

Remember His Resolutions

Intro:

Some resolutions are better than others - video

Problem:

there is no hope in your resolutions - Mk 14:26-31

there is however hope in His - Rom 8:28

Gen 22:20-23:20 illustrates this perfectly

Main Idea:

Even when it seems like you are waiting

Remember His resolutions - He is working

Even when it feels like everything is falling apart

Remember His resolutions - everything is falling into place

Implication:

Heb 6:13-20 (we have an even better anchor - an empty grave)

heb 11:8-16 (Abraham knew that God's promises are bigger than this life and he resolved to pursue them)

Heb 11:39-40 (They didn't have the whole story - we do)

Application:

Heb 12:1-2 (do not resolve to run the race you set before you - resolve to run the race He sets before you)

2 Thess 1:11-12 (our resolutions are redeemed when they are rooted in His)

Resources for further study:

<https://www.ligonier.org/blog/4-christian-principles-making-new-years-resolutions/>

<https://www.gotquestions.org/promises-of-God.html>

Remember His Resolutions

Text

Even when it seems like you are waiting

Gen. 22:20 ¶ Now **after these things it was told** to Abraham, "Behold, Milcah also has borne children to your brother Nahor:
after these things

- Gen 22:1-2, 7-19 (God made a resolution)

it was told

- Gen 11:26-30 (nothing is happening- no God)

Remember His resolutions - He is working

Gen. 22:21 Uz his firstborn, Buz his brother, Kemuel the father of Aram,

Gen. 22:22 Chesed, Hazo, Pildash, Jidlaph, and Bethuel."

Gen. 22:23 (Bethuel fathered **Rebekah**.) These eight Milcah bore to Nahor, Abraham's brother.

Gen. 22:24 Moreover, his concubine, whose name was Reumah, bore Tebah, Gaham, Tahash, and Maacah.

Rebekah

- Gen 24:1-7, 45-49 (you can see Him in hindsight - He is keeping it)

Even when it feel like everything is falling apart

Gen. 23:1 ¶ Sarah lived 127 years; these were the years of the life of Sarah (*only woman in Bible with lifespan recorded*).

Gen. 23:2 And Sarah **died** at Kiriath-arba (that is, Hebron) in **the land of Canaan**, and Abraham went in to mourn for Sarah and to **weep** (first reference to weeping) for her. (*not a lot of detail in contrast to purchase of land?*)

died

- Gen 17:1-21 (exceedingly fruitful?) -> Matt 14:22-31 (looked hopeless)

Remember His resolutions - everything is falling into place

Gen. 23:3 **And Abraham rose up** from before his dead and said to the Hittites,

Gen. 23:4 "I am a sojourner and foreigner among you; **give me property** among you for a **burying place**, that I may bury my dead out of my sight."

Gen. 23:5 The Hittites answered Abraham,

Gen. 23:6 "Hear us, my lord; you are a prince of God among us. Bury your dead in the choicest of our tombs. None of us will withhold from you his tomb to hinder you from burying your dead."

Gen. 23:7 Abraham rose and bowed to the Hittites, the people of the land.

Gen. 23:8 And he said to them, "If you are willing that I should bury my dead out of my sight, hear me and entreat for me Ephron the son of Zohar,

Gen. 23:9 that he may give me **the cave of Machpelah**, which he owns; it is at the end of his field. For the full price let him give it to me in your presence as **property** for a burying place."

Gen. 23:10 ¶ Now Ephron was sitting among the Hittites, and Ephron the Hittite answered Abraham in the hearing of the Hittites, of all who went in at the gate of his city,

Gen. 23:11 "No, my lord, hear me: I give you the field, and I give you the cave that is in it. In the sight of the sons of my people I give it to you. Bury your dead."

Gen. 23:12 Then Abraham bowed down before the people of the land.

Gen. 23:13 And he said to Ephron in the hearing of the people of the land, "But if you will, hear me: I give the price of the field. Accept it from me, that I may bury my dead there."

Gen. 23:14 Ephron answered Abraham,

Gen. 23:15 "My lord, listen to me: a piece of land worth **four hundred shekels of silver**, what is that between you and me? Bury your dead."

Gen. 23:16 Abraham listened to Ephron, and Abraham weighed out for Ephron the silver that he had named in the hearing of the Hittites, four hundred shekels of silver, according to the weights current among the merchants.

Gen. 23:17 ¶ **So the field of Ephron in Machpelah, which was to the east of Mamre, the field with the cave that was in it and all the trees that were in the field, throughout its whole area, was made over**

Gen. 23:18 to Abraham as a possession in the presence of the Hittites, before all who went in at the gate of his city.

Gen. 23:19 After this, Abraham buried Sarah his wife in the cave of the field of Machpelah east of Mamre (that is, Hebron) **in the land of Canaan**.

Gen. 23:20 The field and the cave that is in it were made over to Abraham as **property** for a **burying place** by the Hittites.

Abraham rose up

- 1 Thess 4:13 (he did not weep like the world)

- rev 21:4 (do we?)

- 1 Cor 15:50-55 (our response to death is our megaphone)

400 silver

- Gen 14:22-23 (no strings attached)

- Jer 32:1-15 (Abraham believed the promise of God)

property (4, 9, 20) for a burying place

- Gen 25:9-10; 49:29-32; 50:13 (this occupied grave is about more than possession and property it is a proclamation, an anchor of hope tying the Jews to the promise of God)