

~KETURAH (154)

(Ke-tu'rah) [from a root meaning, make sacrificial smoke]

- A wife of Abraham and the mother of six of his sons, Zimran, Jokshan, Medan, Midian, Ishbak, and Shuah, ancestors of various North Arabian peoples dwelling to the South and East of Palestine.
- Furthermore, Abraham again took a wife, and her name was **Keturah**. (**Genesis 25:1**)
- In time she bore him Zimran and Jokshan and Medan and Midian and Ishbak and Shuah. (**Genesis 25:2**)
- And Jokshan became father to Sheba and Dedan. And the sons of Dedan became Asshurim and Letushim and Leummim. (**Genesis 25:3**)
- And the sons of Midian were Ephah and Epher and Hanoah and Abida and Eldaah. All these were the sons of **Keturah**. (**Genesis 25:4**)
- **Keturah** is specifically referred to as, Abraham's concubine at,
- As for the sons of **Keturah**, Abraham's concubine, she gave birth to Zimran and Jokshan and Medan and Midian and Ishbak and Shuah. And the sons of Jokshan were Sheba and Dedan. (**1 Chronicles 1:32**)
- As for the sons of **Keturah**, Abraham's concubine, she gave birth to Zimran and Jokshan and Medan and Midian and Ishbak and Shuah. And the sons of Jokshan were Sheba and Dedan. (**1 Chronicles 1:32**)
- And quite apparently she and Hagar are meant at;
- But to the sons of the concubines that Abraham had Abraham gave gifts. Then he sent them away from Isaac his son, while he was still alive, eastward, to the land of the East. (**Genesis 25:6**)
- Where reference is made to the sons of Abraham's concubines. **Keturah** was therefore a secondary wife who never attained the same

position as Sarah the mother of Isaac, through whom the promised Seed came.

- **To this God said; Sarah your wife is indeed bearing you a son, and you must call his name Isaac. And I will establish my covenant with him for a covenant to time indefinite to his seed after him. ([Genesis 17:19](#))**
- **But as regards Ishmael I have heard you. Look! I will bless him and will make him fruitful and will multiply him very, very much. He will certainly produce twelve chieftains, and I will make him become a great nation. ([Genesis 17:20](#))**
- **However, my covenant I shall establish with Isaac, whom Sarah will bear to you at this appointed time next year. ([Genesis 17:21](#))**
- **And Sarah became pregnant and then bore a son to Abraham in his old age at the appointed time of which God had spoken to him. ([Genesis 21:2](#))**
- **Accordingly Abraham called the name of his son who had been born to him, whom Sarah had borne to him, Isaac. ([Genesis 21:3](#))**
- **Then God said to Abraham; Do not let anything that Sarah keeps saying to you be displeasing to you about the boy and about your slave girl. Listen to her voice, because it is by means of Isaac that what will be called your seed will be. ([Genesis 21:12](#))**
- **By faith Abraham, when he was tested, as good as offered up Isaac, and the man that had gladly received the promises attempted to offer up his only-begotten son. ([Hebrews 11:17](#))**
- **Although it had been said to him; What will be called your seed will be through Isaac. ([Hebrews 11:18](#))**
- **While, Abraham gave everything he had to Isaac, the patriarch gave gifts to the sons of his concubines and then, sent them away from Isaac his son, while he was still alive, eastward, to the land of the East.**
- **Later on Abraham gave everything he had to Isaac. ([Genesis 25:5](#))**
- **But to the sons of the concubines that Abraham had Abraham gave gifts. Then he sent them away from Isaac his son, while he**

was still alive, eastward, to the land of the East. ([Genesis 25:6](#))

- It has been contended that Abraham took **Keturah** as a concubine prior to Sarah's death, some thinking it improbable that he would have six sons by one woman after he was about 140 years old and that he would then survive to see them attain an age at which he might send them away.
- However, Abraham lived for more than 35 years after Sarah's death, dying at the age of 175 years.
- And these are the days of the years of Abraham's life which he lived, a hundred and seventy-five years. ([Genesis 25:7](#))
- Then Abraham expired and died in a good old age, old and satisfied, and was gathered to his people. ([Genesis 25:8](#))
- So he could well have taken **Keturah** as a wife, had six sons by her, and seen them grow up before he died. Also, it seems proper to consider Abraham's general regard for Sarah's feelings, which makes it unlikely that he would risk the possibility of further discord in the household, comparable to that involving Hagar and Ishmael, by taking another concubine during Sarah's lifetime.
- The order of events as set forth in the book of Genesis is quite conclusive in indicating that it was after Sarah's death that Abraham took **Keturah** as his wife.
- And Sarah's life got to be a hundred and twenty-seven years long. They were the years of Sarah's life. ([Genesis 23:1](#))
- So Sarah died in Kiriatharba, that is to say; Hebron, in the land of Canaan, and Abraham came in to bewail Sarah and to weep over her. ([Genesis 23:2](#))
- After that Isaac brought her into the tent of Sarah his mother. Thus he took Rebekah and she became his wife, and he fell in love with her, and Isaac found comfort after the loss of his mother. ([Genesis 24:67](#))
- Furthermore, Abraham again took a wife, and her name was **Keturah**. ([Genesis 25:1](#))

- **It was only because their reproductive powers were miraculously revived that Abraham and Sarah were able to have a son, Isaac, in their old age.**
- **By faith also Sarah herself received power to conceive seed, even when she was past the age limit, since she esteemed him faithful who had promised. ([Hebrews 11:11](#))**
- **Hence also from one man, and him as good as dead, there were born children just as the stars of heaven for multitude and as the sands that are by the seaside, innumerable. ([Hebrews 11:12](#))**
- **Evidently, such restored powers enabled Abraham to become father to six more sons by **Keturah** when he was even more advanced in age.**