



Message 11-3-07
Chayei Sarah-Life of Sarah
Genesis 23:1-25:18
1 Kings 1:1-31
Hebrews 9:25-26

Introduction

Sarah dies at the age of 127. Abraham purchases the cave in Hebron as a burial plot for Sarah. Abraham sends his servant to find a bride for Isaac, who is Rebecca, daughter of Laban. Abraham takes another wife named Keturah. At the age of 175 Abraham dies and Isaac and Ishmael bury him with Sarah.

Genesis 24:1-9

1 Now Abraham was old and well advanced in years; and the LORD had blessed him in all things. **2** And Abraham called his eldest servant, the steward of his house, who was in charge of everything that he had; and he said to him, Put your hand under my girdle; **3** and I will make you swear by the LORD, the God of heaven and the God of the earth, that you shall not take to my son a wife of the daughters of the Canaanites, among whom I dwell; **4** but that you will go to my country and to my kindred, and take a wife for my son Isaac. **5** And the servant said to him, Suppose the woman will not be willing to follow me to this land; must I then take your son back to the land from whence you came? **6** And Abraham said to him, Beware that you do not take my son thither again. **7** The LORD God of heaven, who took me from thence, from my father's household and from the land of my kindred, and who spoke to me, and who made a covenant with me, saying, To your descendants will I give this land; he shall send his angel before you, and you shall take a wife to my son from there. **8** And if the woman will not be willing to follow you, then you shall be clear from this my oath; only you must not take my son there again. **9** So the servant put his hand under the girdle of Abraham his master, and swore to him concerning this matter."

Abraham shares with his servant that it is the Lord God who brought him out of his father's house and out of the land where he had been born who had made a covenant with him to give him the land in which they were sojourning. I believe that Abraham knew that he would never hold title to the land that the Lord had brought him to or that his son Isaac and possibly his sons after him would have possession of the land of promise. This did not take away the hope that one generation would pass on down to another or the promise that would dig deep into the hearts of each succeeding generation.

It would not come to fruition until the Children of Israel cried out in their bondage to the Lord their God that He would finally bring to pass the promise that had been made to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. It would be this promise that a remnant in every generation would cling to and that would come to pass once more in our day with the creation of the modern country of Israel in 1948.

Many people place great hope in the prophetic signs that the creation of the state of Israel brings but we cannot allow the prophetic to overshadow or supplant the place of the Lord and His Son Yeshua in our hearts and deep within our souls. The Ruach or Spirit of God resides within each one of us and becomes active once we accept Yeshua as Messiah. Then again does the possibility exist that God's Spirit resides within everyone, even those who do not believe in Yeshua, and can work for the good of God even when the individual is not? I realize that what I am saying may be controversial but take a moment to think about it.

Genesis 2:7 And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.

It is very evident that it was the Lord God Almighty who breathed the very breath of life into the first man who walked this earth. There are those who speculate that man was not the first to walk upon this earth and that this would explain the remains that have been found which have been associated with what has been identified as prehistoric man. Some have speculated that these creatures did not have souls as God gave to Adam. I do not know as I was not there nor do I believe anything else alive today was. I realize this might sound dismissive but I am not trying to be. What I am trying to bring out is that God is so much more than we are and He chose to keep some things from us. It was His choice. His choices in many things have led to the speculation that abounds about so many things and the confusion that reigns. Perhaps if God had been more forthcoming and had shared more details with us maybe there would not be so much confusion, and then again, maybe this is part of God's plan to see where our faith takes us? He breathed the breath of life into the first man and it would be from that first man that the rest of mankind would come from. God jumps several generations until He comes to Abram who would come to be known as Abraham, the father of the faithful. He is called the father of the Jewish people, the father of Christian faith, and the father of the Islamic religion. He was the forerunner of the nations of faith which is more than simply the Jewish people. He was the great-grandfather of the sons of Jacob who would become the fathers of the tribes of Israel.

