



THE POSSESSION OF A BURYINGPLACE

Volume 18 Issue 1

A BIBLICAL STUDY of Genesis 23

"The Redemption of the Purchased Possession"

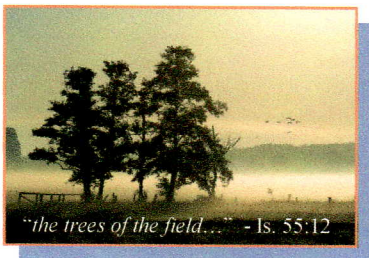
In this lesson we will search for understanding of the Biblical attention given to the purchasing of the field for Sarah's buryingplace.

STRONG'S HEBREW/GREEK DEFINITIONS



- 1 **BURYINGPLACE (H6913)** "Qeber"
A sepulcher: grave
- 2 **HETH (H2845)**
The great grandson of Noah, son of Canaan, the son of Ham who saw the nakedness of Noah. Progenitor of the Hittites, who are ranked by modern scholars among the Egyptians and the Babylonians in power.
- 3 **MACHPELAH (H4375)**
double; The burial place of Sarah, Abraham, Isaac, Rebecca, Leah and Jacob, a cave in the field of Mamre near Hebron.
Today a Muslim mosque stands over this cave. Entrance into it is forbidden.
- 4 **POSSESSION (H272)** "Achuzzah"
- something seized; i.e. a possession
- 5 **PRINCE (H5387)** "Nasi" - an exalted one
- 6 **REDEMPTION (G629)** - ransom in full; to buy back

1. Sarah is the only woman whose age at death is mentioned in the Bible (Gen. 23:1). Discuss the possible spiritual significance. Ro. 4:16-17, 20-24; Heb. 11:11
2. In Genesis 23:3-4, Abraham asks the sons of Heth for a "possession of a buryingplace" for his wife Sarah.
 - A. Who was Heth? Gen. 10:15; 9:25, 18, 22
 - B. Read/comment about the definition of "possession." Gen. 17:8
 - C. Why is the purchasing of a field given Biblical attention?
 - 1) The Field of Ephron - Gen. 49:29-33; 50:13; Acts 7:15-16
 - 2) The Field of Hanameel - Jer. 32:6-12
 - 3) The Field of Blood - Matt. 27:3-10; Acts 1:15-20
3. In Genesis 23:6, the children of Heth describe Abraham as "thou art a mighty prince among us," literally interpreted as "you are a prince of God."
 - How is this a beautiful picture of God's elect?
4. Abraham did not want the field to be given to him (23: 11-17) by the children of Heth. If the Lord had promised to give Abraham and his seed the land of Canaan, why did Abraham purchase this field?
Read/discuss if any of the following verses might offer a literal suggestion.
 - A. Romans 13:8 - "Owe no man..."
 - B. 2 Cor. 6:14 - "Be not unequally yoked..."
 - C. 2 Cor. 10:16-18 - "But he that glorieth..."
5. Let us explore a figurative suggestion for a reason to purchase a field that was already promised to Abraham and his seed.



TEXT OF THE WEEK

"...Ye were sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise, which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory."

- Eph. 1:13-14

A COMPARISON TO CONSIDER

The promise:	Ex. 32:11	Eph. 1:13
The cost:	Gen. 23:15-16	Acts 8:28
The seal:	Gen. 23:16	Eph. 4:30
The purchased possession:	Gen. 23:17-18	Ro. 8:21-23
The inheritance:	Gen. 17:8	I Pet. 1:3-5

In CONCLUSION, discuss if this Biblical account of the purchasing of a buryingplace is an example of redemption.