

Genesis

Chapter 25:1-11

✚ **Gen 25:1-6** 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.*

Remember last week I told there would be another wedding?

Did you think the one getting married would be Abraham?

The time from chapter 23 when Sarah died to the end of 24 where Isaac got married was about three years. So it was at least three years after Sarah had died that Abraham got married.

Does this mean we should wait three years to remarry if our spouse dies?

No, it was just Abraham's choice to wait this long, but not a commandment from God to wait at least three years.

Abraham's new wife was named Keturah (ket-oo-raw'), which means, "incense" or "smoke". Now even though this was Abraham's wife, she was not a wife like Sarah was.

† **1 Chron 1:32a** *Now the sons born to Keturah, Abraham's concubine.*

Notice here in 1 Chronicles, that it calls Abraham's new wife a concubine.

The concubine was a wife of secondary rank or lower ranking. They had no authority in the family, nor could they share in the household government. We see this being true in verse 5 where Abraham sent away Keturah's son with no argument from her at all.

Remember back in chapter 21

† **Gen 21:9-10** *And Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, scoffing. ¹⁰ Therefore she said to Abraham, "Cast out this bondwoman and her son; for the son of this bondwoman shall not be heir with my son, namely with Isaac."*

Here Sarah was upset with Ishmael and took control over her household by going to Abraham and telling him to get rid of this kid and his mother.

But that wasn't the case here; it was Abraham's choice with Keturah not having any say in it at all. Before Abraham sent his son's away (except for Isaac) he gave them gifts, kind of like something to help them get started in their new life away from Abraham.

Also notice it says at the end of verse 6 ***But Abraham gave gifts to the sons of the concubines which Abraham had;*** This would mean not only the sons of Keturah but also the son of Hagar which was Ishmael. It is very possible that Hagar was alive at this time, we don't know because the bible doesn't mention her death.

“But it's not fair for Abraham to get rid of his son's like this, right?”

God was in Abraham's life, even with every decision that Abraham made, whether he made bad decisions or good ones, God still allowed His will to be done, because everything does have a purpose. And even though it may not sound right, good did come out of these son's of Abraham being sent away. The good came around 500 years later with Moses.

‡ ***Ex 2:15-16*** ¹⁵ *When Pharaoh heard of this matter, he sought to kill Moses. But Moses fled from the face of Pharaoh and dwelt in the land of Midian; and he sat down by a well. ¹⁶ Now the priest of Midian had seven daughters. And they came and drew water, and they filled the troughs to water their father's flock.*

These sons of Abraham that were sent away, became the land of Midian known as the Midianites. Now if you read the whole story in Exodus chapter 2 you will read of how Moses comes and helps these seven daughters of the priest of Midian and Moses ends up marrying the oldest one.

‡ ***Ex 2:21*** *Then Moses was content to live with the man, and he gave Zipporah his daughter to Moses.*

So even though Satan may mean something for bad, trust in the Lord that He (God) is in control of all things, good or bad, and God will be glorified even through the mistakes you made in the past.

“So I might as well keep on sinning because God will glorified anyway, right?”

‡ ***Romans 5:20-6:4 (NLT)*** ²⁰ *God's law was given so that all people could see how sinful they were. But as people sinned more and more, God's wonderful kindness became more abundant. ²¹ So just as sin ruled over all people and brought them to death, now God's wonderful kindness rules instead, giving us right standing with God and resulting in eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

¹ *Well then, should we keep on sinning so that God can show us more and more kindness and forgiveness? ² Of course not! Since we have died to sin, how can we continue to live in it? ³ Or have you forgotten that when we became Christians and were baptized to become one with Christ Jesus, we died with him? ⁴ For we died and were buried with Christ by baptism. And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives.*

Don't allow the lies of Satan to allow you to continue in your sin. If you have accepted Jesus as your Lord and Savior, then you are free from sin. It doesn't mean that you won't sin any more, it means you now strive, or try to no longer sin. Not to get into heaven, because we can't earn our way into heaven. But we do it out of obedience to God our Father.

"But Steve, I try and try. I've prayed and prayed but I still have this sin that I can't get rid of. Am I really a Christian if I do this?" you may be asking.

