

Chayei Sara, Torah, November 19, 2022

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Genesis 23:1-24:9

(1) Sarah's lifetime—the span of Sarah's life—came to one hundred and twenty-seven years. (2) Sarah died in Kiriath-arba—now Hebron—in the land of Canaan; and Abraham proceeded to mourn for Sarah and to bewail her. (3) Then Abraham rose from beside his dead, and spoke to the Hittites, saying, (4) “I am a resident alien among you; sell me a burial site among you, that I may remove my dead for burial.” (5) And the Hittites replied to Abraham, saying to him, (6) “Hear us, my lord: you are the elect of God among us. Bury your dead in the choicest of our burial places; none of us will withhold his burial place from you for burying your dead.” (7) Thereupon Abraham bowed low to

בראשית כ"ג-כ"ד:ט'

(א) וַיְהִי תַיִי שָׁרָה מֵאָה שָׁנָה
וְעֶשְׂרִים שָׁנָה וְשִׁבְעַת שָׁנִים שָׁנֵי
תַיִי שָׁרָה: (ב) וַתָּמָת שָׁרָה בְּקִרְיַת
אַרְבַּע הִוא חֶבְרוֹן בְּאֶרֶץ כְּנָעַן
וַיָּבֵא אַבְרָהָם לְסֹפֵד לְשָׁרָה
וּלְבִכְתָּהּ: (ג) וַיִּקָּם אַבְרָהָם מֵעַל
פָּנָיו מֵתוֹ וַיְדַבֵּר אֶל-בְּנֵי-חֵת לֵאמֹר:
(ד) גֵּר-וְתוֹשָׁב אָנֹכִי עִמָּכֶם תָּנוּ לִי
אַחֲזֵת-קֶבֶר עִמָּכֶם וְאֶקְבְּרָה מֵתִי
מִלְפָּנַי: (ה) וַיַּעֲנוּ בְנֵי-חֵת
אֶת-אַבְרָהָם לֵאמֹר לוֹ: (ו) שְׁמָעֵנוּ
| אֲדֹנָי נְשִׂיא אֱלֹהִים אַתָּה בְּתוֹכֵנוּ
בְּמִבְחָר קֶבְרֵינוּ קֶבֶר אֶת-מֵתְךָ
אִישׁ מִמֶּנּוּ אֶת-קֶבְרוֹ לֹא-יִכְלֶה
מִמֶּךָ מִקֶּבֶר מֵתְךָ: (ז) וַיִּקָּם
אַבְרָהָם וַיִּשְׁתַּחוּ לְעַם-הָאָרֶץ
לְבְנֵי-חֵת: (ח) וַיְדַבֵּר אִתָּם לֵאמֹר

the landowning citizens, the Hittites, (8) and he said to them, “If it is your wish that I remove my dead for burial, you must agree to intercede for me with Ephron son of Zohar. (9) Let him sell me the cave of Machpelah that he owns, which is at the edge of his land. Let him sell it to me, at the full price, for a burial site in your midst.” (10) Ephron was present among the Hittites; so Ephron the Hittite answered Abraham in the hearing of the Hittites, the assembly in his town’s gate, saying, (11) “No, my lord, hear me: I give you the field and I give you the cave that is in it; I give it to you in the presence of my people. Bury your dead.” (12) Then Abraham bowed low before the landowning citizens, (13) and spoke to Ephron in the hearing of the landowning citizens, saying, “If only you would hear me out! Let me pay the price of the land; accept it from me, that I may bury

