

Zerah Torah Limmod
Genesis 23.1 - 20

The Wrong Marriage Partner

By Dr. Akiva Gamliel Belk

We offer this discussion in the loving memory of Mr and Mrs Belk, Mrs Martha Reynolds and Gary lee ben Ethel Channah, and Donald Wayne ben Ethel Channah and Stephen ben Martha may they rest in peace and may their memory be for good and may they be elevated in the heavens. May those who study with us and give charity in their memory be richly blessed.

Genesis 24.1 - 4

And Abraham was old, and well advanced in age; and the Lord had blessed Abraham in all things. And Abraham said to the oldest servant of his house, who ruled over all that he had, Put, I beg you, your hand under my thigh; And I will make you swear by the Lord, the God of heaven, and the God of the earth, that you shall not take a wife for my son of the daughters of the Canaanites, among whom I live; But you shall go to my country, and to my family, and take a wife for my son Isaac.

When Abraham sent Eliezer, the head servant of his household to find a wife for Isaac, he was 40 years old. How do we know this?

Genesis 17.17

Then Abraham fell upon his face, and laughed, and said in his heart, Shall a child be born to him who is a hundred years old? and shall Sarah, who is ninety years old, bear?

Genesis 21.5

And Abraham was a hundred years old, when his son Isaac was born to him.

Genesis 23.1

And Sarah was a hundred and twenty seven years old; these were the years of the life of Sarah.

Now it requires a little addition and logic to figure this out.

Sarah was a 127 when she died. How old was Abraham? Abraham was 137 years old. How

old was Isaac/ Isaac was 37 years old. When Isaac was offered as a sacrifice how old was he? He was 37 years old. He was NOT a little child. How do we know this?

Genesis 22.19 -

So Abraham returned to his young men, and they rose up and went together to Beersheba; and Abraham lived at Beersheba. And it came to pass after these things, that it was told Abraham, saying, Behold, Milcah, she has also born children to your brother Nahor; Huz his firstborn, and Buz his brother, and Kemuel the father of Aram, And Kesed, and Hazo, and Pildash, and Jidlaph, and Bethuel. And Bethuel fathered Rebekah;

And it came to pass after these things...,i.e after Isaac was offered as a sacrifice...

Again Abraham is 137. Isaac is 37. Rebekah is just born. Three years later Isaac marries Rebekah when she is only 3 years old. To Young? Think about the age Jacob's sons watched his flocks. How old were they? Jacob worked for seven years, Genesis 29.20. He married Leah, Genesis 29.21-27. The following week he married Rachel. He fathered 11 sons and 1 daughter during his second seven years. His oldest son Reuvein was only six years old when he guarded his family flocks...

Genesis 24.67

And Isaac brought her to his mother Sarah's tent, and took Rebekah, and she became his wife; and he loved her; and Isaac was comforted after his mother's death.

Genesis 25.20

And Isaac was forty years old when he took Rebekah for his wife, the daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Padan-Aram, the sister to Laban the Aramean.

Genesis 25.24 - 26

And when her days to be delivered were fulfilled, behold, there were twins in her womb. And the first came out red, all over like a hairy garment; and they called his name Esau. And after that came his brother out, and his hand took hold on Esau's heel; and his name was called Jacob; and Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them.

Isaac was 60 and his wife, Rebekah was 23.

We return to the point Abraham made with his Chief Servant. Do not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites..

We have several points.

1. Isaac was 37 years old. Why did he not seek his own wife? Why did he submit to his father

and to his father's servant to find him a wife?

Abraham was old and wise and blessed.

Notice how Abraham approached the subject. Abraham knew who he absolutely did not want for a daughter - in - law. We learn that it is fine to make a distinction for our children with regards to marriage. It is OK to discriminate in marriage. The sanctified discriminate. When we fail to discriminate we open ourselves up for problems as I have done. The Wrong Marriage Partner can ruin you, Kaw Naw Nah Haw Raw.

Age should not be an issue in marriage. Finding the right marriage partner should.

Blessings, Love and Peace,

Dr. Akiva Gamliel Belk