

Sarah's Death & Burial

Genesis Chapter 23

Gen 23:1 **1) Sarah's Death** vs 1-2

Now Sarah lived one hundred and twenty-seven years; {these were} the years of the life of Sarah. ."

- *Only woman who's age is mentioned in the Bible when she dies*
- *She is implied the Mother of all Daughters of the Lord (1 Peter 3:1-6)*

Gen 23:2 Sarah died in Kiriath-arba (that is, Hebron) in the land of Canaan; and Abraham went in to mourn for Sarah and to weep for her.

- *Abraham weeps - here we see the very endearing emotion of weeping at the death of a loved one. Yes they will be in heaven and we will see them again but you and I will miss our loved ones for a time and weeping is an emotion that has it's source in love.*
- *It is consoling to say "we will see them in heaven" but it is wrong to say "don't weep, for you will see them in heaven"*
- *Jesus wept over Jerusalem Luke 19:41 and over Lazarus John 11:35*

Gen 23:3 **2) Sarah's Burial** vs 3-20

Then Abraham rose from before his dead, and spoke to the sons of Heth, saying,

Gen 23:4 "I am a stranger and a sojourner among you; give me a burial site among you that I may bury my dead out of my sight."

- *Abraham Wants to buy a piece of Land*

Gen 23:5 The sons of Heth answered Abraham, saying to him,

Gen 23:6 "Hear us, my lord, you are a mighty prince among us; bury your dead in the choicest of our graves; none of us will refuse you his grave for burying your dead."

- *They want to give him the land*

Gen 23:7 So Abraham rose and bowed to the people of the land, the sons of Heth.

Gen 23:8 And he spoke with them, saying, "If it is your wish {for me} to bury my dead out of my sight, hear me, and approach Ephron the son of Zohar for me,

Gen 23:9 that he may give me the cave of Machpelah which he owns, which is at the end of his field; for the full price let him give it to me in your presence for a burial site."

- *Abraham Wants to buy a piece of Land*

Gen 23:10 Now Ephron was sitting among the sons of Heth; and Ephron the Hittite answered Abraham in the hearing of the sons of Heth; {even} of all who went in at the gate of his city, saying,

Gen 23:11 "No, my lord, hear me; I give you the field, and I give you the cave that is in it. In the presence of the sons of my people I give it to you; bury your dead."

- *They want to give him the land*

Gen 23:12 And Abraham bowed before the people of the land.

Gen 23:13 He spoke to Ephron in the hearing of the people of the land, saying, "If you will only please listen to me; I will give the price of the field, accept {it} from me that I may bury my dead there."

- *Abraham Wants to buy a piece of Land*

Gen 23:14 Then Ephron answered Abraham, saying to him,

Gen 23:15 "My lord, listen to me; a piece of land worth four hundred shekels of silver, what is that between me and you? So bury your dead."

- *They want to give him the land*

- Gen 23:16 Abraham listened to Ephron; and Abraham weighed out for Ephron the silver which he had named in the hearing of the sons of Heth, four hundred shekels of silver, commercial standard.
- *Abraham Buys a piece of Land*
- Gen 23:17 So Ephron's field, which was in Machpelah, which faced Mamre, the field and cave which was in it, and all the trees which were in the field, that were within all the confines of its border, were deeded over
- Gen 23:18 to Abraham for a possession in the presence of the sons of Heth, before all who went in at the gate of his city.
- Gen 23:19 After this, Abraham buried Sarah his wife in the cave of the field at Machpelah facing Mamre (that is, Hebron) in the land of Canaan.
- Gen 23:20 So the field and the cave that is in it, were deeded over to Abraham for a burial site by the sons of Heth.
- *Personal Conviction -- "Hook Me Up" It is the role of the Christian to be a blessing to others, not looking out for one's own interest. The Christian who uses his name in Christ for gett'n "hooked Up" on special or reduced rates, or special treatment is not seeking to be a blessing but to get a blessing. My own conviction is if someone offers a blessing that is one thing, but to seek a blessing is totally another that is not in keeping with the command and example found in Abraham to be a blessing.*

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