

A Journey of Faith (Part 15)

A Study of the Life of Abraham

(Gen. 25:7,8)

"Turning Your Faith Toward Home"

Introduction: Our text this morning records the end of a great life! In the end, Abraham's life is concluded by the words "...*he died in a good old age, an old man and full of years, and was gathered to his people.*" As we conclude our series today, "A journey of Faith" The study of the life of Abraham. I want us to consider that in life, when someone dies, three things usually come up at some point during a discussion of their life. Those three are – their years, their yearnings and their eulogy. As we review Abraham's years, yearnings and eulogy, we'll see there are certain characteristics that were present in his life as he turned his faith toward home, that need to be found in ours as well, when we too leave this world.

Let's begin by looking at,

I. ABRAHAM'S YEARS: (v.7) Abraham lived to be 175 years old and then he died full of years.

A. They were years lived in faith - (Heb. 11:8)

1. This is the kind of life that God wants everyone of His children to live - Heb. 11:6; Rom. 14:23; Hab. 2:4; Rom. 1:17; Gal. 3:11; Heb. 10:38.
2. Faith is not just for the super saint, it is for all believers. (Even you and I!)

B. They were years of following - Heb. 11:9 (Ps.37:23)

C. They were years of favor - God abundantly blessed the life of this amazing man.

II. ABRAHAM'S YEARNINGS: Abraham died full of years (The Hebrew actually says "*satisfied with days.*")

A. His parental yearning – (v.5 – 6)

1. He loved all these boys and gave each one gifts.

2. But Isaac was the promised seed of God.(24:36)

B. His personal yearning – (v.9 – 10)

1. He wanted to be buried in the land God promised him –
2. Oh for that to be the desire of our hearts – that when life is over and our years are full – we will be in the place God has brought us!
3. He wanted to be buried next to the love of his life –

C. His patriarchal yearning – (Jn.15:14,15) I believe God is most gracious to His friends!

III. ABRAHAM'S EULOGY: (v.8) The term gathered to his people, does not mean he was buried with his family. In the Bible it means to go into the realm of the dead, meaning the destiny of the spirit, not the body.

A. Abraham's body was laid in a grave –

B. Abraham's soul went on to glory – (Lk.16:19-31)

How wonderful it is to be able to have a testimony that makes our eternal home clear!

Conclusion: Like those missionaries in Zaire, our lives tell people what we really believe.

And as they watch us live and die, may we leave a lasting legacy for others to follow like Abraham did; a life of well recorded years of faithful obedience in following the Lord. And a life full of favor that leaves no one guessing – Our bodies may be in the grave, but we have moved on to glory!