אִם-יֵישׁ אֶת-נַפְשְׁכֶם לְקַבֵּר
אֶת-מִתִּי מִלְּפָנַי שְׂמָעוּנִי וּפְגַעוּ-לִי
בְּעַפְרוֹן בֶּן-צֹחַר: (ט) וַיִּתְּן-לִי
אֶת-מְעָרַת הַמַּכְפֵּלָה אֲשֶׁר-לוֹ
אֲשֶׁר בְּקִצְהָ שָׂדֶהוּ בְּכֶסֶף מְלֵא
יְהוּנָה לִי בְּתוֹכְכֶם לְאַחֲזַת-קֶבֶר:
(י) וְעַפְרוֹן יָשָׁב בְּתוֹךְ בְּנֵי-חֵת וַיַּעַן
עַפְרוֹן הַחִתִּי אֶת-אַבְרָהָם בְּאָזְנֵי
בְּנֵי-חֵת לְכֹל בְּאֵי שְׂעַר-עִירוֹ
לֵאמֹר: (יא) לֹא-אֲדַנִּי שְׂמָעוּנִי
הַשָּׂדֶה נָתַתִּי לָךְ וְהַמְעָרָה אֲשֶׁר-בּוֹ
לָךְ נָתַתִּיהָ לְעֵינַי בְּנֵי-עַמִּי נָתַתִּיהָ
לָךְ קֶבֶר מִתְּךָ: (יב) וַיִּשְׁתַּחוּ
אַבְרָהָם לְפָנָי עִם הָאָרֶץ: (יג)
וַיְדַבֵּר אֶל-עַפְרוֹן בְּאָזְנֵי עַם-הָאָרֶץ
לֵאמֹר אֵךְ אִם-אַתָּה לוֹ שְׂמָעוּנִי
נָתַתִּי כֶסֶף הַשָּׂדֶה קַח מִמֶּנִּי
וְאֶקְבְּרָה אֶת-מִתִּי שָׂמָה: (יד) וַיַּעַן
עַפְרוֹן אֶת-אַבְרָהָם לֵאמֹר לוֹ: (טו)
אֲדַנִּי שְׂמָעוּנִי אָרֶץ אַרְבַּע מֵאֹת
שֶׁקֶל-כֶּסֶף בִּינִי וּבִינְךָ מִהֶהוּא

my dead there.” (14) And Ephron replied to Abraham, saying to him, (15) “My lord, do hear me! A piece of land worth four hundred shekels of silver—what is that between you and me? Go and bury your dead.” (16) Abraham accepted Ephron’s terms. Abraham paid out to Ephron the money that he had named in the hearing of the Hittites—four hundred shekels of silver at the going merchants’ rate. (17) So Ephron’s land in Machpelah, near Mamre—the field with its cave and all the trees anywhere within the confines of that field—passed (18) to Abraham as his possession, in the presence of the Hittites, of the assembly in his town’s gate. (19) And then Abraham buried his wife Sarah in the cave of the field of Machpelah, facing Mamre—now Hebron—in the land of Canaan. (20) Thus the field with its cave passed from the Hittites to Abraham, as a burial

וְאֶת־מֵתוֹ קָבַר: (טז) וַיִּשְׁמַע
אֲבֵרָהָם אֶל־עֶפְרוֹן וַיִּשְׁקַל אֲבֵרָהָם
לְעֶפְרוֹן אֶת־הַכֶּסֶף אֲשֶׁר דִּבֶּר
בְּאָזְנֵי בְנֵי־חֵת אַרְבַּע מֵאוֹת שֶׁקֶל
כֶּסֶף עֶבֶר לְסֹחֵר: (יז) וַיִּנָּקֶם |
שָׂדֵה עֶפְרוֹן אֲשֶׁר בַּמְּכֹפֶלֶה אֲשֶׁר
לְפָנַי מִמְּרָא הַשָּׂדֵה וְהַמְּעָרָה
אֲשֶׁר־בּוֹ וְכָל־הָעֵץ אֲשֶׁר בַּשָּׂדֵה
אֲשֶׁר בְּכָל־גְּבֻלוֹ סָבִיב: (יח)
לְאֲבֵרָהָם לְמַקְנָה לְעֵינֵי בְנֵי־חֵת
בְּכָל בָּאֵי שְׁעַר־עִירוֹ: (יט)
וְאַחֲרֵי־כֵן קָבַר אֲבֵרָהָם אֶת־שָׂרָה
אִשְׁתּוֹ אֶל־מְעָרַת שָׂדֵה הַמְּכֹפֶלֶה
עַל־פְּנֵי מִמְּרָא הוּא חֶבְרוֹן בְּאֶרֶץ
כְּנָעַן: (כ) וַיִּקֶם הַשָּׂדֵה וְהַמְּעָרָה
אֲשֶׁר־בּוֹ לְאֲבֵרָהָם לְאַחֲזֵת־קָבַר
מֵאֵת בְּנֵי־חֵת: {ס} (א) וְאֲבֵרָהָם
זָקֵן בָּא בַיָּמִים וַיְהוּה בֶרֶךְ
אֶת־אֲבֵרָהָם בְּכָל: (ב) וַיֹּאמֶר
אֲבֵרָהָם אֶל־עַבְדּוֹ זָקֵן בֵּיתוֹ
הַמַּשְׁלַל בְּכָל־אֲשֶׁר־לוֹ שִׁים־נָא יְדָךְ

