

1 THIS WORLD IS NOT MY HOME

Genesis 23:1-20

2 Genesis 23:1-4

• *Sarah lived one hundred and twenty-seven years; these were the years of the life of Sarah. ² So Sarah died in Kirjath Arba (that is, Hebron) in the land of Canaan, and Abraham came to mourn for Sarah and to weep for her. ³ Then Abraham stood up from before his dead, and spoke to the sons of Heth, saying, ⁴ "I am a foreigner and a visitor among you. Give me property for a burial place among you, that I may bury my dead out of my sight."*

3 Genesis 23:5-7

• *" ⁵ And the sons of Heth answered Abraham, saying to him, ⁶ "Hear us, my lord: You are a mighty prince among us; bury your dead in the choicest of our burial places. None of us will withhold from you his burial place, that you may bury your dead." ⁷ Then Abraham stood up and bowed himself to the people of the land, the sons of Heth.*

4 Genesis 23:8-9

• *⁸ And he spoke with them, saying, "If it is your wish that I bury my dead out of my sight, hear me, and meet with Ephron the son of Zohar for me, ⁹ that he may give me the cave of Machpelah which he has, which is at the end of his field. Let him give it to me at the full price, as property for a burial place among you."*

5 Genesis 23:10-12

• *¹⁰ Now Ephron dwelt among the sons of Heth; and Ephron the Hittite answered Abraham in the presence of the sons of Heth, all who entered at the gate of his city, saying, ¹¹ "No, my lord, hear me: I give you the field and the cave that is in it; I give it to you in the presence of the sons of my people. I give it to you. Bury your dead!" ¹² Then Abraham bowed himself down before the people of the land;*

6 Genesis 23:13-15

• *¹³ and he spoke to Ephron in the hearing of the people of the land, saying, "If you will give it, please hear me. I will give you money for the field; take it from me and I will bury my dead there." ¹⁴ And Ephron answered Abraham, saying to him, ¹⁵ "My lord, listen to me; the land is worth four hundred shekels of silver. What is that between you and me? So bury your dead."*

7 Genesis 23:16-17

• *¹⁶ And Abraham listened to Ephron; and Abraham weighed out the silver for Ephron which he had named in the hearing of the sons of Heth, four hundred shekels of silver, currency of the merchants. ¹⁷ So the field of Ephron which was in Machpelah, which was before Mamre, the field and the cave which was in it, and all the trees that were in the field, which were within all the surrounding borders, were deeded*

8 Genesis 23:18-20

• *¹⁸ to Abraham as a possession in the presence of the sons of Heth, before all who went in*

at the gate of his city. ¹⁹ And after this, Abraham buried Sarah his wife in the cave of the field of Machpelah, before Mamre (that is, Hebron) in the land of Canaan. ²⁰ So the field and the cave that is in it were deeded to Abraham by the sons of Heth as property for a burial place.

9 **THE HOME ABRAHAM ENJOYED**

- v. 1: *Sarah lived one hundred and twenty-seven years; these were the years of the life of Sarah*
 - A Strong Marriage
 - It wasn't a perfect marriage
 - They Had A Special Marriage
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10 **God used them as an example**

- I Peter 3:6-7: *"⁶ as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord. And you are her children, if you do good and do not fear anything that is frightening. ⁷ Likewise, husbands, live with your wives in an understanding way, showing honor to the woman as the weaker vessel, since they are heirs with you of the grace of life, so that your prayers may not be hindered."*

11 **What made their marriage special?**

- It was a holy marriage.
- It was a happy marriage.
- Martin Luther said, "Let the wife make the husband glad to come home, and let him make her sorry to see him leave."

12 **THE HURT HE EXPERIENCED**

- Death is Certain
 - In verse 2, "And Sarah died."
- Grieving is Normal
 - In the word "weep" we see the display of his grief. The word means "to lament with grievous sorrow."
 - In the word "mourn" we see the depths of his grief. The word means "to beat the breast."
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13 **THE HOPE HE EXPRESSED**

- The Funeral He Arranged
- verses 3-4, *"³ Then Abraham stood up from before his dead, and spoke to the sons of Heth, saying, ⁴ "I am a foreigner and a visitor among you. Give me property for a burial place among you, that I may bury my dead out of my sight."*
- verse 19, *"¹⁹ And after this, Abraham buried Sarah his wife in the cave of the field of Machpelah, before Mamre (that is, Hebron) in the land of Canaan."*

14 **The Future he Anticipated**

- V.4: "I am a stranger and a sojourner" (KJV)
 - A Stranger -- a person who finds himself in a culture and society to which he does not naturally belong.
 - A Sojourner -- a temporary resident, one who is only staying for a little while.
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15 **Heaven was his home**

- Hebrews 11:8-9: ⁸ *By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going.* ⁹ *By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise;*

16 **Hebrews 11:10, 16**

- ¹⁰ *for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God.* ¹⁶ *But now they desire a better, that is, a heavenly country. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them.*