The Spirit And The Bride

I. Introduction
A. Rev. 21:17—The Holy Spirit inspires and teaches Christ’s Bride, the Church, preparing her for her union with Christ.
B. John 14:15–18—Jesus warns His disciples that He is about to leave them, but promises to send another Comforter in His place.
   1. “Comforter” = “Advocate,” one called in alongside to plead our cause.
   2. As Christians, we have two divine advocates: the Holy Spirit on earth; Christ in heaven. (See 1 John 2:1.)
C. John 14:25–26—Jesus leaves His teaching of the disciples incomplete, but promises to send the Holy Spirit as Teacher and Remembrancer.
D. John 16:6–7—Jesus again promises an exchange of persons. He must first go; then the Holy Spirit will come in His place.
E. John 16:12–15—Two further aspects of the Spirit’s ministry to the disciples: Revelator and Administrator.

II. Parable From Genesis Chapter 24
A. Persons in the parable
   1. Abraham typifies God the Father
   2. Isaac typifies Christ the Son
   3. Rebecca, the chosen bride, typifies the Church
   4. The unnamed servant is the Holy Spirit’s self-portrait
B. Points From The Parable
   1. v. 2, 10—The servant ruled over all the goods of his master
   2. v. 12–14—The servant prays for the chosen damsel to be identified
   3. v. 17–20—Rebecca’s response: water both for the servant and for his camels
   4. v. 22—Rebecca receives the first gifts
   5. v. 25—Rebecca offers room both for the servant and for his camels
   6. v. 31—The room is prepared
   7. v. 53—The servant gives more precious gifts to Rebecca and to her family
   8. v. 58—Rebecca’s decision: “I will go”
   9. v. 60—Rebecca’s prophesied destiny and fruitfulness (to be fulfilled in the Church)
C. Application
   1. Rebecca’s response to the servant determined her destiny
   2. Rebecca drew water for the servant and the camels (faith plus works)
   3. The servant’s gifts marked Rebecca out as the chosen bride
   4. Rebecca made room for the servant and his camels
   5. By receiving the servant, Rebecca brought blessing to her whole family
   6. The servant was Rebecca’s only source of knowledge about the Father, the Son, and the inheritance
   7. Rebecca had no map. She was led by the servant
   8. Rebecca went to meet the bridegroom wearing his gifts

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