

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

THE LIFE OF ABRAHAM – WHAT A WAY TO GO

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How Will You Go?

Perhaps you've heard the humorous joke told by a man when asked how he wanted to die. He replied, "I want to die peacefully in my sleep, like my Grandpa died". "Not yelling and screaming like the other people in his car". Certainly death is not a funny subject but his reply was!

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Grave markers usually have two numbers. The day a person was born and the date they passed away. Many people should have three numbers, their birth, death and when they were buried. Many people reach an age where they just quit living. They feel they have nothing to live for and nothing to offer, their dreams end. The might die inwardly at 45 but their bodies are not buried until 75 (or many years later). Sometime after Abraham's 137th birthday, his wife Sarah died. Imagine this, after roughly 112 years of marriage, your spouse is gone. Professionals say it takes roughly three years after the death of a spouse to just get back to some kind of normalcy. It's heartbreaking, and yet in my Sunday School class, many of you have faced this ordeal.

Genesis 25:1 Abraham again took a wife, and her name was Keturah.

Let's just suppose five years have passed. What does Abraham have to live for? Football wasn't invented yet. So, he got married again.

Re-marrying after the death of a spouse does not invalidate your love for them

I mention this, because the last thing someone needs is for another person or they themselves feeling guilty as if they have betrayed their love. I am a romantic and I would love to believe that after the Resurrection I will be holding hands with my wife for eternity! Here's the truth, Jesus was cornered by the Sadducees and given a theological question. Let's read.

Matthew 22:28 Therefore, in the resurrection, whose wife of the seven will she be? For they all had her."

Here is where we learn the truth of the afterlife. We will be able to love and serve God as the angels in heaven do.

Matthew 22:29-31 Jesus answered and said to them, "You are mistaken, not knowing the Scriptures nor the power of God. (30) For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels of God in heaven. (31) But concerning the resurrection of the dead, have you not read what was spoken to you by God, saying

God is the one who decides His will for your life and He had more in store for Abraham. It was not going to be 38 years more of suffering the pain of Sarah's death. Abraham married Keturah. God wanted him, and you to be happy,

In Genesis 25:2-4 you will see a list of six sons that Abraham and Keturah had. They probably also had daughters as well even though their names are not recorded.

While Abraham took Keturah to be his wife, her legal status did not compare to that of Sarah. Abraham was rich and took care of her sons but, the main part of his riches, his legacy resided with Isaac. Nothing would take that away from Isaac.

Do your giving while your living.

Gen 25:5 And Abraham gave all that he had unto Isaac.

Abraham took care of his kids while he was yet alive. You will get no real joy giving when your dead. If you have the ability to, consider giving to your children while you are yet alive and see the joy in their lives while you can enjoy it with them.

Genesis 25:7-9 And these are the days of the years of Abraham's life which he lived, an hundred threescore and fifteen years. (8) Then Abraham gave up the ghost, and died in a good old age, an old man, and full of years; and was gathered to his people. (9) And his sons Isaac and Ishmael buried him in the cave of Machpelah, in the field of Ephron the son of Zohar the Hittite, which is before Mamre;

Great awards await you if you obey God without knowing all the details first.