site. (1) Abraham was now old, advanced in years, and יהוה had blessed Abraham in all things. (2) And Abraham said to the senior servant of his household, who had charge of all that he owned, “Put your hand under my thigh (3) and I will make you swear by יהוה, the God of heaven and the God of the earth, that you will not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites among whom I dwell, (4) but will go to the land of my birth and get a wife for my son Isaac.” (5) And the servant said to him, “What if the woman does not consent to follow me to this land, shall I then take your son back to the land from which you came?” (6) Abraham answered him, “On no account must you take my son back there! (7) יהוה, the God of heaven—who took me from my father’s house and from my native land, who promised me on oath, saying, ‘I will assign this land to

תַּחַת יָרְכִי: (ג) וְאֲשָׁבִיעֶךָ בְּיְהוָה
אֱלֹהֵי הַשָּׁמַיִם וְאֱלֹהֵי הָאָרֶץ אֲשֶׁר
לֹא־תִקַּח אִשָּׁה לְבָנִי מִבְּנוֹת
הַכְּנַעֲנִי אֲשֶׁר אֲנֹכִי יוֹשֵׁב בְּקִרְבּוֹ:
(ד) כִּי אֶל־אֶרֶצִי וְאֶל־מִוֹלְדֹתַי תִּלְוֶךָ
וְלִקַּחְתָּ אִשָּׁה לְבָנִי לְיִצְחָק: (ה)
וַיֹּאמֶר אֵלָיו הָעֶבֶד אוֹלִי
לֹא־תֵאבְדָה הָאִשָּׁה לְלַכְתָּ אַחֲרַי
אֶל־הָאָרֶץ הַזֹּאת הַהֹשֵׁב אֲשִׁיב
אֶת־בְּנֶךָ אֶל־הָאָרֶץ אֲשֶׁר־יֵצְאֶתָ
מִשָּׁם: (ו) וַיֹּאמֶר אֵלָיו אַבְרָהָם
הֲשָׁמַר לְךָ פֶּן־תָּשִׁיב אֶת־בְּנִי
שָׁמָּה: (ז) יְהוָה | אֱלֹהֵי הַשָּׁמַיִם
אֲשֶׁר לְקַחְתִּי מִבֵּית אָבִי וּמֵאָרֶץ
מוֹלְדֹתַי וְאֲשֶׁר דִּבַּר־לִי וְאֲשֶׁר
נִשְׁבַּע־לִי יֹאמֶר לְזִרְעֶךָ אֶתֶּן
אֶת־הָאָרֶץ הַזֹּאת הוּא יִשְׁלַח
מִלְאָכּוֹ לִפְנֶיךָ וְלִקַּחְתָּ אִשָּׁה לְבָנִי
מִשָּׁם: (ח) וְאִם־לֹא תֵאבְדָה הָאִשָּׁה
לְלַכְתָּ אַחֲרָי וְנִקִּיתָ מִשְׁבַּעַתִּי
זֹאת רַק אֶת־בְּנִי לֹא תָשִׁיב שָׁמָּה:

your offspring’—will send a messenger before you, and you will get a wife for my son from there.

(8) And if the woman does not consent to follow you, you shall then be clear of this oath to me; but do not take my son back there.” (9) So the servant put his hand under the thigh of his master Abraham and swore to him as bidden.

(ט) וַיִּשָּׂם הָעֶבֶד אֶת־יָדוֹ תַּחַת יְרֵךְ
אַבְרָהָם אֲדֹנָיו וַיִּשְׁבַּע לוֹ
עַל־הַדָּבָר הַזֶּה: