

Your Best Life Later: Prioritizing Our Life by Redemption and Resurrection

Genesis 22:20-23:20

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Main idea: Believers are to handle money, and the other things of this life, with priorities that are shaped by God's plan of redemption and by the certainty of our resurrection.

Introduction: Let's make a deal! The shockingly bad bargaining of Abraham. Why was he willing to spend so much?

1. Prioritizing by redemption: What's going on in the rest of the world? Another mother for Jesus.
 - a. There is a priority given to Rebekah, and also to Sarah, that sticks out like a sore thumb. Why? Because in God's view of history, He prioritizes the bringing of the redeemer and the application of His redemption.
 - b. Prioritize things like marriage and parenting, which Christ has given a significant role in this work that He is doing.
 - c. Prioritize your own being conformed to Christ.
 - d. Prioritize your assigned part in Christ's redeeming and conforming others to Himself.
2. Prioritizing by resurrection: 400 pieces of silver for unwanted real estate.
 - a. Why was Abraham willing to pay so much? Because his religion was a religion of resurrection.
 - i. He trusted in a Savior who would solve the death problem
 - ii. Belief in the resurrection is what enabled him to believe the promise despite the deadness of Sarah's womb (Rom 4).
 - iii. Belief in the resurrection is what enabled him to obey regarding the sacrifice of Isaac.
 - b. Applications
 - i. View earthly possessions as existing for the service of the kingdom.
 - ii. Treat your body as something that belongs to Christ—both before and after death.
 - iii. Live always in this world as one who belongs to heaven above, and who will receive soon not only a New Heaven but also a New Earth
3. Prioritizing by Christ
 - a. Redemption is a priority because it is the way that God has determined to glorify His Son
 - b. Resurrection is a priority because it is necessary to this glory of Jesus in redemption that He be served by those who have been perfected, in both soul and body, forever and ever.

Conclusion: What opportunities do you have to serve, trust, and treasure Christ above all things?