



I, Isaac, Take Thee, Rebekah: Moving from Romance to Lasting Love

By Ravi Zacharias

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In the twenty-fourth chapter of Genesis a beautiful young woman offers assistance to a weary traveler and his camels, and out of that simple action, a marriage results—a marriage that offers profound lessons to couples today. Bible scholar and renowned speaker Ravi Zacharias draws five points critical to the long-lasting success of every marriage from the biblical story of the marriage of Isaac and Rebekah.

"Real love folds together both the emotions and the will," writes Zacharias. "Without the emotions, marriage is a drudgery; without the will, it is a mockery." Building upon that foundational truth, Zacharias goes on to explain the principles of seeking the counsel of others when finding a mate, cherishing your partner, remaining pure, becoming a man or woman of prayer, and, finally, risking everything in a relationship in order to experience God's ideal for love.

Couples everywhere, from those about to be married, to those who have been married for decades, will draw strength and wisdom for the journey of marriage as they learn from Ravi what it means to move from romance to lasting love.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Evangelical Christian apologist, speaker and author Zacharias (*The Lotus and the Cross*; *Jesus Among Other Gods*) turns his attention to intimate matters of the heart in this primer on romantic love and marriage. At a time when Christians' divorce statistics match those of nonbelievers, Zacharias provides a strong pathway to enduring, timeless love between men and women. Taking the biblical tale of Isaac and Rebekah's marriage as found in Genesis 24 as the premise for his text, Zacharias carefully depicts this primordial love story as a model to which today's couples can look for inspiration and direction. Love is hard work, he writes; it is, in fact, the hardest work of all, and no partner is ever allowed a vacation. Modern society has robbed couples of love's higher call—cherishing and nurturing one's spouse—by unfairly pairing marriage with charm and sensuality. Zacharias offers three pivotal habits necessary to yield the strength and wherewithal to endure marriage's fatal foes. Christian couples, he says, should prioritize their time to include a daily prayer retreat to gird themselves with strength; consistently study the Bible to allow eternal principles to take root; and invest themselves in a local church body where couples can work out their faith in a supportive environment. Readers will be enchanted by Zacharias's gentle, conversational style, yet challenged by his unwavering commitment to biblical truth.

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About the Author

Ravi Zacharias is president of Ravi Zacharias International Ministries. Born in India and Cambridge educated, he has lectured in several of the world's most prominent universities, as well as in more than fifty countries. He is author of several books, including *Can Man Live Without God*, *Cries of the Heart* and *Deliver Us From Evil*. He and his wife, Margie, are the parents of three children.

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