God had settled upon one family out of all the peoples of the earth through whom He would bring His plan for mankind to fruition. Even though God had promised Abraham that His covenant was to be with Abraham and his descendants, to be secured through the son of Abraham and Sarah, Abraham and Sarah did not trust in the Lord to bring this about. Instead they relied upon what they knew and in the end brought about problems that are with us down to our day.

1 Kings 1:5-14

5 Then Adonijah the son of Haggith exalted himself, saying, I will be king; and he prepared for himself chariots and horsemen, and fifty men to run before him. **6** And his father had never rebuked him at any time by saying, Why have you done so? And he also was a very handsome man; and his mother bore him after Absalom. **7** And he conferred with Joab the son of Zorihah and with Abiathar the priest; and they followed Adonijah and helped him. **8** But Zadok the priest and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada and Nathan the prophet and Shimei and Rei and the mighty men who belonged to

David were not with Adonijah. **9** And Adonijah sacrificed sheep and oxen and fat cattle by the great stone which is by En-kasra, and he invited all his brothers, the king's sons, and all the men of Judah and the king's servants; **10** But he did not invite Nathan the prophet; and Benaiah, the son of Jehoiada; and David's mighty men; and Solomon his brother; **11** Wherefore Nathan the prophet said to Bath-sheba the mother of Solomon, Have you not heard that Adonijah has become king, and David our lord does not know it? **12** Now therefore come, let me give you counsel, that you may save your own life and the life of your son Solomon. **13** Go and get you in to the King David and say to him, Did you not my lord, O king, swear to your handmaid, saying, Solomon your son shall reign after me, and he shall sit upon my throne? Why then does Adonijah reign? **14** And, while you are still speaking there in the presence of the king, I also will come in after you and confirm your words.

Adonijah did not want to accept that the Lord, through David, had chosen a king for Israel. Instead Adonijah went about lining up the support he would need to take the throne for himself. This would bring division to the kingdom of Israel and the house of David because God chose Solomon to follow David on the throne while Satan chose Adonijah. You might ask, "Where did he come up with that one?" I came to that conclusion because if it is not of God it must be of Satan because Satan is the counterpoint to God's will. Perhaps Satan thought he had the right to choose who would be the next one to sit on the throne of Israel because he was the ruler of this world?

Then again maybe he just did not want what was best for this world because he knew that conflict within the nation of Israel might destroy the nation from within if he could not wipe it out from the outside. Satan will strike at Israel in any way that he can. It is his desire that the nation chosen by God as His special people would be destroyed so that God's will cannot be done. Unfortunately, Satan does not believe the word of the Lord as found in the Holy Writ. Satan knows the word of God but just does not believe it.

1 Chronicles 21:1 Now Satan stood up against Israel, and moved David to number Israel.

Matthew 12:26 "If Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then will his kingdom stand?"

It has always been Satan's desire to wipe Israel off of the map. Maybe it was Satan who inspired Sarah to go to Abraham and have him sleep with her servant Hagar? It definitely was not God's intention for that to happen but because of Abraham's faith God allowed Ishmael to live as well as blessing him in his own right apart from Isaac though it was not the Arab people that God called out from all the nations of the earth as His own treasure.

Exodus 19:5 'Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth is Mine.

Deuteronomy 7:6 "For you *are* a holy people to the LORD your God; the LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for Himself, a special treasure above all the peoples on the face of the earth.

Deuteronomy 14:2 "For you *are* a holy people to the LORD your God, and the LORD has chosen you to be a people for Himself, a special treasure above all the peoples who *are* on the face of the earth.

Psalm 135:4 For the LORD has chosen Jacob for Himself, Israel for His special treasure.

Israel is His special people and the hope for mankind. It was through the nation of Israel born into the tribe of Judah of the Davidic line that Yeshua the Messiah, the Son of God, came into the world. Had God desired His Son to come through some other people or faith don't you think He could have done this? It is my personal belief that religion is of men and possibly Satan and it is not of God. The faith God called the men of old to had no name other than the worship of an invisible God who spoke to men when awake or asleep or met them where they were in the physical.

That is something very special don't you think? God came to earth not just 2,000 years ago but He appeared to men at different times and places.

