

6/2/18

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Gen. 21:21 Hagar chose a wife for her son (Ishmael) from the land of Egypt

Gen. 24:1-4 Abraham sent his servant to find a wife for Isaac

5 the servant asked -- if the woman refuses, should I send Isaac to look for a wife?

6 Abraham said -- no, do not take my son there

8 Abraham said -- if the woman refuses, you do not have to keep this promise; but do not take my son there

58 they asked Rebekah if she consented

Gen. 26:34-35 Esau chose two wives -- these choices brought grief to Isaac and Rebekah

Gen. 28:1-2 Isaac gave instructions to Jacob -- do not marry any of these Canaanite women -- choose a wife from one of the daughters of your Uncle Laban

Gen. 38:6 Judah chose a wife for his firstborn Er

Josh. 15:16 Caleb offered his daughter Achsah as a wife to whomever won a battle

17 when Caleb's nephew (Othniel) won the battle, Caleb let him marry his daughter Achsah

Ruth 3:1-5 Naomi directed Ruth to visit Boaz

Gen. 34:4,8	Shechem asked his father Hamor to negotiate for his wife
Judges 14:2	Samson asked his parents to arrange a marriage with the woman he saw

* EXCHANGE OF GIFTS

From the "Holman Bible Dictionary" on page 378: "A marriage present that ensured the new wife's financial security against the possibility her husband might forsake her or might die. The husband-to-be or his father paid the dowry or bride price to the bride's father to be kept for the bride. The bride could protest if her father used the dowry for other purposes (Gen. 31:15). In addition the bride received wedding gifts from her father and husband (Gen. 24:53; 34:12; Judges 1:15). The amount of the dowry depended on customs of the specific tribes or clans and upon the economic and social class of the parties involved (1 Sam. 18:23-27, a passage also showing that service could be substituted for money; compare Gen. 29:15-30; Josh. 15:16-17). Besides guaranteeing future financial security, the dowry also compensated the bride and her family for the economic loss represented to her family by her leaving to join her husband's family. . . . Payment of the dowry made the marriage a legal fact even before the official wedding ceremonies or consummation of the marriage."

* The dowry ("mohar") -- the marriage present from the groom to the family of the bride

Gen. 34:8	Hamor to Jacob -- my son Shechem wants to marry your daughter Dinah
11-12	Shechem said -- whatever you say, I will give -- whatever dowry and gift
Exod. 22:16-17	dowry of virgins
1 Sam. 18:23	David did not expect to marry the daughter of a king, because he was a poor man -- (and he could not pay a "mohar")
25	Saul asked for 100 foreskins of the Philistines instead of a dowry

* Substituting service for money

1 Sam. 18:25	100 foreskins
Gen. 29:18	Jacob offered to serve Laban 7 years for Rachel
Josh. 15:16-17	offered whomever won a battle

* Wedding gifts

Gen. 24:53	2nd half of verse -- the servant gave precious things to her brother and to her mother
Gen. 24:59,61	Rebekah's family sent servants with her -- her nurse -- her damsels
Gen. 29:24	Laban gave Zilpah to his daughter Leah
29	Laban gave Bilhah to his daughter Rachel
Exod. 21:7-11	guidelines for selling a daughter as a slave
Judges 1:15	Caleb gave Achsah 2 small ponds
1 Kings 9:16	Pharaoh gave his daughter the town of Gezer

* The groom's gift to the bride

Gen. 24:22 the servant had a gold earring and 2 bracelets of gold
for the woman
53 the servant brought jewels of silver, jewels of gold
and raiment for Rebekah

* PREPARATION OF THE GROOM

Isaiah 61:10 robe -- ornaments (turban)
Cant. 3:11 crown -- (on the day of his espousals)
6 myrrh, frankincense, powders of the merchants

* PREPARATION OF THE BRIDE

Ruth 3:3 special bath for the bride -- (also, Eph. 5:26)
Ezek. 23:40 bath -- prepared the eyes -- ornaments
Rev. 19:8 fine linen -- clean and white
Gen. 24:65 she took a veil -- to cover herself
Psalm 45:13-14 embroidered garments -- (with gold thread?)
8 covered with perfume
Isaiah 61:10 adorned with jewels -- (also Isaiah 49:18)

* PROCESSION -- first to bride's house --
then to groom's house

Smith's Bible Dictionary (Volume 3, page 1805): "When the fixed hour arrived, which was generally late in the evening, the bride-groom set forth from his house, attended by his groomsmen, preceded by a band of musicians and singers and accompanied by persons bearing flambeaux. Having reached the house of the bride, who with her maidens anxiously expected his arrival, he conducted the whole party back to his own or his father's house, with every demonstration of gladness. On their way back, they were joined by a party of maidens, friends of the bride and bridegroom, who were in waiting to catch the procession as it passed."

The Family Encyclopedia of the Bible (page 199): "This [the wedding] took place when the bridegroom had the new home ready. With his friends, he went to his bride's house in the evening. She was waiting, veiled and in her wedding dress. She wore jewellery which the bridegroom had given her. . . .The bridegroom, his 'best man' (called a 'companion') and his friends (called the sons of the bridechamber) then took the bride back to his own or his parents' home for a wedding

feast to which all their friends were invited. The friends waited at the roadside in their best clothes and went in torchlight procession to the new home, sometimes with music and dancing."

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* COMPANIONS OF THE BRIDE AND THE GROOM

Psalm 45:14 companions of the bride
Matt. 9:15 children of the bridechamber (companions of the groom)
Matt. 25:1 10 virgins -- had their lamps ready to meet the groom
 5 the groom tarried -- the virgins went to sleep
 6 the groom came to the bride's house at midnight
 7-9 they needed lamps at night
 10 they went to the marriage feast (at the groom's
 house)
Psalm 45:14 the bride is brought to the groom -- (he leads
 her to his house)

* REFERENCES TO MIRTH AND GLADNESS

Jer. 7:34 Lord -- I will cause the voice of mirth & the
 voice of gladness to cease in the streets
 of Jerusalem -- I will cause the voice of
 the groom & the voice of the bride to cease
Jer. 16:9 Lord -- I will cause the voice of mirth & the
 voice of gladness to cease from this place
 -- I will cause the voice of the groom &
 the voice of the bride to cease
Jer. 25:10 Lord -- I will take from them the voice of mirth &
the voice of gladness -- I will take the voice of the groom & the
voice of the bride -- the light of candles
Rev. 18:23 the light of the candle shall not shine on you anymore
 -- the voice of the groom & the voice of
 the bride shall not be heard in you anymore

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* THE MARRIAGE FEAST -- at groom's house

John 2:8-9 the governor of the feast -- (is this the friend of
the groom mentioned in John 3:29?)
John 3:29 the friend of the groom (who stands and hears)
 rejoices greatly
Matt. 22:1-10 marriage of the king's son
 3 invitations to the wedding -- many would not come
 4 tell them -- I have prepared a big dinner
 5-7 many would not come
 8-10 invited many more
 11-13 no wedding garment