

Intro: [This sermon is not live. It is an edited and privately re-recorded sermon that was originally preached for the Puritan Evangelical Church of America morning worship service during our Genesis series on January 29, 2012. This version of the sermon better reflects its initial intention as well as our present situation, and no longer includes statements and tonal elements for which the pastor later apologized. Most of the original sermon is contained. This version is provided to complete our Genesis series as it has come to a close, as well as honor many in our church who have said this kind of thing needed and needs to be said, and that it helped them, and that the pastor should not have apologized. The pastor continues to stand by his apology, but he wishes to thank and honor his Church, and especially His Lord, by presenting this message again. As well, since the time of this sermon and events that followed, after much reflection and observation, the preacher believes this message indeed does need to be made available for men, women, boys, and girls seeking to honor Christ the Lord as His holy body with their bodies, and have ears to hear what the Spirit of Christ has to say to His Church. After the sermon and its prayer, the pastor encourages you to listen to two songs on this subject he hopes will further minister to sensitive souls seeking to further sanctification of their bodies.]

READ Genesis 24:64-65.

Main Point of Text: Rebekah's response to Isaac's advance shows the qualities of a wife that a Christian man looks for to serve God with him.

Sermon Point: *Don't hide your inner beauty.*

Move 1: *Be women who adorn yourselves with outward modesty.*

Vs. 64: gets off camel quickly as custom/sign of respect/submission. She knew who she was approaching: Vs. 65a, she was anticipating and getting ready for the right man to recognize her as the right woman when he *saw* her. Shows she will be the help meet to him like Gen. 2:18, 20.

Vs. 65b: she took a veil and covered herself. A customary sign of showing subjection/modesty.

Vs. 67: a woman who brings comfort to their husbands rather than angst. See Ephesians 5:22-24; Titus 2:2-5.

Move 2: *Be the kind of people that encourage immature girls to become godly women.*

Isaac reflected how his parents raised him. Surely, Rebekah reflects her upbringing. The wrong upbringing raises children who act like the whore of Babylon. Her judgment: ... *uncover thy locks, make bare the leg, uncover the thigh ... Thy nakedness shall be uncovered, yea, thy shame shall be seen: I will take vengeance, and I will not meet thee as a man* (Isa 47:2-3). After the Fall, why were clothes given? Gen. 2:25, 3:10-22, 21: To cover your nakedness/shame.

Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies (Proverbs 31:1).

Move 3: Christian women: desire to be different and thus respected by God and man.

Vs. 65b: Veil also showed Rebecca's respect for herself. Shows who she is. Christ's. See 1 Cor. 6:19-20; Mat 6:28-29; Rom 8:29. But if a woman have long hair, it is a glory to her: for her hair is given her for a covering. (1 Cor. 11:15).

1 Tim. 2:8-11: I will therefore that men pray every where, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting. In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array; But (which becometh women professing godliness) with good works. Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection.

The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her, so that he shall have no need of spoil. Strength and honour are her clothing; and she shall rejoice in time to come. She openeth her mouth with wisdom; and in her tongue is the law of kindness. She looketh well to the ways of her household, and eateth not the bread of idleness. Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her. Many daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all. Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the LORD, she shall be praised. Give her of the fruit of her hands; and let her own works praise her in the gates. (Pro 31:11, 25-31)

1 Peter 3:1-6: *Likewise, ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands; that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives; While they behold your chaste conversation coupled with fear. Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price. For after this manner in the old time the holy women also, who trusted in God, adorned themselves, being in subjection unto their own husbands: Even as Sara obeyed Abraham, calling him lord: whose daughters ye are, as long as ye do well, and are not afraid with any amazement.*

Conclusion:

Don't hide your inner beauty.