

THE WHOLE COUNSEL OF GOD

**A Journey Through the
Old Testament**

Romans 15:4 For everything that was written in the past was written for our instruction, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures, we might have hope.

The Providence of God

The Question is:

What are marks of someone who
can REST SECURE in
God's providential hand?

The Providence of God

What are some marks of those who REST SECURE in God's providential hand?

1. They seek to please God - not just to obey Him
2. They stand on God's promises - This is the Gospel
3. They pray

Genesis 24

12 “O LORD, God of my master Abraham,” he prayed, “please grant me success today, and show kindness to my master Abraham.

13 Here I am, standing beside the spring, and the daughters of the townspeople are coming out to draw water.

Genesis 24

14 Now may it happen that the girl to whom I say, ‘Please let down your jar that I may drink,’ and who responds, ‘Drink, and I will water your camels as well’—let her be the one You have appointed for Your servant Isaac.

By this I will know that You have shown kindness to my master.”

15 Before he had finished praying, Rebekah came out with her jar on her shoulder.

Genesis 24

17 So the servant ran to meet her and said, “Please let me have a little water from your jar.”

18 “Drink, my lord,” she replied, and she quickly lowered her jar to her hands and gave him a drink.

Genesis 24

19 After she had given him a drink, she said, “I will also draw water for your camels, until they have had enough to drink.”

20 And she quickly emptied her jar into the trough and ran back to the well to draw water, until she had drawn water for all his camels.

21 Meanwhile, the man watched her silently to see whether or not the LORD had made his journey a success.

Genesis 24

22 And after the camels had finished drinking, he took out a gold ring weighing a beka, and two gold bracelets for her wrists weighing ten shekels.

23 “Whose daughter are you?” he asked. “Please tell me, is there room in your father’s house for us to spend the night?”

24 She replied, “I am the daughter of Bethuel, the son that Milcah bore to Nahor.”

25 Then she added, “We have plenty of straw and feed, as well as a place for you to spend the night.”

Genesis 24

26 Then the man bowed down and worshiped the LORD,

27 saying, “Blessed be the LORD, the God of my master Abraham, who has not withheld His kindness and faithfulness from my master.

As for me, the LORD has led me on the journey to the house of my master’s kinsmen.”

The Providence of God

What are some marks of those who REST SECURE in
God's providential hand?

They pray

They pray with God's mission in mind

They pray expectantly

They pray dependently

They pray in cooperation with their own actions

They pray as one on behalf of others

They pray worshipfully - with praise and thanksgiving

Genesis 24

28 The girl ran and told her mother's household about these things.

29 Now Rebekah had a brother named Laban, and he rushed out to the man at the spring.

30 As soon as he saw the ring, and the bracelets on his sister's wrists, and heard Rebekah's words, "The man said this to me," he went and found the man standing by the camels near the spring.

Genesis 24

31 “Come, you who are blessed by the LORD,” said Laban. “Why are you standing out here? I have prepared the house and a place for the camels.”

32 So the man came to the house, and the camels were unloaded.

Straw and feed were brought to the camels, and water to wash his feet and the feet of his companions.

33 Then a meal was set before the man, but he said, “I will not eat until I have told you what I came to say.”

So Laban said, “Please speak.”

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4. They value the heavenly over the earthly

Genesis 24

34 “I am Abraham’s servant,” he replied.

35 “The LORD has greatly blessed my master, and he has become rich.

He has given him sheep and cattle, silver and gold, menservants and maidservants, camels and donkeys.

36 My master’s wife Sarah has borne him a son in her old age, and my master has given him everything he owns.

Genesis 24

**37 My master made me swear an oath and said,
'You shall not take a wife for my son from the
daughters of the Canaanites in whose land I dwell,
38 but you shall go to my father's house and to my
kindred to take a wife for my son.'**

**39 Then I asked my master, 'What if the woman
will not come back with me?'**

Genesis 24

40 And he told me, 'The LORD, before whom I have walked, will send His angel with you and make your journey a success, so that you may take a wife for my son from my kindred and from my father's house.

41 Then, when you go to my kindred, if they refuse to give her to you, you will be released from my oath.'

Genesis 24

49 Now if you will show kindness and faithfulness to my master, tell me; but if not, let me know, so that I may go elsewhere.”

50 Laban and Bethuel answered, “This is from the LORD; we have no choice in the matter.

51 Rebekah is here before you. Take her and go, and let her become the wife of your master’s son, just as the LORD has decreed.”

52 When Abraham’s servant heard their words, he bowed down to the ground before the LORD.

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5. They know that God works within the free will of man

Genesis 24

53 Then he brought out jewels of silver and gold, and articles of clothing, and gave them to Rebekah. He also gave precious gifts to her brother and her mother.

54 Then he and the men with him ate and drank and spent the night there.

Genesis 24

54 When they got up the next morning, he said, “Send me on my way to my master.”

55 But her brother and mother said, “Let the girl remain with us ten days or so. After that, she may go.”

56 But he replied, “Do not delay me, since the LORD has made my journey a success. Send me on my way so that I may go to my master.”

Genesis 24

57 So they said, “We will call the girl and ask her opinion.”

58 They called Rebekah and asked her, “Will you go with this man?”

“I will go,” she replied.

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5. They know that God works within the free will of man
6. They follow God regardless of how unsure and costly

1 Peter 1:6 In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in various trials 7 so that the proven character of your faith—more precious than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory, and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

8 Though you have not seen Him, you love Him; and though you do not see Him now, you believe in Him and rejoice with an inexpressible and glorious joy, 9 now that you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Genesis 24

59 So they sent their sister Rebekah on her way, along with her nurse and Abraham's servant and his men.

60 And they blessed Rebekah and said to her, "Our sister, may you become the mother of thousands upon thousands.

May your offspring possess the gates of their enemies."

61 Then Rebekah and her servant girls got ready, mounted the camels, and followed the man. So the servant took Rebekah and left.

Genesis 24

63 Early in the evening Isaac went out to the field to meditate, and looking up, he saw the camels approaching.

64 And when Rebekah looked up and saw Isaac, she got down from her camel 65 and asked the servant, “Who is that man in the field coming to meet us?”

Genesis 24

“It is my master,” the servant answered. So she took her veil and covered herself.

66 Then the servant told Isaac all that he had done.

67 And Isaac brought her into the tent of his mother Sarah and took Rebekah as his wife.

And Isaac loved her and was comforted after his mother’s death.

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5. They know that God works within the free will of man
6. They follow God regardless of how unsure and costly
7. They are driven by the hope of the future

Revelation 21

1 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and earth had passed away, and the sea was no more.

2 I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying:

Revelation 21

“Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man,
and He will live with them.

They will be His people,
and God Himself will be with them as their God.

4 He will wipe away every tear from their eyes,
and there will be no more death
or mourning or crying or pain,
for the former things have passed away.”

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