

Chayei Sarah

Sarah lived one hundred and twenty-seven years, these were the years of the life of Sarah.
Genesis 23:1

חַיֵּי שָׂרָה

“The Life of Sarah”



First Pray

Father God,

We thank You for Your perfect plans and purposes. We praise You because Only You can offer and fulfill what is needed to redeem us. We thank You for loving us and giving us Your Word so that we can know Your plans and choose to be a part of them. In Yeshua's Name we pray.

Amen

Next Read

Genesis 23: 1- 25:18

In this week's Parasha we read about the deaths of both Sarah and Avraham (Abraham). Sarah was 127 years old when she died. In the Bible numbers have significance. For instance, the number twelve represents the people of God, ten or its multiples signify completion or something in its entirety and seven represents holiness, sanctification and being set apart for a purpose. The seed (descendants) of Avraham by Sarah represent the entire people of God who are sanctified for His purposes. Sarah's age when she died helps us understand that only Yitzchak (Isaac), the son God promised, had been set apart by Him to inherit His promises.

At the time of Sarah's death Avraham understood it was important for their descendants to live and remain in the land God promised to give them. For this reason he purchased a field in the land of promise as a burial place for Sarah. The field that Avraham purchased for 400 shekels of silver contained a cave for burial. In the Bible the number four gives a global or worldwide significance to the passage of Scripture. Avraham understood that the promises of God regarding the multitude of their descendants living in the land of promise would bring blessings to the entire world!

The field that Avraham purchased from Ephron the Hittite was in Machpelah, and it was legally deeded to Avraham at its full price. The field included the cave and all the trees that were within its surrounding borders. Forty-eight years later at the age of 175, Avraham's sons, Yitzchak and Ishmael, buried him in the same cave with his wife Sarah. In the Bible the number 75 points to redemption and the dedication of God's Kingdom. The Way of redemption and its final outcome, the Kingdom of God, can only occur when the seed of Avraham are living in the Promised Land. Avraham's purchase of land at its full price demonstrated he understood that the land of promise would one day be transformed into the Kingdom of God on earth.

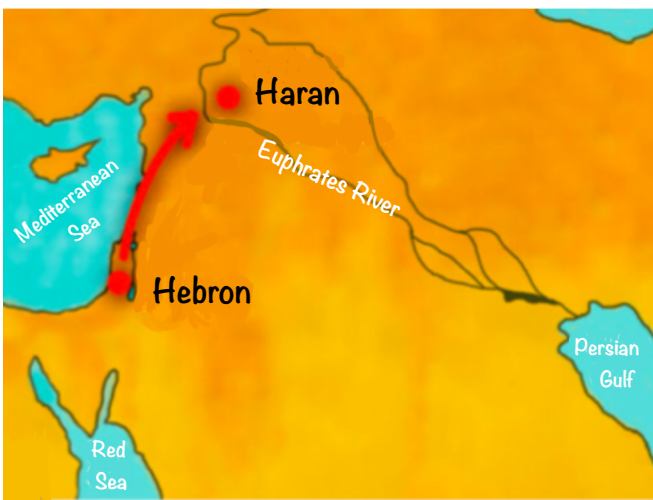
Before Avraham died, he gave many gifts to all his sons before sending them out of the Promised Land away from his only begotten son Yitzchak, allowing them to carry this blessing to the world. Purchasing land at its full price, demanding Yitzchak remain in the land and sending blessings to the world through his seed demonstrated Avraham's faith in God's plans and purposes for his descendants in the land of promise (Yisra'el).

~ Focus Passage of Scripture ~

Genesis 24: 1-8

In this week's focus passage of Scripture we learn it is only when one trusts and obeys God's Word that he can be a part of God's plans and purposes. God's plans and purposes are to restore His creation to Himself. Avraham had learned that doing things by his own understanding or in his own strength was not accepted by God for His purposes.

In Genesis 24:1-4 we read that following Sarah's death and burial, Avraham asked his oldest servant, who ruled over all that he had, to swear by the LORD that he would not take a wife for Yitzchak from among the daughters of the Canaanites.



“but you shall go to my country and to my kindred, and take a wife for my son Yitzchak.” Genesis 24:4

Avram, Sarai and Lot had obeyed the commandment of God, departing from the city of Haran in the land of Kasdim (Chaldeans). They left their family there and crossed over the Euphrates River into the land of Canaan. Avraham had pitched his tent living at Hebron in the land of promise when his servant swore to this oath.

