

Toldos

Genesis 25:19

בראשית כ"ה:י"ט

Here is the story of Yitzchak's offspring וְאֵלֶּה תּוֹלְדֵי יִצְחָק בֶּן־אַבְרָהָם

Avraham was the father of Yitzchak אַבְרָהָם הוֹלִיד אֶת־יִצְחָק;

Question

Rashi's answer

Who are the offspring?

Yaakov and Esav whose birth we are about to learn about now.

Why do we need to be told that Avraham was the father of Yitzchak?

1) Because it was after Avram got his name changed to Avraham that Yitzchak was born to him;
2) Because Hashem made Yitzchak's face look exactly like Avraham's so the scoffers would stop saying that it was Avimelech who impregnated Sarah.

Genesis 25:20

בראשית כ"ה:כ

Yitzchak was 40 years old

וַיְהִי יִצְחָק בֶּן־אַרְבָּעִים שָׁנָה

when married Rivkah. Remember that Rivkah was the daughter of Besuel the Aramean who was from Padan Aram, and Rivkah was also the sister of Lavan the Aramean.

בְּקָחְתָּהּ אֶת־רִבְקָה בַּת־בְּתוּאֵל הָאֲרָמִי מִפָּדָן אֲרָם אָחֹת לָבָן הָאֲרָמִי לִוְיָאָה:

Question

Rashi's answer

How does it add up that Yitzchak was 40 when he married Rivkah?

Sarah gave birth to Yitzchak at age 90. She passed away at age 127 right after the Akeidah, which would make Yitzchak 37 years old. It was then that Rivkah's birth was announced. And before marrying her Yitzchak waited until she was physically ready, i.e. at age 3, which would make Yitzchak 37+3=40.

Is it really necessary to remind us who Rivkah's father and brother were?

It shows how outstanding she was, that despite living with a wicked father and brother, she avoided learning from their bad example.

After Besuel is described as being from Aram, why is he referred to as coming from *Padan* Aram?

1) Because there were two adjacent places called Aram: Aram Naharaim and Aram Tzova. So the Torah uses the word *Padan* Aram, since *Padan* literally means an ox yoke and therefore connotes a pair. Pair of oxen, or in this case a pair of cities.
2) *Padan* means field, so from *Padan* Aram means from the field of Aram.