Resurrection Life of Jesus Church THE EPISTLE TO THE HEBREWS RLJ-1376 JOHN S. TORELL JANUARY 6, 2013 PART 21: THE LIFE OF ISAAC

Isaac, the son of Abraham and Sarah is listed in the hall of faith. **Hebrews 11:20** His life was that of a caretaker or a bridge between Abraham and Jacob.

TEENAGE YEARS

As a young teenager, he had faith in God and his father. Genesis 22: 7-8

Isaac was about 13 to 14 years old when Abraham took him to Mount Moriah to be sacrificed. The Bible does not tell us anything about Isaac for the next 27 years and we can assume that he stayed with his father and helped in the family business of ranching in the land of Canaan. At the age of 40, Isaac was married to Rebekah, the daughter of Abraham's nephew. **Genesis 25:20**

MARRIAGE

Abraham did not want Isaac to marry a woman from Canaan. Genesis 24:1-4

Abraham also didn't want Isaac to travel to Haran. Isaac was content to let the servant of Abraham find him a wife. He had faith in God and his father and was also obedient. **verses 5-9**

The manager that Abraham had over his ranching enterprise was Eliezer of Damascus. Genesis 15:2

Eliezer was an obedient and trustworthy servant that was sent with camels, gold and other treasures. He had enough riches with him that he could have decided to quit working for Abraham and start his own business. He also had personal faith in God. **Genesis 24:10-14**

God had set up a divine appointment for Eliezer. verses 15-27

God moved upon Laban so that Eliezer and his men were invited to lodge with the family. **verses 28-33**

The story of how Eliezer found Rebekah was later told to Isaac and it must have given him much comfort and joy to know that God had sent him a wife. **verses 34-61**

Isaac was a praying man and it was during his prayer time that God brought Rebekah to him. **verses 62-67**

THE DEATH OF ABRAHAM

Even though Abraham had made Isaac heir of all he had, Isaac still invited his half-brother, Ishmael, to be part of the funeral. This shows the respect and love he had for Ishmael. **Genesis 25:7-11**



HIS FAITH IN GOD

It was shameful for a woman not to be able to conceive, and after nineteen years of trying, he prayed for a miracle and God granted it. **Genesis 25:21**

CHARACTER FLAW

Instead of bestowing an equal amount of love upon his two sons, Isaac tended to favor Esau while Rebekah favored Jacob. **Genesis 25:27-28**

Isaac loved God and was a praying man but he did not trust God completely and that opened the door to fear and lying even though God had appeared to him in a vision. **Genesis 26:1-10**

ISAAC WAS A WEALTHY MAN

Once these defeats were behind him, Isaac became confident in the Lord and God made him extremely wealthy. **verses 11-22**

GOD SPOKE TO HIM AGAIN

God spoke to him again and this time addressed the issue of fear. verses 23-25

As a result, God sent his enemies to make peace with him. verses 26-33

GRIEF

Esau caused Isaac and Rebekah much grief. verses 34-35

THE BREAKDOWN IN HIS MARRIAGE

Isaac was over one hundred years old when Rebekah betrayed him in convincing Jacob to lie to his father and steal the blessing that rightfully belonged to Esau as the older brother. **Genesis 27:1-30**

Rebekah continued to deceive Isaac. verses 41-46; 28:1-5

THE DEATH OF ISAAC AND REBEKAH

Isaac lived until he was 180 years old. Genesis 35:28-29

The Bible does not record Rebekah's death, but by the time Jacob came back home, she was dead from the curse she brought upon herself. Only Isaac is listed in the Bible's hall of faith. Isaac was able to repent and recover from his sins but there is no further reference to Rebekah after deceiving her husband.

Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!

Do you have an ear to hear with?