✠ **1 John 1:8-10 (NLT)** ⁸ *If we say we have no sin, we are only fooling ourselves and refusing to accept the truth.* ⁹ *But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us and to cleanse us from every wrong.* ¹⁰ *If we claim we have not sinned, we are calling God a liar and showing that his word has no place in our hearts.*

✠ **Romans 10:10-11** ¹⁰ *For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.* ¹¹ *For the Scripture says, "Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame."*

We know that God hates sin, and we also know that from these verses, that if we confess our sins we are forgiven. If you fall into sin, or you are struggling with a sin(s) seeking God's help and forgiveness, then that is a good thing (not the sin part). Because it shows you're one with God and in agreement with Him that your sinning is wrong.

Now if you didn't care about your sin(s), but just continue with no second thought about them, then I would urge you to seek the Lord and ask His forgiveness and ask Him to change your heart.

There are two things mentioned in Romans 10:10 (see above) that will help you determine if you are a Christian or not.

The first is believing with your heart, with the key word being your heart, or the attitude of your heart. The attitude of the heart, we just mentioned in regards to your sin(s). If you hate your sins just as God does, then you have a good attitude of the heart. But if you don't care about your sins or even others sinning then your attitude of the heart is not good.

The second thing mentioned is confession with the mouth.

✠ **Matt 10:32-33** *"Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven."*

✠ **1 John 4:2-3** *By this you know the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is of God, and every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God. And this is the*

spirit of the Antichrist, which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world.

† **1 John 4:15** *Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God.*

Are you confessing Jesus as your Lord and Savior, or are you cursing Jesus maybe even using His name as a curse word? To put this all together, whatever comes out of your mouth will reveal your heart to you.

† **Matt 15:16-20** *So Jesus said, "Are you also still without understanding? Do you not yet understand that whatever enters the mouth goes into the stomach and is eliminated? But those things which proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and they defile a man. For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies. "These are the things which defile a man, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile a man."*

Maybe God has been revealing your heart to you through His word in this study or other means. He's not doing it because He hates you; in fact it's the opposite. Both God and Jesus Love you and They want you to be with Them for all eternity in heaven!

The choice is now up to you, whether you will accept His love or reject it? Will you confess Jesus to others or deny Him as others do? If you are ready for a change in your heart, then today is the day of salvation.

† **2 Cor 6:1-2 (NLT)** ¹ *As God's partners, we beg you not to reject this marvelous message of God's great kindness.* ² *For God says,*

*"At just the right time, I heard you.
On the day of salvation, I helped you."*

Indeed, God is ready to help you right now. Today is the day of salvation.

All you need to do is pray this prayer from your heart (Remember "***But those things which proceed out of the mouth come from the heart,***")

Just pray:

*Jesus, I admit to You that I am a sinner. I ask You to please forgive me of all my sins. I believe You died on the cross for my sins and I also believe that You rose from the dead. Please come into my heart and make me clean and new. Please change the attitude of my heart and fill me with Your Holy Spirit that I may confess you to others. Thank You Jesus. I love you.
I ask this in your name Jesus. AMEN!*

Now is that to cool or what? Don't you feel a weight of guilt lifted off your shoulders? Now go tell some one what you just did and what Jesus did for them too. And if you don't have anyone to tell, send me a E-mail and let me know.

After the joy of all that, I almost hate to go to the next verses because they're sad ones.

✠ **Gen 25:7-11** 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. ¹¹ And it came to pass, after the death of Abraham, that God blessed his son Isaac. And Isaac dwelt at Beer Lahai Roi.*

We have had a great study on Abraham; actually we studied 100 years of Abraham's life;

✠ **Gen 12:4** *So Abram departed as the LORD had spoken to him, and Lot went with him. And Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.*

Starting at the end of chapter 11 where Abram's name was first mentioned and up to this point at the beginning of chapter 25.

✠ **Gen 11:27** *This is the genealogy of Terah: Terah begot Abram, Nahor, and Haran. Haran begot Lot.*

I think we'll stop right at this point, because next week we will take a look back over the last hundred years of Abraham's life and continue on in chapter 25.

God bless you and have a great week. Also remember to feel free to E-mail me with your questions regarding this study or anything about the bible or Christianity.