Avraham had learned that God did not need nor did He accept human efforts outside His perfect authority and Word to achieve His plans and purposes! Avraham understood that he had acted in opposition to God's plans when he took Hagar, Sarai's Egyptian maidservant, in order to have a son. Whenever we attempt to serve God by our own understanding or strength, we will suffer the consequences of our sin and influence future generations in a negative way.

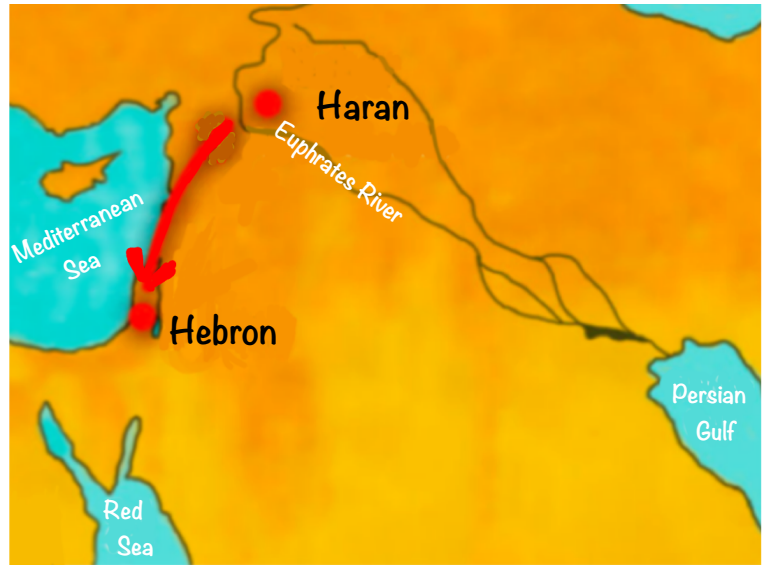
When Sarai observed Ishmael, the son of Hagar, scoffing at the purposes and plans of God for the life of her son Yitzchak, she told Avraham to cast out the bondwoman and her son. Perhaps she realized that in the future Ishmael's descendants would rise up against the descendants of Avram (Genesis 16:11-12). It displeased Avram to send Ishmael away, but God commanded him to listen to Sarai's voice and do what she said. Only through Yitzchak, the son of Sarah, would Avraham's seed be called (Genesis 21:9-13). By these painful events Avraham learned that he was suffering the consequences of his sin, and it was crucial that he align himself fully with God by obeying His Word no matter how he felt or how those around him perceived his actions.

When Sarah died, it was not possible for her to have another child. At her death Avraham was certain that Yitzchak alone was the promised son to inherit all that God had given him. With that in mind it was of utmost importance for Yitzchak to remain in the land of promise and marry the woman God chose to be his wife from the family of Avraham.

In Genesis 24:5-6 we learn that Avraham requested the oldest servant of his house take an oath. He made his servant vow **not** to take a wife for Yitzchak from among the Canaanite women! He instructed his servant to put his hand under Avraham's thigh and swear by the LORD, the God of heaven and the God of the earth, that he would not take a wife for Yitzchak from the land where they dwelt! He commanded his servant to travel to the land that he came from and obtain a wife for Yitzchak from his family who lived there. Avraham's servant asked him if he should take Yitzchak to the woman if she refused to leave her home and family to become his wife. Avraham told him he must **not** do this! Yitzchak was to remain in the land of promise.

“The LORD God of heaven, who took me from my father’s house and from the land of my kindred, and who spoke to me and swore to me, saying, ‘To your descendants I give this land,’ He will send His angel before you, and you shall take a wife for my son from there. And if the woman is not willing to follow you, then you will be released from this oath; only do not take my son back there.”

Genesis. 24:7-8



Avraham understood that Yitzchak had to marry the woman God chose to be his wife and have children with her in the land of promise in order to serve God by aligning with His plans and purposes. Only when Avraham's descendants are living in the Promised Land (Israel) will the entire world be blessed through them (Genesis 12:1-3). Avraham's actions demonstrated his faith in God's promise to give his descendants the land of promise as an eternal inheritance (Genesis 15:1-7).

In Genesis 24:7-8 we learn Avraham informed his servant that the LORD God of heaven would send His angel ahead of him to make his journey and mission a success. Avraham had learned he did not need to help God accomplish His Word. He understood that Only God could and would make all these things happen!