Genesis 3:8 And they heard the sound of the LORD God **walking** in the garden in the cool of the day, and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.

Genesis 18:2 So he lifted his eyes and looked, and behold, three men were standing by him; and when he saw *them*, he ran from the tent door to meet them, and bowed himself to the ground, **3** and said, "My Lord, if I have now found favor in Your sight, do not pass on by Your servant.

Exodus 33:23 "Then I will take away My hand, and you shall see My back; but My face shall not be seen."

Joshua 5:14 So He said, "No, but as Commander of the army of the LORD I have now come." And Joshua fell on his face to the earth and worshiped, and said to Him, "What does my Lord say to His servant?" **15** Then the Commander of the LORD's army said to Joshua, "Take your sandal off your foot, for the place where you stand is holy." And Joshua did so.

There are other places in the Bible where God appeared to men but the verses above are just a few of the most common ones. It is obvious that God has appeared to men throughout history. What this should teach us is that God had constantly reached out to mankind in order to connect with us. He does not sit up in heaven on His throne looking down upon us like the mythological gods of old moving us around like chess pieces on a board though, upon reflection, that may be exactly what He is doing as He counterpoints Satan in his moves of mankind.

God has a plan that started from before we were ever created because we are told that Yeshua died before the foundation of the earth was laid.

Revelation 13:8 All who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.

Yeshua existed from before the beginning and He will be there at the end of all things.

Hebrews 9:25-26

25 not that He should offer Himself often, as the high priest enters the Most Holy Place every year with blood of another -- **26** He then would have had to suffer often since the foundation of the

world; but now, once at the end of the ages, He has appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself.

In these two verses we see that God had a plan before we were created because God knows the beginning and the end. All that is, is because He willed it into being with His Word and His Spirit. The very essence of this creation is built upon the foundation of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. However you choose to see God, whether as One or Three, God was, is and will be because He is the true Rock upon which this creation is built.

1 Peter 1:20 He indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you.

The Apostle Peter knew who Yeshua was and where He had come from. He knew He was not like you or me but was beyond that. He had come from His Father to fulfill the Father's word and had come to a world desperately needing Him though probably not aware of that need. We have always needed God but we ignore the obvious. Just look at the state of the world today and if you don't think we need Yeshua or His Father today, right now, then you are looking at a different picture than I am. Praise be to God that He did send His Son into the world to offer the gift of redemption to us. He could have simply brought another flood upon the earth and wiped us out again but think back to the flood of Noah's day and understand it was a warning for us and a message of hope that there would always be a remnant that God will bring through the darkest hour. Yeshua's teachings mirror this promise and He is a servant of His Father.

John 8:12 Then Yeshua spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."

John 9:4 "I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; *the* night is coming when no one can work. **5** "As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

These verses bring to mind this one:

Genesis 1:2 The earth was without form, and void; and darkness *was* on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. **3** Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. **4** And God saw the light, that *it was* good; and God divided the light from the darkness.

Just recently I was asked when Satan was created and when the battle between God and Satan took place. It is possible that this took place in these few verses. Here we are in the beginning as God was starting to create. The Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters and God spoke and said "Let there be light." Isn't it possible that this was the moment when He brought forth His Word and His Word was Yeshua the light of the world? The darkness was already there but in this moment God set apart the light from the darkness and called the light good but had no comment on the darkness. Could it have been that this was when Satan rose up when He saw that the Father had made manifest His Word as light and Satan rebelled against His Creator?

The reason I am speculating about this is because the creation of the sun, moon, and stars came later. Something other than these was bringing light into the world and I believe this was the light of the Word of God made manifest in the darkness that would one day envelope mankind and in that

darkest of hours the light of the Lord will once more bring hope to mankind when Yeshua comes again for the last time.

Genesis 25:8-9: Then Abraham became sick, and died in a good old age, an old man satisfied with his days; and was gathered to his people. And his sons Isaac and Ishmael buried him in the double cave, (Machpelah) which is in the field of Ephron the son of Zohar the Hittite, which is before Mamre.

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