



**Message 11-26-16**  
**Chayei Sarah-Life of Sarah**  
**Genesis 23:1-25:18**  
**1Kings 1:1-31**  
**Matthew 1:1**

**Introduction**

God's love for humanity is revealed in the love two people feel for each other. Jewish tradition repeats the insight that human beings are fulfilled through their love for one another and in the loving deeds they can perform for each other. Today's Torah Portion testifies to that power of love.

**Genesis 25:7-11**

**7** These are the days of the years of Abraham's life, 175 years. <sup>8</sup> Abraham breathed his last and died in a good old age, an old man and full of years, and was gathered to his people. <sup>9</sup> Isaac and Ishmael his sons buried him in the cave of Machpelah, in the field of Ephron the son of Zohar the Hittite, east of Mamre, <sup>10</sup> the field that Abraham purchased from the Hittites. There Abraham was buried, with Sarah his wife. <sup>11</sup> After the death of Abraham, God blessed Isaac his son. And Isaac settled at Beer-lahai-roi. (ESV)

Abraham died at the age of 175 years. The Scripture tells us it was a good old age and that he was an old man. Old age in this passage actually means he had a hoary head, or gray or white hair, which represented a "crown of glory." I would have to agree with this in Abraham's case. He had done his best in life to follow the Holy One who had a covenant with him that would be passed on down to his son Isaac and then to Jacob. From there the covenant would be re-instituted with Israel at Mount Sinai. The covenant that Israel would receive at Mount Sinai was the same one that Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob had received. It was a land grant in exchange for following the covenant, but the Patriarchs, while living in various parts of the land, never had full possession of it. They only owned Machpelah and the land around it where the burial cave for the Patriarchs and their wives were buried. Legend has it that Adam and Chavah were also buried there, but there is no physical evidence of this. One hundred and seventy-five years old is a good old age but falls short of the 900 plus years those who were born pre-flood. In our day, there are some who are living to 100 years and beyond, but who knows how much further we will be able to go with the help of technology.

It seems that as the world advances technologically, it is stuck where it has always been without one's love for their fellow man. It would seem mankind is regressing as quickly as

it had advanced. The schisms are there and extremely difficult to get past as sides are drawn, words are exchanged, and then fighting begins. But is this any different than what we read in the Bible? Is this a prophecy coming to pass in our day and time? I can't say for sure, but all we can do is watch and read our Bibles to see the truth. If we keep moving away from the Biblical reality and follow the path of the prophecies of old, we should be aware of the road we are travelling and where we are going to wind up.

### **1 Kings 1:15-27**

**15** So Bathsheba went to the king in his chamber (now the king was very old, and Abishag the Shunammite was attending to the king). <sup>16</sup> Bathsheba bowed and paid homage to the king, and the king said, "What do you desire?" <sup>17</sup> She said to him, "My lord, you swore to your servant by the LORD your God, saying, 'Solomon your son shall reign after me, and he shall sit on my throne.'<sup>18</sup> And now, behold, Adonijah is king, although you, my lord the king, do not know it. <sup>19</sup> He has sacrificed oxen, fattened cattle, and sheep in abundance, and has invited all the sons of the king, Abiathar the priest, and Joab the commander of the army, but Solomon your servant he has not invited. <sup>20</sup> And now, my lord the king, the eyes of all Israel are on you, to tell them who shall sit on the throne of my lord the king after him. <sup>21</sup> Otherwise it will come to pass, when my lord the king sleeps with his fathers, that I and my son Solomon will be counted offenders." <sup>22</sup> While she was still speaking with the king, Nathan the prophet came in. <sup>23</sup> And they told the king, "Here is Nathan the prophet." And when he came in before the king, he bowed before the king, with his face to the ground. <sup>24</sup> And Nathan said, "My lord the king, have you said, 'Adonijah shall reign after me, and he shall sit on my throne'?" <sup>25</sup> For he has gone down this day and has sacrificed oxen, fattened cattle, and sheep in abundance, and has invited all the king's sons, the commanders of the army, and Abiathar the priest. And behold, they are eating and drinking before him, and saying, 'Long live King Adonijah!' <sup>26</sup> But me, your servant, and Zadok the priest, and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, and your servant Solomon he has not invited. <sup>27</sup> Has this thing been brought about by my lord the king and you have not told your servants who should sit on the throne of my lord the king after him?" (ESV)

*"Now the king was very old."* There seems to be a connection between this passage and the one from our Torah reading this week. This is the passage where David's son Adonijah was trying to succeed his father and become the next king of Israel. Bathsheba, Solomon's mother, was told by the prophet Nathan what Adonijah was trying to do. So, she was petitioning the king to make sure her son would be the next king of Israel. It was Saul's hope that his son Jonathan would succeed him, but he was killed along with his father. Even though Jonathan was David's friend, the Almighty had chosen David to be the next king of Israel. When Moses knew his time was coming to an end, he asked the Almighty to choose who to lead Israel after him. Moses did not do the choosing. He left it up to the Holy One, and He chose Joshua.

