GENESIS 25

¹ Abraham again took a wife, and her name was Keturah. ² And she bore him Zimran, Jokshan, Medan, Midian, Ishbak, and Shuah. ³ Jokshan begot Sheba and Dedan. And the sons of Dedan were Asshurim, Letushim, and Leummim. ⁴ And the sons of Midian were Ephah, Epher, Hanoch, Abidah, and Eldaah. All these were the children of Keturah.

⁵ And Abraham gave all that he had to Isaac. ⁶ But Abraham gave gifts to the sons of the concubines which Abraham had; and while he was still living he sent them eastward, away from Isaac his son, to the country of the east.

⁷ This *is* the sum of the years of Abraham's life which he lived: one hundred and seventy-five years. ⁸ Then Abraham breathed his last 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, which *is* before Mamre, in the field of Ephron the son of Zohar the Hittite, ¹⁰ the field which Abraham purchased from the sons of Heth. There Abraham was buried, and Sarah his wife. *(see photo)* ¹¹ And it came to pass, after the death of Abraham, that God blessed his son Isaac. And Isaac dwelt at Beer Lahai Roi. *(16:13)*

EARTHLY LIVING IN LIGHT OF HEAVEN

After Sarah's death and Isaac's marriage to Rebekah, Abraham continued living by faith for another 35 years and married Keturah; resulting in 6 more children, who gave him 7 grandchildren and 3 greats; before his death.

If we were to write an Obituary for Abraham, **GENESIS 25** would be a great help; along with words from **HEBREWS 11**.

HEBREWS 11 ⁸ By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. ⁹ By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as *in* a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise; ¹⁰ for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker *is* God.

¹¹ By faith Sarah herself also received strength to conceive seed, and she bore a child when she was past the age, because she judged Him faithful who had promised. ¹² Therefore from one man, and him as good as dead, were born *as many* as the stars of the sky in multitude — innumerable as the sand which is by the seashore.

These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off were assured of them, embraced *them* and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. ¹⁴ For those who say such things declare plainly that they seek a homeland. ¹⁵ And truly if they had called to mind that *country* from which they had come out, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶ But now they desire a better, that is, a heavenly *country*. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them.

EARTHLY LIVING IN LIGHT OF HEAVEN

We are called to <u>obey by faith</u>.

HEBREWS 11 8 By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going.

We are called to <u>live by God's promises</u>.

11 9 By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as *in* a foreign country,...

We are called to <u>include our children</u>.

11 9dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise;

- We are called to <u>a heavenly city also</u>.
 - 11 ¹⁰ for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker *is* God.
- ¹⁶ But now they desire a better, that is, a heavenly *country*. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them.
- We are called to have an eternal viewpoint.
 - 2 CORINTHIANS 4 16 Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward *man* is being renewed day by day. 17 For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, 18 while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen *are* temporary, but the things which are not seen *are* eternal.

- We are called to look ahead to better days.
 - 2 CORINTHIANS 5 ¹ For we know that if our earthly house, *this* tent, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.
- We are called to groan with desire not depression.
 - 5 ² For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed with our habitation which is from heaven,.... ⁴ For we who are in this tent groan, being burdened, not because we want to be unclothed, but further clothed, that mortality may be swallowed up by life.
- We are called to know God prepared us for this.
 - **5** Now He who has prepared us for this very thing *is* God, who also has given us the Spirit as a guarantee.
- We are called to be confident about our absence.
 - **5** ⁶ So *we are* always confident, knowing that while we are at home in the body we are absent from the Lord.
- We are called to walk by faith not by sight.
 - **5** ⁷ For we walk by faith, not by sight.
- We are called to <u>be pleased with our future</u>.
 - **5** ⁸ We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord.
- We are called to please the Lord not ourselves.
 - 5 9 Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him. 10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad...

GENESIS 25

¹ Abraham again took a wife, and her name was Keturah. ² And she bore him Zimran, Jokshan, Medan, Midian, Ishbak, and Shuah. ³ Jokshan begot Sheba and Dedan. And the sons of Dedan were Asshurim, Letushim, and Leummim. ⁴ And the sons of Midian were Ephah, Epher, Hanoch, Abidah, and Eldaah. All these were the children of Keturah.

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EARTHLY LIVING IN LIGHT OF HEAVEN

After Sarah's death and Isaac's marriage to Rebekah, Abraham continued living by faith for another 35 years and married Keturah; resulting in 6 more children who gave him 10 grandchildren; before he died at 175 years.

If we were to write an Obituary for Abraham, **GENESIS 25** would be a great help; along with words from **HEBREWS 11**.

HEBREWS 11 ⁸ By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. ⁹ By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as *in* a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise; ¹⁰ for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker *is* God.

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These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off were assured of them, embraced *them* and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. ¹⁴ For those who say such things declare plainly that they seek a homeland. ¹⁵ And truly if they had called to mind that *country* from which they had come out, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶ But now they desire a better, that is, a heavenly *country*. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them.

EARTHLY LIVING IN LIGHT OF HEAVEN	 We are called to
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what he has done, whether good or bad...

ISAIAH 6 ¹ In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His *robe* filled the temple. ² Above it stood seraphim; each one had six wings: with two he covered his face, with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. ³ And one cried to another and said:

"Holy, holy, holy *is* the Lord of hosts; The whole earth *is* full of His glory!"

⁴ And the posts of the door were shaken by the voice of him who cried out, and the house was filled with smoke. ⁵ So I said:

"Woe is me, for I am undone!

Because I am a man of unclean lips,
and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips;
for my eyes have seen the King,
The Lord of hosts."

⁶ Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a live coal *which* he had taken with the tongs from the altar. ⁷ And he touched my mouth *with it,* and said:

"Behold, this has touched your lips; your iniquity is taken away, and your sin purged."

8 Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying:

"Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?"

Then I said, "Here am I! Send me."

GENESIS 16 ¹³ Then she called the name of the Lord who spoke to her, You-Are-the-God-Who-Sees; for she said, "Have I also here seen Him who sees me?" ¹⁴ Therefore the well was called Beer Lahai Roi;...

WHEN THE ROLL IS CALLED UP YONDER

by James Milton Black - 1893

When the trumpet of the Lord shall sound, and time shall be no more, And the morning breaks, eternal, bright and fair; When the saved of earth shall gather over on the other shore, And the roll is called up yonder, I'll be there.

When the roll is called up yonder, I'll be there.

On that bright and cloudless morning when the dead in Christ shall rise, And the glory of His resurrection share; When His chosen ones shall gather to their home beyond the skies, And the roll is called up yonder, I'll be there.

Let us labor for the Master from the dawn till setting sun, Let us talk of all His wondrous love and care; Then when all of life is over, and our work on earth is done, And the roll is called up yonder, I'll be there.

Written by a Sunday School Teacher, inspired by a child's absence.