

Genesis

Chapter 24:1

✠ **Gen 24:1** *Now Abraham was old, well advanced in age; and the LORD had blessed Abraham in all things.*

How old was Abraham? 137 years old, I would call that well advanced in years. Imagine living for 137 years and walking with the Lord all that time. Was Abraham perfect for these 137 years? No, as we saw in past studies, but still the Lord was with Abraham even though he messed up or blew it.

137 years, how long have you been walking with the Lord? 30 years, 20 years, 10 years, 5 years, 1 Year, maybe only 1 week or a day? How many times have you blown it or messed up in that time? Too many to keep track of? Rejoice because the Lord doesn't keep track of them either.

✠ **Psalms 103:12** *As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us.*

✠ **Isaiah 43:25-26** ²⁵ *"I, even I, am He who blots out your transgressions for My own sake; And I will not remember your sins. ²⁶ Put Me in remembrance; Let us contend together; State your case, that you may be acquitted.*

✠ **1 John 1:9** *If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*

Notice there is something you have to do for God to forget about them, it's called confession of your sins. This is not talking about going to a priest and confessing your sins, that is nowhere in the bible. In fact Jesus said:

✠ **John 14:6** *Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."*

You can't confess your sins to a priest and expect God to hear and forgive you. Jesus says you must come to Him (Jesus) and confess your sins, and when you do He is faithful and just to forgive you of ALL unrighteousness, no matter what you have done.

Maybe this is all new to you, you may have seen on TV how people go to a priest or maybe you have even been taught that as a child. If it's wrong, then what are you suppose to do? How do you come to God or Jesus and confess your sins? Will God reject you because you sinned too much? After all, God will accept the priests because they are so holy, right? That is another misconception, priest and pastors all sin too, if they tell you, are if anyone tells you they don't, get away from them quick, because the bible says.

✠ **Romans 3:23** *for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.*

This includes priest and pastors.

‡ **1 John 1:10** *If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.*

Anyone can come to God right now. It's not like it was in the Old Testament where only the priests would come to the Lord with the offerings on behalf of the people. We now have a High Priest that we come to, which is Jesus Christ.

‡ **Heb 4:14-16** ¹⁴ *Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession.* ¹⁵ *For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin.* ¹⁶ *Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.*

So you need to come boldly to God and seek His forgiveness.

Boldly, that sounds kind of arrogant. It's not that kind of boldness, the boldness here is speaking of confidence that God's word is true and knowing God will forgive you, because He said He would, and you have it in writing.

‡ **1 John 1:9** *If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*

Maybe right now is the time for you to come before the Lord and seek His forgiveness. Don't worry; He has never rejected anyone who truly sought His forgiveness.

‡ **2 Cor 6:2** *For He says: "In an acceptable time I have heard you, And in the day of salvation I have helped you." Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.*

Just pray this prayer from your heart to God, and He will forgive you of all your sins just as His word says He will!

Just pray,

Jesus, I come before You a sinner, and Your word says if I confess my sins to You that You will forgive me. So I confess to You that I am a sinner, and I ask You to please forgive me for all my sins. Thank You for Your forgiveness. Thank You Jesus for dying for my sins on the cross. I believe that You have risen from the dead and right now You are at the right hand of the Father in heaven. Please fill me with Your Holy Spirit and help me to do what pleases You and to tell others about Your love for them and me too. Thank You Jesus, I pray this in Your name. Amen!

Is that too cool or what? See God didn't pounce on you or reject you. In fact right now in heaven there is singing and rejoicing.

† **Luke 15:10** *"Likewise, I say to you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."*

Back to the study.

✧ **Gen 24:1b** *and the LORD had blessed Abraham in all things.*

God blessed Abraham in all things. Remember we were just talking about how Abraham walked with the Lord for 137 years, and through that time Abraham messed up more than once or even twice. Still God blessed Abraham in all that he did.

Do you ever feel like you have just blown it too much and that God will never bless you again? I know I have, but still God blesses me. God's love is so far beyond my comprehension; I don't understand it, and all I know is that God loves me, no matter how many times I mess up or sin. His undying love and forgiveness just blows me away. Just like a child when they mess up and they think, "oh no, mommy and daddy are going to let me have it now." But then they find out that mommy and daddy says, "What you did was wrong. Please don't do it again, and I forgive you. Now let's go get some ice cream." Ice cream you think, how can mommy and daddy think of ice cream after what I just did? But that is an example of God's undying and always forgiving love for us.

Some of you may be thinking that this week's study really doesn't apply to you. And maybe it doesn't, at least right now. But there will come a time when you blow it big time and God just pours His forgiveness all over you. Because it's happened to all of us, more than once in our lives.

Sometimes we forget how good God is and take Him for granted. This week I just want to remind everyone of God's goodness in your life. We have plenty of weeks to go on with the study if the Lord tarries. But sometimes we need to stop and reflect on the goodness of God and worship Him for who He is, and not just what we can get out of Him.

This bible study has two purposes; one is to reach out to the lost so they can be saved, and the other is to for all believers to grow closer and more in love with the Lord each and every day. I urge you all to take God's word and hide it in your heart.

† **Deut 6:6-9** ⁶ *"And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. ⁷ "You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up. ⁸ "You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. ⁹ "You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.*

† **Deut 30:14** *"But the word is very near you, in your mouth and in your heart, that you may do it.*

- † **Romans 10:8-11** ⁸ *But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith which we preach): ⁹ that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. ¹¹ For the Scripture says, "Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame."*
- † **Eph 5:19-20** ¹⁹ *speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, ²⁰ giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

This week take time everyday to thank the Lord for His blessing in your life. Maybe you don't see any right now. That's because you are looking for physical blessings, like a car or home or spouse, or whatever in the world you think will make you happy.

The joy of the Lord does not come from physical things, but rather from a peace of knowing that God loves you so much that He sent His Son Jesus to die for you. Right now as a believer, you have riches unspeakable. They are not earthly riches which moth and rust will destroy, but rather heavenly riches, which will be given to you by the father.

- † **Matt 6:20-21** *"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."*

Next week we will get into the study of Isaac and Rebecca. Who are they? Read on or come back to the study next week to find out.