Avraham had learned the importance of trusting God and acting in a way that demonstrated his faith in Him. He also understood the only way to serve God and be a part of His purposes and plans is to obey God's Word and let Him handle everything else no matter what the immediate outcome.

Interesting Fact:

The descendants of Avraham have demonstrated their faith in God by visiting the Cave of the Patriarchs in Hebron where Sarai, Avraham, Yitzchak, Rivka, Leah and Yakov are buried since the time of its purchase by Avraham approximately 3,800 years ago! Today small communities of Jewish people (descendants of Avraham) live in protected communities in Hebron as a demonstration of their faith.



Haftarah

1 Kings 1:1-31

Now Adonijah the son of Haggith exalted himself, saying, "I will be king," and he prepared for himself chariots and horsemen, and fifty men to run before him. 1 Kings 1:5

David, the son of Jesse from the tribe of Judah, had been anointed by God to establish His Kingdom in Yisra'el, the land of promise, on three separate occasions. The number 3 in the Bible can refer to testing, revealing, proving, documenting, victory or, if applied to God, holiness. The anointing of King David three times served to document the revelation that God would use him to establish His Kingdom in Yisra'el, providing victory for His people.

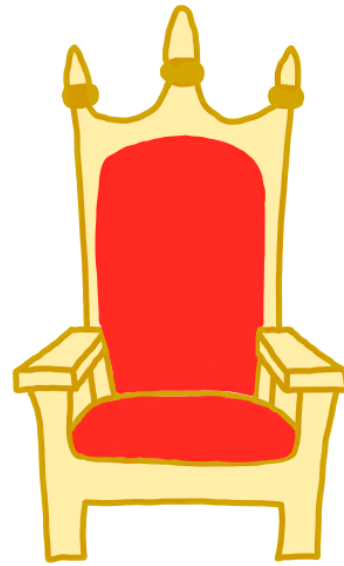
At one point during King David's reign he acted in opposition to God's plans and purposes by taking Bathsheba, another man's wife, and arranging for her husband's death to conceal his sin. When David used his authority as king to gratify his desires, he demonstrated that he despised the commandments of the LORD. Instead of reigning in obedience to God, he committed evil in His sight. When we disobey God, we are acting in opposition to Him, His purposes and His plans! There are always consequences to opposing God even when we ask for and receive forgiveness from Him.

According to the law of God, the punishment of King David's sin was death. However, God did not take David's life; rather, He took the life of David and Bathsheba's son. God also vowed that He would raise up adversity against David from among his own family in every generation (2 Samuel 12:9-14) as a consequence of his sin. When we sin against God, we do not bring glory to Him. Rather, we glorify Satan, the enemy of God. This gives Satan the opportunity to gain power for his evil, false kingdom through our behaviors. Satan's kingdom is one that leads to death and strife. When King David realized the enormity of what he had done, he vowed that Shlomo (Solomon), the next son born to him by Bathsheba, would rule and reign over the Kingdom God had established through him on earth.

In this week's Haftarah King David is nearing the time of his death. In opposition to King David's plan for Shlomo to rule God's Kingdom on earth Adonijah, David's son with his wife Haggith, attempted to become the next king of Yisra'el before this happened!

Adonijah prepared for himself chariots, horsemen and fifty men to run before him proclaiming him to be king. The number 50 in the Bible relates to freedom or liberty. Adonijah pridefully wanted to appear that he had the freedom and liberty to name himself the king of Yisra'el. Adonijah spoke with Joab, the commander of King David's army, and he spoke with Abiathar, the priest, convincing them to follow him as the new King of Yisra'el. Adonijah desired to deceive the people by establishing a false kingdom. It is important that we know Who God has proclaimed to rule over the Kingdom He has established. God has proclaimed that His One and Only Begotten Son, Messiah Yeshua, will rule over His Kingdom forever. It is extremely important for us to know what God's Word says so that we are not deceived by imposters!

Then she said to him,
“My lord, you swore by the LORD
your God to your maidservant, saying,
‘Assuredly Solomon our son shall reign
after me, and he shall sit on my throne.’
1 Kings 1:17



When Bathsheba became aware of Adonijah's plans to steal the Kingdom from Shlomo, the rightful heir to the throne, she worked in conjunction with Nathan, God's prophet, to inform King David of this evil plot! Adonijah had invited all his brothers except Shlomo to his coronation ceremony. Bathsheba understood this meant she and her son, Shlomo, would be put to death should Adonijah's plans succeed (1 Kings 1:18-21).

