

We read in this week's Torah portion, Chayei Sarah, after Sarah passed away Abraham wanted to bu her in the Cave of Machpelah, the sons of Chet offered to give him the land for free. "A mighty prince you are among us," they said, "in the choice of our tombs bury your dead." However, Abraham refuse their offer, and insisted on paying "the full price."

Abraham was adamant about p s former owner, Efron. Had Ab n claim on the land, even thoug or the Cave of Machpelah. Abra ayin its p

g David did the same thing many years later after he conquered Jerusalem. Jerusalem had bee ady captured and was under his control, yet David did not wish to receive it as a gift from Arar Abraham. David insisted on paving "the full price" for the site, in order to possess it in the ab

e spiritual service of every Jew is to refine and elevate his surroundings, through learning Torah an serving mitzvot, to the point that he becomes the true "owner" of his particular corner of the world. st as Abraham paid "the full price" for the field he bought from Efron, so too is it necessary for ever w to pay "the full price" - to expend real effort and exertion - in his service of G-d.

Jew must never say to himself, "I have been blessed with a good head and m ve to work hard if everything comes to me easily? Even my Evil Inclination i s to be fought all that vigilantly." iny ta' n't so

the same way that Abraham and David refused to accept what was easy, rejected "gifts" and insist paying "the full price," so too must we invest real effort on the spiritual "labor" of Torah and mitz it is only through hard work and a little "elbow grease" that we will truly succeed in refinite roundings and by custonism, the emitty work. Shabbat Shalom Areyah



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22 Cheshvan, 5775 Saturday, Nov. 15, 2014 Parsha Chayei Sarah





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