



Lesson 13 | Abraham and the Nations

Genesis 21:22-34; 23:1-20

Hebrews reminds us that the patriarchs kept living by faith even though in their lifetime they never received the promises God made to them (Hebrews 11:13). Abraham was told that through his offspring the nations of the world would be blessed, and that the land of Canaan would be his. As we come near the end of Abraham's life we see a faint glimmer of some of those promises coming to pass.

Abraham and Abimelech

Abraham and Abimelech Make a _____ (22-24, 27)

After watching God's blessing on Abraham's life, Abimelech decides he would like to be in a more permanent relationship with Abraham. He wants to make a mutually beneficial pact, and not just with Abraham but also between Abimelech's offspring and Abraham's offspring. Those who faithfully follow God will often find themselves an example to the world around them of the difference that God makes in a life.

Abraham and Abimelech Settle a _____ (25-31)

Abraham is ready to make a treaty, but first wants to deal with a previous grievance. The servants of Abimelech had taken over a well belonging to Abraham. Abimelech responds to Abraham's reproof by strongly stating he was unaware that this situation had happened and had no knowledge of who was at fault. Abraham then gives seven sheep to Abimelech as a sign that the well belongs to him. This whole incident shows the integrity of Abraham and the respect that he had in the eyes of Abimelech and his general.



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Abraham and Abimelech _____ Together (32-34)

The account ends with Abimelech and Phicol returning to their homes, and Abraham continuing in the land. We read once again that Abraham called on the name of the Lord. After this meeting with the ruler of the land in which Abraham seemed to have a lot of power and influence. Yet we come to the end of the chapter and see Abraham continuing to call out to God and remain dependent on Him.

Abraham and the Hittites (Genesis 23:1-20)

Abraham Asks for a _____ Plot (1-9)

Sarah passes away and Abraham must decide where to bury her. He is now living with a group of Hittites, and he approaches them about the possibility of purchasing some of their land as a burial plot. As in the previous story, the Hittites' reaction to Abraham shows the high regard they have for him. Abraham has lived in the land of Canaan for a long time and had come to be well-respected by this Hittite group.

Abraham _____ the Price (10-16)

Abraham mentions a specific plot he would be interested in, and he and the owner have a quick back and forth over the price. Abraham's insistence that he pay the full price shows his faith in God and his desire to do things the right way. In the end, everyone was happy: the Hittites were shown to be generous to Abraham, and Abraham had shown himself to be honorable by paying full price.

Abraham _____ the Plot and Buries Sarah (17-20)

This would mark the first time that Abraham officially owned any land in Canaan. On one hand, this would be a big deal since it would be the very beginning of the fulfillment of God's promise. On the other hand, it was only a tiny cave good for nothing more than burying the dead. Depending on whether you looked at this occasion from the perspective of faith or of doubt, this was either a huge triumph or a disappointing reminder of how little Abraham really did own.

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