Oftentimes when evil men are trying to thwart the plans and purposes of God, it is necessary for men and women who know the Word of God to act in ways that can be perceived as dishonest by human standards. When Bathsheba found herself in this situation, she did not concern herself with the perceptions of man. Rather, she aligned herself with the Word of God and left the rest to Him. God rewarded Bathsheba for her faithful action! King David called for her to appear before him and spoke these words to her for everyone to hear:

“As the LORD lives, who has redeemed my life from every distress, just as I swore to you by the LORD God of Yisra’el, saying, ‘Assuredly Solomon your son shall be king after me, and he shall sit on my throne in my place,’ so I certainly will do this day.” 1 Kings 1:30

King David acted in opposition to God just as Avram and Sarai had when they failed to align themselves fully with His Word in their lifetimes. Due to the consequences of their sin, they all suffered great hardships! Through these hardships they all realized that knowing and obeying the Word of God is always the right thing to do no matter what the circumstances. In the end they all faithfully did what was necessary to serve God according to His perfect plans and purposes.

Interesting Fact:

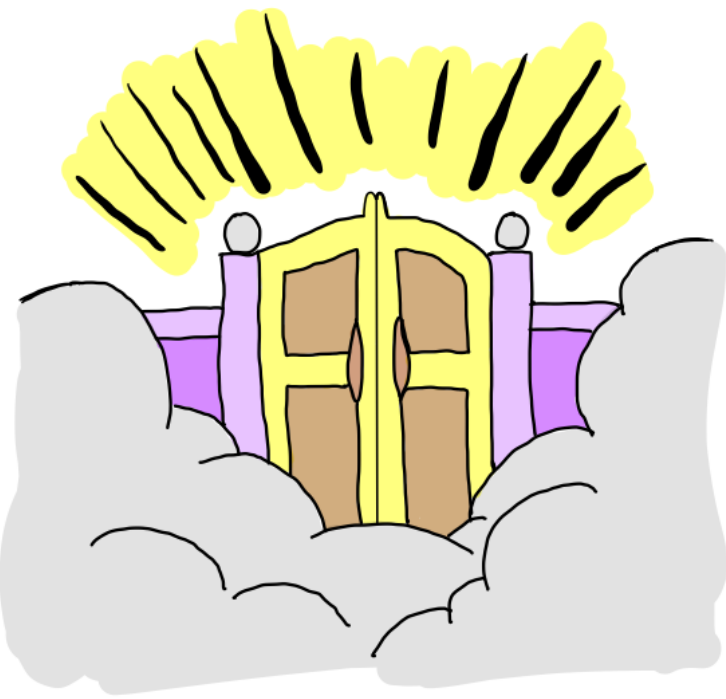
King David was a descendant of Abraham from the tribe of Judah.



~ Numbers in the Bible ~

Directions: Draw a line from the numbers below to all the correct statements of significance in the Bible.

Set apart for a purpose	3	Revealing
Victory	4	Sanctification
Global	7	Liberty
Freedom	10	Testing
Documenting	12	Points to redemption
Points to dedication	50	Entirety
Proving	75	Holiness
Completion		Worldwide
		The People of God



New Testament

1 Corinthians 15:50-58

First Pray

Father God,
We thank You for sending Your One and Only Son from heaven to earth to die in order to redeem us. We praise You for resurrecting Him from the dead in order to remove the barrier our sin created separating us from You.

We thank You for placing Your Son's righteousness on us so that we too will be resurrected to eternal life in Your Kingdom.

In Yeshua's Name we pray. Amen

Next Read

1 Corinthians 15:50-58

Now this I say, brethren,
that flesh and blood cannot inherit
the kingdom of God; nor
does corruption inherit incorruption.
1 Corinthians 15:50

In this week's New Testament Scripture, the Apostle Paul explained to believers that due to its corruption from sin, flesh and blood cannot inherit the Kingdom of God. All human bodies are corrupt

because everyone is guilty of sin. Since it is not possible for something that is corrupt to inherit something that is not corrupt, all believers must be changed. Paul explained that this change which had been a mystery in the past was now revealed.

