

# The Death Of Sarah

Genesis 23:1-20

## Introduction

### I The Death Of Sarah

- A. Sarah lived to be 127 years old - Is 51:1-2, 1 Pet 3:3-6
- B. She died at Kiriath Arba - Josh 14:15
- C. She was mourned by Abraham - Heb 11:19; 1 Thess 4:13

### II The Eulogy Of Sarah

- A. She was a woman of beauty
  - 1. She was outwardly beautiful - Gen 12:11-13; Prov 11:22
  - 2. She was inwardly beautiful
    - a. She had a gentle and quiet spirit - 1 Peter 3:4-5a
    - b. She made herself beautiful - Col 3:12-14
- B. She was a woman under authority
  - 1. She was submissive to her husband - Eph 5:22-33
  - 2. She was obedient to her husband - 1 Peter 3:6a
  - 3. She was respectful toward her husband - 1 Peter 3:6b
- C. She was a woman of faith
  - 1. She put her hope in God - Heb 11:11-12
  - 2. She did what was right - 1 Peter 3:6c; 1 Jn 2:29; 3:10
  - 3. She did not give way to fear - Ps 147:10-11; Prov 31:30

### III The Negotiations For A Tomb

- A. Abraham spoke to the Hittites saying:
  - 1. "I am an alien and stranger among you" - Heb 11:13-16
  - 2. Sell me some property for a burial site - Acts 7:5
- B. The Hittites replied to Abraham saying:
  - 1. "You are a mighty prince among us" - 1 Pet 2:11-12
  - 2. "Bury your dead in the choicest of our tombs"
  - 3. "No one will refuse you his tomb"
- C. Abraham bowed down before the Hittites and said:
  - 1. Intercede with Ephron on my behalf
    - a. Have him sell me the cave of Machpelah
    - b. Have him sell it to me for the full price - Gen 14:22-24
- D. Ephron was sitting among the people and replied:

- 1. I give you the field and the cave that is in it
- 2. I give it to you in the presence of my people
- E. Abraham bowed down and said to Ephron:
  - 1. I will pay the price of the field - Ps 112:5-6
    - a. Accept it from me so I can bury my dead
- F. Abraham agreed to Ephron's terms:
  - 1. He paid 400 shekels of silver - Lev 25:14,17
  - 2. He was deeded the field in Machpelah near Mamre

### IV The Burial Of Sarah

- A. Abraham buried his wife Sarah in the cave
  - 1. In the field of Machpelah near Mamre in Canaan
- B. Abraham was deeded the field and cave
  - 1. By the Hittites as a burial site - Gen 49:29-32

## PERSONAL APPLICATION

Take some time this week to consider the following:

- 1. Who is the person closest to you who has died? Share a few of your fond memories of that individual.
- 2. The people of Canaan referred to Abraham as a "mighty prince". What does this tell you about Abraham's faith, integrity, character and example among these pagan people where he lived? What adjective do you think the unbelievers around you would use to describe your life? Why?
- 3. As Abraham grieved the loss of his wife, what regrets do you think he might have had? What do you think he was thankful for? How would you like to be remembered when you die? What steps can you take today to facilitate that positive legacy? With your family? With your heavenly Father?
- 4. Take some time this week to reevaluate the priority you are placing on your eternal relationship with God. And then ask God to help you love the people He has sovereignly placed in your life. Make a point today to tell them and show them how much you love them! What are you waiting for?

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