

world of nature a good place in which to meditate? What interrupted Isaac's meditation? Describe the details of the meeting between Isaac and Rebekah. Seek to bring

out the vital place of a happy marriage in the general happiness of life. What are some of the requisites for a happy marriage? What is the greatest one of all, suggested in v. 67?

### FOR TEACHERS IN THE INTERMEDIATE DEPARTMENT

Teachers in the Intermediate Department should study carefully the scholars' materials in the INTERMEDIATE QUARTERLY.

Question the scholars about what they know of recent events in Mesopotamia, and remind them that we have in this passage an account of an expedition into that far away country, in the long ago, which was very beautiful in its pastoral simplicity, which was inspired by love and not by hate.

1. *A Delicate Mission*, vs. 1-9. Question the class about Abraham's anxiety about getting a suitable wife for Isaac. What did he do about it? Why did he object to Isaac's marrying a Canaanite? Why did he warn his servant not to take Isaac back to the old homeland? There is an old saying that it is wise to marry out of a good nest. Sam Slick's advice is to marry a girl who has a good mother. Note how passive Isaac seems to have been in this matter. In some countries the parents of the bride and bridegroom arrange matrimonial matters for their children. It is said that this plan has worked well in France, but it is not popular in Canada. Some one has said that it would contribute to the happiness of home life if young people would consult their parents before falling in love.

2. *A Successful Quest*, vs. 10-60. Question the class about the long journey and the scene at the well, and the prayer and its remarkable answer, the kindly reception at the home of Rebekah, the religious character of the old servant's wooing, the consenting relatives and

the willing maiden. Note with what sweet simplicity and religious fervor the old servant wooed this beautiful maiden for his master. He recognized God's hand in it all. He saw that this was one of the marriages made in heaven. Marriages are a great mistake when they are not made in heaven.

3. *A Happy Consummation*, vs. 61-67. Tell about the meeting by the wayside, where Isaac was waiting and watching for the coming of his bride. It was love at first sight. This romantic story ends well, in a home where love is, where hand in hand, and heart with heart, Isaac and Rebekah began the journey of life together. Note Isaac's love for his mother. It is said that a young man who is kind and thoughtful in caring for his mother is qualified to make a good husband if he gets a fair chance. Remind the class that it is Christian life and love that make all the relationships of humans beautiful and sacred.

### From the Home Study Quarterly and Leaflet

#### FOR DISCUSSION

1. Is courtesy a test of character?
2. Are marriages between persons of different religious beliefs desirable?

### Prove from Scripture

That God cares for strangers.

### FOR TEACHERS IN THE JUNIOR DEPARTMENT

Teachers in the Junior Department should study carefully the scholars' materials in the INTERMEDIATE QUARTERLY.

Ask if any one can tell why Abraham did not want his son Isaac to marry one of the Canaanite maidens—they were idolatrous, and God's promises to Abraham meant that his people were to be a people worshiping the true God. Where then did Abraham turn for the right sort of a wife for Isaac? Comment on the Oriental customs of marriage, the parents of the bridegroom selecting whom

they thought to be a suitable wife for their son and offering costly presents and money as a dowry for the bride.

Picture Abraham's trusted servant starting out for Haran with his caravan of ten camels mostly laden with rich gifts, his arrival at the well outside the city, the maidens coming out to draw water, Rebekah, with her beautiful face and form, but more important still, her