

“What Is Your Life”

Genesis 25:1-18

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February 22, 2026

Big Idea: *Every Life Ends, But God’s Promises Do Not!*

“All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness so that the man [or woman of God] is made complete, equipped for every good work.” (2 Tim 3:16-17)

Lord, *“Open my eyes, that I may behold the wondrous things out of your law.” (Ps.119:18)*

I. What You Leave Behind (vv.1-6)

Genesis 23 records the death of Sarah

A *concubine* in the ancient world was a legally recognized secondary wife, under the protection of the household, but whose children did not share in the primary inheritance.

- **1 Chronicles 1:32** *“The sons of Keturah, Abraham’s concubine: she bore Zimran, Jokshan, Medan, Midian, Ishbak, and Shuah. The sons of Jokshan: Sheba and Dedan.”*

Genesis 12 & 17 The Call and Covenant Promise with Abraham

- Genesis 17:21 *“But I will establish my covenant with Isaac, whom Sarah shall bear to you at this time next year.”*

In Genesis, “east” often signals movement away from covenant blessing:

- After the fall, Adam and Eve are driven east of Eden (Genesis 3:24)
- Cain settles east of Eden after killing his brother (Genesis 4:16)
- Babel’s builders migrate east after trying to make a name for themselves (Genesis 11:2)
- Lot chooses land east toward Sodom (Genesis 13)

This section is not about favoritism or fairness.

It’s about God’s divine plan and how God moves His redemptive purposes along.

II. How Your Life Is Remembered (vv.7-11)

That phrase *“full of years”* carries the idea of being satisfied, content, complete.

- **Genesis 15:15** *“You shall go to your fathers in peace... in a good old age.”*

The Good, The Bad, The Ugly.

- The Good

He Left Everything at God’s Word (Genesis 12:1–4)

He Believed God’s Promise (Genesis 15:5–6)

He Interceded for Other (Genesis 18:22–33)

He Worshiped (Genesis 12:7-8; Genesis 13:4, 18)

He Offered Isaac in Faith (Genesis 22:1–14)

- The Bad

He Lied About Sarah (Genesis 12:10–20)

He Lied Again (Genesis 20:1–18).

He Listened to Sarai and Took Hagar (Genesis 16:1–4)

He Laughed in Unbelief (Genesis 17:17) [Though this is mixed with wonder, it shows struggle]

- The Ugly [These are not necessarily sins alone, but painful chapters of a complicated life]

Family Division and Jealousy (Genesis 16:4–6)

Casting Out Hagar and Ishmael (Genesis 21:9–14)

Long Seasons of Waiting (Promise given in Genesis 12; Isaac is born in Genesis 21; 25 years waiting)

The defining mark of Abraham’s life was “faith.”

- **Genesis 15:6** *“He believed the LORD.”*
- **Romans 4:3** *“Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness.”*
- **Hebrews 11:8** *“By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called...”*

III. The Promise Outlives you (vv.12-18)

Genesis 16:10 *“I will surely multiply your offspring so that they cannot be numbered for multitude.”*

Genesis 16:12 *“he shall dwell over against all his kinsmen.”*

Genesis 17:20 *“As for Ishmael... I have blessed him... He shall father twelve princes.”*

Galatians 3:16 *“The promises were made to Abraham and to his offspring... who is Christ.”*

Reflection Questions

1. What is your life?
2. What are you leaving behind?
3. How will you be remembered?
4. Are you living for something that outlives you?