

23:1-2

Sarah lived one hundred and twenty-seven years; Which means Isaac is now 36 years old.

This means, according to chapter 25, that Sarah never met his wife. *these were the years of the life of Sarah.* **2 So Sarah died in Kirjath Arba (that is, Hebron)** which means that **Abraham** travelled 40 miles from Beersheeba (22:19) at some point in those more than 3 decades covering only Genesis 22 in the Biblical record.

in the land of Canaan, and Abraham came to mourn First time in the Bible someone's death is being **mourned for Sarah and to weep for her.**

23:3-4

Then Abraham stood up from before his dead, and spoke to the sons of ^cHeth, the Hittites: they came from Ham (says Genesis 10). Most of the folks in this neck of the woods known as "Canaan" came from Canaan, son of Ham. **saying, 4 "I am a foreigner and a visitor among you. ^eGive me property for a burial place** This is also the first time in the Bible someone is buried.

among you, that I may bury my dead out of my sight."

23:5-6

And the sons of Heth answered Abraham, saying to him, 6 "Hear us, my lord: You are a mighty prince their first acquaintance with him was over 60 years ago and he had an army of over 300 then. **among us; bury your dead in the choicest of our burial places.** Abraham was a major mover with his small town worth of population traveling together, and his existence among them was a boost to their economy. **None of us will withhold from you his burial place, that you may bury your dead."** We should consider that he did not cremate her. See my commentary on Mark (a footnote in chapter 15 surrounding the **burial** of Jesus). If we are right in seeing the story of Job as occurring in these times (see my appendix on authorship in my commentary on Job) then they may have had similar beliefs on the resurrection (Job 19:25) and **burial** best shows faith in the resurrection.

23:7-9

Then Abraham stood up and bowed himself to the people of the land, the sons of Heth. 8 And he spoke with them, saying, "If it is your wish that I bury my dead out of my sight, hear me, and meet with Ephron the son of Zohar for me, ⁹ that he may give me the cave of ⁸Machpelah which he has, which is at the end of his field. Let him give it to me at the full price, as property for a burial place among you."

¹⁰ Now Ephron dwelt among the sons of Heth; and Ephron the Hittite answered

^c Gen. 10:15; 15:20; 2 Kin. 7:6

^e Acts 7:5, 16

⁸ Gen. 25:9

Abraham in the presence of the sons of Heth, all who ^hentered at the gate of his city, saying, ¹¹ⁱ“No, my lord, hear me: I give you the field and the cave that *is* in it; I give it to you in the presence of the sons of my people. I give it to you. Bury your dead!”

¹² Then Abraham bowed himself down before the people of the land; ¹³ and he spoke to Ephron in the hearing of the people of the land, saying, “If you *will give it*, please hear me. I will give you money for the field; take *it* from me and I will bury my dead there.”

¹⁴ And Ephron answered Abraham, saying to him, ¹⁵“My lord, listen to me; the land *is worth* four hundred ^jshekels of silver. What *is* that between you and me? So bury your dead.” ¹⁶ And Abraham listened to Ephron; and Abraham ^kweighed out the silver for Ephron which he had named in the hearing of the sons of Heth, four hundred shekels of silver, currency of the merchants.

¹⁷ So ^lthe field of Ephron which *was* in Machpelah, which *was* before Mamre, We see from 13:10 & 18:1 that Abraham has been in and around this piece of land for a great many years (decades by this time). **the field and the cave which *was* in it, and all the trees that *were* in the field, which *were* within all the surrounding borders, were deeded ¹⁸ to Abraham as a possession in the presence of the sons of Heth, before all who went in at the gate of his city.**

^h Gen. 23:18; 34:20, 24; Ruth 4:1, 4, 11

ⁱ 2 Sam. 24:21–24

^j Ex. 30:13; Ezek. 45:12

^k 2 Sam. 14:26; Jer. 32:9, 10; Zech. 11:12

^l Gen. 25:9; 49:29–32; 50:13; Acts 7:16