Maybe if the kings of Israel would have followed this, we would not have had the problems that arose from dynasty building, but then again the Holy One had told David He would establish his throne and make sure there would always be a descendant of David on it. How would things have turned out if it was the Almighty who chose the leaders of Israel? Wouldn't it be the same situation we see all around us today. Is it the Almighty choosing God-fearing men and women to lead the nations all around the world or simply putting

His plan into motion by placing the leaders the people want instead of the ones He wants. So, what does He do, He puts the people they want and allows Satan to move them as He wishes, but in the end, it is the Almighty's hand that is moving everything to its inevitable conclusion. The Bible tells us what the end results will be, but everyone wants to believe they will live forever, and there is truth in that but only by asking Yeshua for forgiveness. Many people cannot do that because they are too caught up in themselves.

Maybe, just maybe, the reason the world finds itself with leaders who should not be leaders is because the Lord is allowing them to be placed in leadership, since it is part of His plan for what is coming according to books of the Prophets and the Book of Revelation. Even Yeshua shared some prophetic insights now and again, but in His case, were they prophetic insights or actual events that have already taken place on the time line as the Almighty guides us to the end He has told us? I realize that I am making assumptions here, and I understand that, but we are seeing the future opening up right before our eyes.

**Proverbs 24:19** Do not be **vexed** by evildoers; do not be incensed by the wicked; <sup>20</sup> For there is no future for the evil man; the lamp of the wicked goes out. (TNK)

<02734> חָרָה *charah* (354a)

**Meaning:** *to burn or be kindled with anger*

We are told not to allow ourselves to be bothered by evildoers. That is easier said than done. It's hard not be bothered by the things we see and read about, even though we may not understand the whole story when we see it unfolding. We may jump to conclusions, and the bottom line is we have to be patient while the situation plays itself out before us, or we receive more information about what happened or is happening.

**Jeremiah 29:11** For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope. (NKJ)

**1 Timothy 6:18** *Instruct them* to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, <sup>19</sup> storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is life indeed. <sup>20</sup> O Timothy, guard what has been entrusted to you, avoiding worldly *and* empty chatter *and* the opposing arguments of what is falsely called "knowledge" -- <sup>21</sup> which some have professed and thus gone astray from the faith. Grace be with you. (NAU)

The Shaliach Shaul gave Timothy good advice. It is something we should pay attention to and try to do ourselves. As leaders, we are to teach what we have been taught, and we need to let the people know they should be doing good works, be generous, and ready to share. This is what a good foundation is built upon preparing our futures. Timothy was told to guard what he has been taught disregarding what the world has to say. There will be opposition concerning what we teach, but as long as we can fall back on our foundation of Messiah and Torah, we will get through these times of trials. We have a promise given

to each one of us to hold on to tightly. Ignore what others claim to be knowledge when it is nothing more than endless chatter coming from those who have turned their back on their faith – their Biblical faith in YHWH.

### **Matthew 1:1**

1The book of the genealogy of Yeshua the Messiah, the son of David, the son of Abraham. (Mat 1:1 ESV)

Why does the genealogy of Messiah go back to Abraham? Yeshua is the son of David, as He is the rightful king of Israel and the world. He is the son of Abraham according to his righteousness by his faith in the one, true God of the universe.

The genealogy of Yeshua is fairly simple if we stick to the short version given here in Matthew 1:1, as opposed to how it is given elsewhere in two of the Gospel accounts. Here we are told, Yeshua the Messiah, the son of David, the son of Abraham. The Messiah would come through the line of David so as to bear witness to His right to the throne of Israel. The kings of Israel were to come through the line of David. Why the reference to Abraham? It is because he is acknowledged as the father of the faithful. When called by God to leave his father's house and the land of his father, he did as he was told. When the Lord promised that he and Sarah would have a son, he may have wondered how but accepted it. When he was told to sacrifice his son Isaac, he was willing to do it foreshadowing the sacrifice of Yeshua. Abraham and David bear witness to the Messiah Yeshua as do many other Biblical heroes of the faith. They were both men of faith. David, in times of distress, plagued with trials and tribulations but holding on to his faith and crying out to the Holy One to help him. Abraham, wandering in a land that had been promised to him yet never owning it, except for a small piece where he buried his wife Sarah.

Look at things from that point of view, if you would, we see the whole world as belonging to us, but in the end, all we will get is what the Lord has promised. Divine Destiny is what God gives you, not what you give yourself.

***Torah Man says, "One way to break a habit is to drop it."***

Blessings in Messiah Yeshua,

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If you are not learning Torah, we invite you to attend JSI University, an accredited Distance Learning Institute for Yeshua based Judaic Studies of Higher Education. Drop us a line at [student.support@jsi-edu.org](mailto:student.support@jsi-edu.org) and request a Prospectus and visit our website at [www.jsi-edu.org](http://www.jsi-edu.org) and check us out. You can earn an approved degree or take the courses to help you grow in your understanding.



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