

SARAH DIES
(Genesis 23:1-21)

- I. Sarah's DEATH (Gen. 23:1-2)
 - A. She was one of the OUTSTANDING WOMEN of the Bible
 - 1. Only woman whose AGE at DEATH is recorded: 127 YEARS
 - 2. Considered the MOTHER of BELIEVING WOMEN (cf. 1 Pet. 3:5-6)
 - B. She died in HEBRON
 - C. She died BELIEVING promises yet UNFILFILLED (cf. Heb. 11:11-13)
 - 1. Had her SON who was yet UNMARRIED
 - 2. LIVED in the LAND, but OWNED NONE of it
 - D. Abraham MOURNED her LOSS

- II. Sarah's TOMB (Gen. 23:3-18)
 - A. Abraham REQUESTED a burial site in CANAAN (23:3-4)
 - 1. Only recorded property PURCHASE by Abraham (cf. Heb. 11:9)
 - 2. Indicated FAITH in God's promise of a PERMANENT place for his DESCENDANTS
 - B. Its PURCHASE was a FORMAL business transaction (23:5-18)

1. The locals considered him a "MIGHTY PRINCE" (vv. 5-6)
2. They offered to GIVE him any PLOT he WANTED
3. Abraham IDENTIFIED the PROPERTY he desired (vv. 7-9)
 - a. A FIELD with a suitable CAVE and TREES
 - b. Within SIGHT of their HOME in Mamre
 - c. Owned by a prominent HITTITE named Ephron
 - d. Offered to pay FULL PRICE for the land
4. Ephron declared the land a GIFT (v. 10-11)
5. Abraham INSISTED on paying what the land was WORTH (vv. 12-13)
6. Ephron said it was worth 400 SILVER SHEKELS, which he offered to WAIVE (vv. 14-15)
7. Abraham used the recognized STANDARD to WEIGH the money (v. 16)
8. Ephron DEEDED the property to Abraham (vv. 17-18a)
9. The entire transaction was a matter of PUBLIC RECORD (v. 18b)

III. Sarah's INTERMENT (Gen. 23:19-20)

- A. Sarah's BODY was treated with RESPECT (23:19)
- B. The only "REAL ESTATE" one NEEDS is a place to AWAIT the RESURRECTION (23:20)