Anyone who trusts that God the Father accepted the work of redemption His Son, Messiah Yeshua, did when He bled and died on the tree to cleanse and redeem the world from corruption of sin, has been redeemed by the Blood of the Lamb of God! That one will inherit eternal life in the Kingdom of God! Even though his body dies and is buried, he too will be raised back to life just as God the Father raised His Only Begotten Son back to life. He will be raised by Messiah Yeshua and will be given a new body that has not been corrupted by sin. This is the outcome of his redemption! We know this is true because God, Who is the King over all things in the heavens and earth, has vowed it.

It was for the purpose of redemption and blessing for His creation that God set apart the Promised Land of Yisra'el and the nation of Yisra'el through which He will achieve His plans. Messiah Yeshua was born a descendant of Abraham from the tribe of Judah for this purpose. His birth was in Bethlehem, Yisra'el while the descendants of Abraham were living in the Promised Land. Likewise, He will return from heaven to Jerusalem, Yisra'el to establish the Kingdom of God when the descendants of Abraham are living in the land.

As Paul continued to explain that the corrupted body must be changed to an uncorrupted one before it can inherit the Kingdom of God, he spoke these words to his brethren:

Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed—in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. 1 Corinthians 15:51



When this change occurs, we will no longer be mortal beings subject to death as the result of sin. We will be transformed, receiving immortal bodies that will live forever in the presence of our LORD and God, Messiah Yeshua. We will have the ability to know Him completely and serve Him without the corruption of sin. Death will be swallowed up in victory! We will be given this total victory through our LORD Messiah Yeshua! When these events occur in the future these words spoken by the prophet Isaiah will come to pass:

**He will swallow up death forever, and the LORD God will wipe away tears from all faces;
The rebuke of His people He will take away from all the earth; For the LORD has spoken.**
Isaiah 25:8

At the time of our resurrection, or our Blessed Hope, the sinful nature which is the sting of death for all the redeemed will be defeated. All thanks will be given to God Who gives us this victory through our LORD, Messiah Yeshua! These words of the prophet Hosea will be realized by Satan, the enemy of God, and all those who belong to his false kingdom:

“O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?”
Hosea 13:14

As the believer looks forward to the outcome of our redemption, which is the establishment of the Kingdom of God on earth, we must be diligent to know the Word of God and align ourselves with it. We must not act in our own understanding no matter what circumstance we are in. When we act in opposition to the plans and purposes of God, we must ask Him to forgive us and be thankful for His just judgment. We must do all these things knowing that our work is not in vain because Messiah Yeshua will establish God’s Kingdom for us to live in for all eternity.

~ Recap Review Fun ~

Directions: Fill in the blanks from the word bank below.

1. Sarai's age at her death helps us understand that only her son _____ could inherit all the promises of God.
2. Avraham purchased a field with a cave in it to bury Sarai because he understood the importance of remaining in the land of _____.
3. Avraham understood that God's plan for his descendants to live in the Promised Land would bring _____ to the world.
4. When Avraham purchased the field of Machpelah to bury Sarai, he demonstrated his understanding that in the future
the _____ of God would be established in the land of promise.
5. Whenever we attempt to serve God by our own understanding and strength, we will suffer the _____ and influence future generations in a _____ way.
6. When we attempt to serve God by our own understanding and power, we are acting in _____ to Him.
7. When we realize we have acted in opposition to God, it is very important that we align ourselves fully with His Word despite our feelings or the _____ of others.
8. Only God can and will make all things happen to achieve His _____ and _____.
9. When we misuse the gifts God has given us for our own desires, we are demonstrating that we despise the _____ of God.
10. When we sin, we bring glory to God's enemy, _____.

11. Satan’s Kingdom is one of _____ and _____.
12. It is important that we know Who God has vowed will be the King of the heavens and the earth so that we are not _____ by imposters.
13. When evil people are trying to stop the plans and purposes of God, it may be necessary for believers to act in a way that is easily perceived as _____ by human standards.
14. It is not possible for a body _____ by sin to inherit the Kingdom of God.
15. At the resurrection (our Blessed Hope) those who have been redeemed by the Blood of the Lamb of God, Messiah _____, will receive an _____ and incorruptible new body.
16. God’s plans and purposes are to _____ His creation to Himself.

Word Bank

Blessings

Plans

Promise

Kingdom

Commandments

Death

Purposes

Deceived

Satan

Negative

Strife

Consequences

Opposition

Dishonest

Opinion

Yeshua

Yitzhak

Immortal

Corrupted

Restore

