the Promise continues

Genesis 24
Introduction

The story of Isaac and Rebekah:

• It is a love story.
• It is a story of God’s providence and the continuation of the promise.
I. A Father’s Desire.
VERSES 1-9
Abraham is growing old and Isaac is not yet married.

So Abraham sends his servant on a mission to find a wife for his son.

What if she refuses to come back with me?

“God will send his angel before you and give you success.”
II. A Faithful Servant.
VERSES 10-27
Abraham’s servant will take 10 camels loaded with supplies and gifts and an unknown number of servants will travel with him back to Mesopotamia. They come to the town of Nahor, Abraham’s brother.

The servant prays and asks God for guidance. “I will ask for a drink and if she says I will water your camels too, then I will know that she is the one.”
Before he had finished praying, Rebekah came out.

• She is the granddaughter of Nahor, Abraham’s brother.
• She is very beautiful, just like Isaac’s mother Sarah.
• She is a virgin – chaste and pure.
• She is gracious and willing to help.
When he finds out who she is, he falls to his knees and worships the Lord.

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.”
Proverbs 3:5-6
III. A God Who Answers Prayer.

VERSES 28-58
“Prayer is not given to make work unnecessary. Prayer is given to make it effective.” James Boice

The servant didn’t pray and then do nothing. He prayed and went about his work.

We pray and we work, asking God to bear fruit through us.
Verses 34-49 are a retelling of the story for emphasis. When he is done, Laban and Bethuel both reply, “This is from the Lord.”

Gifts were given to show the proposal was serious and to show the wealth of the giver.

Rebekah says, “I will go.” It is an amazing step of faith on her part.
IV. Faith’s Joyous Reward.

VERSES 59-66
Rebekah is sent with her family’s blessing.

Rebekah and her maids make the long journey back to Hebron.

When Isaac and Rebekah finally meet, it is a classic love story.

He marries her and he loves her.

Who but God could do that in real life?
Conclusion

God still works in amazing ways.
God sees our faith.
God rewards our faith.
Epilogue – Genesis 25:1-11

Abraham died at the age of 175 and he was buried in the cave at Machpelah where Sarah was buried. The promise of a land, a people and a blessing lived on through Isaac.

It still lives on for all who place their faith in Jesus as Savior and Lord.