

A MACEDONIAN MOMENT: MACEDONIAN HEARTS

¹⁵ You, however, will go to your ancestors in peace and be buried at a good old age.

Genesis 15:15

⁷ Abraham lived a hundred and seventy-five years. ⁸ Then Abraham breathed his last and died at a good old age, an old man and full of years; and he was gathered to his people.

Genesis 25:7,8

“It’s not the years in your life that count, it’s the life in your years.”

Abraham Lincoln

- I. A whole new measurement of human life comes into existence with Abraham. (Macedonian hearts)
 - A. Abraham died old and full of years. Macedonian hearts are not long lives, but full lives.
 - B. Macedonian hearts are not measured in terms of duration or extent, but of intensity.
 - C. Formerly, it was duration or length of years; now fullness or completeness is the rule.
 - D. Abrahams (Macedonian hearts) pack a double portion of life into every instant of time.
 - E. Abrahams (Macedonian hearts) live not extensively, but intensively.

II. God's good friend, who was loved and liked.

A. Abraham is called God's good friend three times. (II Chronicles 20:7; Isaiah 41:8; James 2:23)

[2Ch 20:7 NIV] ⁷ *Our God, did you not drive out the inhabitants of this land before your people Israel and give it forever to the descendants of Abraham your friend?*

[Isa 41:8 NIV] ⁸ *“But you, Israel, my servant, Jacob, whom I have chosen, you descendants of Abraham my friend,*

[Jas 2:23 NIV] ²³ *And the scripture was fulfilled that says, “Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness,” and he was called God's friend.*

B. How does a Macedonian friend of God both live and die?

C. Abraham lived in intimate communion with God. He lived so fully each moment that he eternalized every instance of his life. Macedonian hearts must be able to treasure the move of God that is coming upon the earth. They must milk every drop out of their life and God's glory.

D. Abraham is our example. He had drunk a full drought. He had had enough. He blessed the giver of the feast and pushed his chair back, and died fully satisfied.

E. Those who mistakenly measure life by duration, alone, cling desperately, and in terror, to every last second.

III. Life marks us through events in time.

A. One act or event in your life in one hour can age you 20 years.

B. Correspondingly, one year of blessing can make you young again. (Macedonian rewards are about to land upon

Macedonian hearts.) Simeon was an example of a Macedonian heart – a transitional figure who was a bridge from promise to fulfillment. (Luke 2:25-35)

VI. Other saints with full lives.

A. Job (Job 5:26; 42:17)

[Job 5:26 NIV] ²⁶ *You will come to the grave in full vigor, like sheaves gathered in season.*

[Job 42:17 NIV] ¹⁷ *And so Job died, an old man and full of years.*

* Job was as ripe corn when it is full in the ear, bending down in perfect fulfillment. The ripe corn is lifted up off the earth and carried home.

B. Isaac. (Genesis 35:27-29)

²⁷ *Jacob came home to his father Isaac in Mamre, near Kiriath Arba (that is, Hebron), where Abraham and Isaac had stayed. ²⁸ Isaac lived a hundred and eighty years. ²⁹ Then he breathed his last and died and was gathered to his people, old and full of years. And his sons Esau and Jacob buried him.*

* Isaac lived fully and completely, and died a success. The living link to the Messiah!

C. David (I Chronicles 29:28; Acts 13:36)

[1Ch 29:28 NIV] ²⁸ *He died at a good old age, having enjoyed long life, wealth and honor. His son Solomon succeeded him as king.*

[Act 13:36 NIV] ³⁶ *“Now when David had served God’s purpose in his own generation, he fell asleep; he was buried with his ancestors and his body decayed.*

* David fulfilled the will of God for all his generation.

D. Jehoiada (II Chronicles 24:15)

¹⁵ *Now Jehoiada was old and full of years, and he died at the age of a hundred and thirty.*

* This man’s 130 years witnessed the very saving of the flesh of David through Joash, so the Messiah could be born!

V. Macedonian hearts

A. They are comfortable in their own skin.

B. They are originals, not copies.

C. They are voices, not echoes.

D. They are friends of God who know how to live and die.

E. They live eternalizing moments, and they die having fulfilled their destiny!