

Central
ASSEMBLY

DYING ON THE WAY TO BETHLEHEM

GENESIS 35:19-20

¹⁹ So Rachel died and was buried on the way to Ephrath (that is, Bethlehem). ²⁰ Over her tomb Jacob set up a pillar, and to this day that pillar marks Rachel's tomb.

RACHEL'S LIFE—WHAT?

Most likely to succeed

RACHEL'S LIFE—WHAT?

Most likely to succeed

Family dysfunction

RACHEL'S LIFE—WHAT?

Most likely to succeed

Family dysfunction

Tortured soul

RACHEL'S LIFE—WHAT?

Most likely to succeed

Family dysfunction

Tortured soul


Painful death

GENESIS 35:19

¹⁹ So Rachel died and was buried on the way to Ephrath (that is, Bethlehem).

A decorative gold frame surrounds the text, featuring corner ornaments with curved lines and straight lines extending towards the corners.

ON OUR WAY TO BETHLEHEM...
some things need to die.

A decorative gold frame surrounds the text. The corners feature intricate designs: the top-left and bottom-left corners have a series of nested lines forming a quarter-circle arc, while the top-right and bottom-right corners have a series of nested lines forming a quarter-circle arc. The frame is composed of multiple thin gold lines.

“Sometimes we need to bury things along the way
in order to get where we are going.”

PASTOR GREG FORD

CYNICISM AND HOPELESSNESS...

Disillusionment with life
Frustration with ourselves
Bitterness towards God
Impatience with waiting

Abuse by others
Risks that failed
Crippling shame
Fear of unknowns

Physical and emotional exhaustion
Feeling out of control

SIN AND UNCLEANNES...

Secret lusts and greeds

Persistent addictions

Unforgiveness and destructive anger

Patterns of unbelief and unfaithfulness

Spiritual apathy and rebellion

A decorative gold frame surrounds the text, featuring ornate corner ornaments that resemble stylized floral or geometric designs.

BUT STARTING AT BETHLEHEM...
a new tomorrow can live.

LUKE 2:1-4

¹ In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. ² (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) ³ And everyone went to their own town to register.

LUKE 2:1-4

⁴ So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David.

HEBREWS 2:14-15

¹⁴ Since the children have flesh and blood, he [Jesus] too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might break the power of him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil—¹⁵ and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death.

ROMANS 6:3-4

³ Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

GENESIS 35:18

¹⁸ As she [Rachel] breathed her last—for she was dying—she named her son Ben-Oni. But his father named him Benjamin.

Central
ASSEMBLY

DYING ON THE WAY TO BETHLEHEM