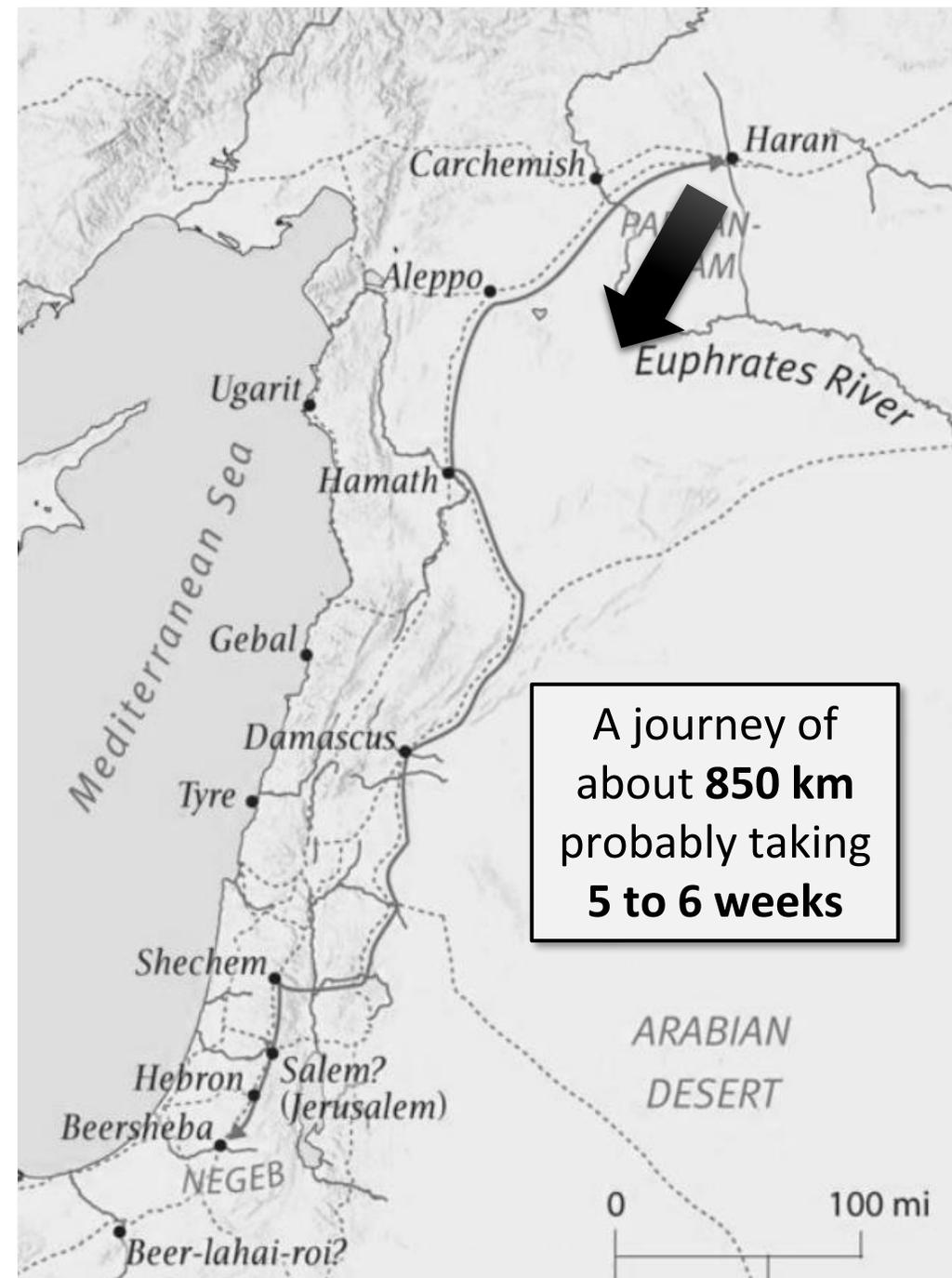
➤ **A bride for Isaac** (Genesis 24)

And they called **Rebekah** and said to her,

“Will you go with this man?”

