חסידות

From the Chassidic Courts

SHINOVA · MAREH YECHEZKEL ON TORAH, VAYERA

Why does Sarah's modesty matter for the news of a son?

Mareh Yechezkel

Drawing on the Talmud (Megillah 10b), the teaching holds that a modest bride gives rise to kings and prophets, and that the children of tzaddikim depend on the mother. That is why the angels' question about Sarah's modesty, "Where is Sarah your wife?", stands beside the tidings of a son, since a son born of a modest mother is a source of good offspring. AI SUMMARY

Aggadic novellae for a wedding. "Where is Sarah your wife?" etc. This is to explain its juxtaposition with "I will surely return to you" etc. Our Sages said (Megillah 10b): Every bride who is modest, kings and prophets come forth from her. The main thing is that good children and tzaddikim (righteous ones) depend on the mother, as stated regarding Kimchit, who was modest and therefore merited to raise high priests (Yoma 47a).

Now, the angels wished to give Avraham the good news that he would have a son from Sarah. The main offspring of tzaddikim are good deeds, that is, that their offspring too will have good deeds. If they are not tzaddikim, it would be better for him had they never been created.

So King Chizkiyahu of Judah said to Yeshayahu the prophet that he did not want to marry a wife, because he foresaw through ruach hakodesh (divine inspiration) that his sons would be wicked (Berachot 10a). Therefore the angels asked him about Sarah, and he answered them, "Behold, in the tent," meaning that she is modest, as Rashi explains.

On this basis there was a connection to the tidings of sons. This is the meaning of "I will surely return" etc., "and behold, Sarah your wife shall have a son" etc.

Translation: translated by AI (anthropic/claude-sonnet-5.5)