

Character Study: Abraham
Part 8 – Abraham’s Final Days
Genesis 23-25

What’s happening?

- Abraham’s wife Sarah passed away at the age of 127. Abraham purchased land in Machpelah (near Hebron) and buried his wife there in a cave. (23:1-20)
- Abraham chose a bride for his son Isaac. Rebekah was brought to Isaac and he took her as his wife. (24:1-67)
- Abraham took a new wife, Keturah, and they had several children. It was Isaac, though, who inherited Abraham’s possessions. (25:1-6)
- Abraham died at the age of 175. Isaac and Ishmael buried him in the cave with Sarah. (25:7-11)

What’s God doing?

> God allowed Abraham to die in peace, experiencing God’s blessing and even seeing the promises of God begin to unfold.

What’s to learn?

→ Looking back on the life of Abraham, we find several passages in the New Testament that reveal significant truths from his life. Some of these include:

- Romans 4:13-25 – Abraham’s faith in what God would do brought him salvation, just as faith in what God has done (through Christ) brings us salvation today.
- Galatians 3 – God’s promise to bless all the nations through Abraham is accomplished in Christ (whose family line comes from Abraham). In Christ, Gentiles are able to take part in the blessings promised to Abraham.
- Hebrews 11:8-13 – Abraham’s display of faith has been a lasting testimony of obedience to God and confidence in His promises.

→ Abraham showed that godly fear is not only rooted in a reverence for God, but also an absolute trust in His word and an obedient surrender to His will.

→ Abraham did not hold anything back from God. He willingly did what God wanted and willingly gave what God asked. In this, we see the heart of true worship.

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