She said, *“I will go.”*

(see Genesis 24:58)



➤ **A bride for Isaac** (Genesis 24)

Deborah
(Genesis 35:8)

So they sent away Rebekah their sister and her nurse,
and Abraham's servant and his men.

And they blessed Rebekah and said to her,

*“Our sister, may you become
thousands of ten thousands,
and may your offspring possess
the gate of those who hate him!”*

(Genesis 24:59-60)

➤ **A bride for Isaac** (Genesis 24)

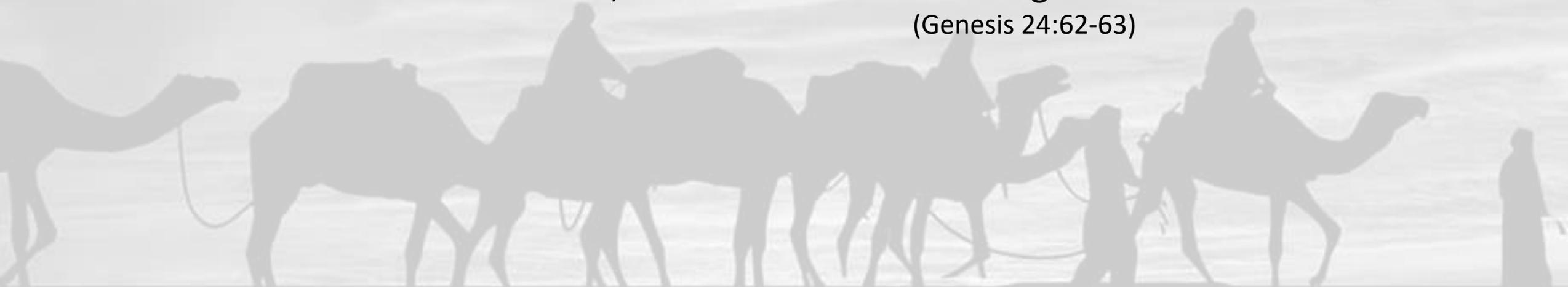
Hagar and Ishmael...
“The well of the Living One
who sees me” (Genesis 16:14)

Now Isaac had returned from Beer-lahai-roi
and was dwelling in the Negev.

And Isaac went out to meditate in the field
toward evening.

And he lifted up his eyes and saw,
and behold, there were camels coming.

(Genesis 24:62-63)



➤ **A bride for Isaac** (Genesis 24)

And **Rebekah** lifted up her eyes, and when she saw **Isaac**, she dismounted from the camel and said to the servant, *“Who is that man, walking in the field to meet us?”*

The servant said, *“It is my master.”*

So she took her veil and covered herself.

And the servant told Isaac all the things that he had done.

(Genesis 24:64-66)

➤ **A bride for Isaac** (Genesis 24)

Then **Isaac** brought her into the tent of **Sarah** his mother and took **Rebekah**, and **she became his wife, and he loved her.**

So **Isaac** was comforted after his mother's death.

(Genesis 24:67)

Isaac was 40 when he married Rebekah

➤ **A bride for Isaac** (Genesis 24)

What have you seen in this beautiful chapter?

- ✓ Abraham's faith and Isaac's place in God's purpose
- ✓ An example of the way of a faithful servant of God
- ✓ A picture of God's great eternal purpose in Christ

➤ **A bride for Isaac** (Genesis 24)

What have you seen in this beautiful chapter?

- ✓ **Abraham's faith and Isaac's place in God's purpose**
 - Abraham was steadfast in faith for Isaac to inherit the promises.
 - Isaac remained in the land, and his wife had to come to him.
- ✓ **An example of the way of a faithful servant of God**
 - The servant was guided by God as he went out in faith.
 - The servant was occupied only with his master's business.
- ✓ **A picture of God's great eternal purpose in Christ**
 - **The Holy Spirit's work is to prepare the bride for Christ.**
 - **She must be willing to forsake all to be with Him.**

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“See to it that you do not take my son back there.”

(Genesis 24:6)

“I am Abraham's servant.”

(Genesis 24:34)

“Will you go with this man?” **“I will go.”**

(Genesis 24:58)

