MACHPELAH

Machpelah in Hebron became a Monument to Abraham's faith in God's sure word of promise.

♦ By faith Abraham believed God's promise that his descendants would inherit the land (Gen. 12:1-3; 13:14-17; 15:17-21; 17:3-8)

- ♦ By faith Abraham sojourned in the land for almost a century, living as one to whom it would belong (13:7,8; 18:1; 21:34)
- ♦ By faith Abraham purchased the cave at Machpelah in Hebron (23:19,20)
- ◆ By faith Abraham buried Sarah in the cave at Hebron (23:19,20)
- ♦ By faith Isaac buried Abraham with Sarah at Hebron (25:9)
- ◆ By faith Jacob buried his father Isaac at Hebron (49:31)
- ◆ By faith, while in Egypt, Jacob charged his sons to bury him in Hebron (49:29,30)
- By faith Jacob's sons had him embalmed and took his remains to Hebron for burial (50:1,2,12-14)
- By faith, as the very last lines in Genesis record, "Then Joseph made the sons of Israel swear, saying, 'God will surely visit you, and you shall carry up my bones from here'. So Joseph died, being 110 years old. They embalmed him and he was put in a coffin in Egypt" (50:25,26)
- By faith Moses, 430 years later, at the exodus took Joseph's bones up out of Egypt (Exodus 13:19) and then for forty years bore his mummified remains throughout Israel's wanderings.
- By faith when Joshua conquered the promised land, he buried Joseph's body in fulfillment of the same principle in a plot of land earlier purchased by Joseph's father Jacob (Joshua 24:32)