

Genesis: God and Man

## The LORD Has Made Room For Us

Genesis 26:18-35

### Previously

- Sarah dies, Abraham remarries
- Abraham sends Eliezer to find a wife for Isaac from their homeland
- Rebekah comforts Isaac at the loss of his mother
- Abraham dies
- Isaac and Rebekah, childless for 20 years. Isaac prays.
- Jacob and Esau
- Birthright stew
- **Famine in the promised land, Isaac starts heading towards Egypt**
- **God tells him to dwell in the land where he is...**
- **Isaac stay with the Philistines, same fear as his father, calls Rebekah his sister**
- **Abimelech finds out, rebukes him, makes a decree protecting them**
- **Isaac begins to plant and prosper, ridiculously so...God is favoring and blessing him**
- **The Philistines begin to envy him, kick him out. Isaac goes to the Valley of Gerar**

### Where have you been digging as of late? Are you finding water?

Are the relationships, pursuits of life, and places you sit down for rest and relaxation, are they springing up? Or are they drying you up?

## 18-25

### Digging the wells of his father again.

It seems the locals like and tolerance of Abraham only extended in his life, but they made it clear they didn't want his descendants having a stake in the area after he died.

He called them the same names, carrying on his dad's legacy

### But the promised land wouldn't come easy and wouldn't be without opposition

(there's still opposition today)

### On a practical note, why would they fill these in? Out of spite only?

You'd think you'd want as many watering holes as possible in the desert.

They didn't want any provision in the land that wasn't there's to control.

*Be wary of anything that is stopped up in your life. If there are places where water used to flow freely, redig them, give them the old names.*

**Keep an eye on those who stop up the wells in your life.**

**They're not looking out for your best interest.**

It's interesting how the government will legislate personal freedoms away in favor of you being dependent on them...they're truly not interested in your best interest.

**Modern Israel very bountiful, fertile, green...stark contrast to surrounding areas**

**Dug in the valley, found water there**

Small statement, but have you ever had to dig a well? In a very dry and arid land? Without modern machinery? It's no small deal that they find water once, let alone over and over again.

**Like striking oil.**

Moses blessing the Israelites at his death

**Deu 33:24 NKJV - And of Asher he said: "Asher [is] most blessed of sons; Let him be favored by his brothers, And let him dip his foot in oil.**

*The middle east is rich in oil, but Israel hasn't found much yet. But there is some speculation that there could be vast untapped riches there, based on this and several other verses...and could possibly be part of the reason of the end-times invasion of the land of Gog and Magog (Russia and Iran).*

**Dug in the valley, herdsman start fighting over it.** It's how you give your herds and yourself water in a dry land. It was a good spot.

Even though he gave the Philistines room, it wasn't enough for them...

**Pro 30:15-16 NKJV - The leech has two daughters--Give [and] Give! There are three [things that] are never satisfied, Four never say, "Enough!": The grave, The barren womb, The earth [that] is not satisfied with water--And the fire never says, "Enough!"**

**Esek** - contention

**Sitnah** - strife

**Moved on, found peace.** Sometimes that's necessary in life, moving on.

The importance of forgiveness, making peace...

**Rom 12:18 NKJV - If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men.**

**Rehoboth** - wide places or streets

**Psa 18:36 NKJV - You enlarged my path under me, So my feet did not slip.**

**Isa 54:1-3 NKJV - "Sing, O barren, You [who] have not borne! Break forth into singing, and cry aloud, You [who] have not labored with child! For more [are] the children of the desolate Than the children of the married woman," says the LORD. "Enlarge the place of your tent, And let them stretch out the curtains of your dwellings; Do not spare; Lengthen your cords, And strengthen your stakes. For you shall expand to the right and to the left, And your descendants will inherit the nations, And make the desolate cities inhabited.**

There is a great comfort and peace to be found when god is the one enlarging you, providing for you, especially after a season of difficulty, strife and people who won't relent

**Beersheeba** (to be named soon)

**God appears to him THAT SAME NIGHT, "the God of your father..."**

Maybe Isaac's relationship with the Lord wasn't that deep yet. He had obviously prayed for a child and God answered. He was there on the mountain.

But there was still great comfort for him to be found knowing that the God speaking to Him was the God of his father. He loved his father and having the faith of his father was important

Abraham loved Isaac deeply and it impacted his son's faith

**God was excited, waiting for this moment...that same night**

**Built an altar, calls on the name of the Lord**

Another step of faith for Isaac

Building all these wells when they found water...

Isaac built an altar when the Lord watered him.

It's important to build up altars and monuments and walls in our lives to protect, remember and keep holy the places (physically, emotionally, spiritually, doctrinally) the Lord has met us personally.

**Digging another well, putting down roots**

## 26-31

**Abimelech, Ahuzzath (possession), Phicol  
King, friend and commander**

Jesus is certainly that to us

**Delegation for ... peace**

**Even though he's gone, he's not out of their minds...the blessings of the Lord on his life still can be seen from afar**

**1Th 1:5-8 NKJV - For our gospel did not come to you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Spirit and in much assurance, as you know what kind of men we were among you for your sake. And you became followers of us and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Spirit, so that you became examples to all in Macedonia and Achaia who believe. For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth, not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place. Your faith toward God has gone out, so that we do not need to say anything.**

**Isaac is rightfully curious and wary of why they've come to him**

The king and a friend come, but they brought a general

*International peace accords and talks with NK, but we parked our pacific fleet off his coast.  
We're here for peace, but make no mistake, we'll crush you*

They were saber rattling...but Isaac wasn't an evil despot, he had done them no harm, lived peacefully with them and left when asked

**Isaac thought it was all behind him**

**But the blessings of the Lord on his life threatened those around him.  
Even though he had shown no signs of aggression**

**They saw the blessing of God on Isaac, but since they didn't have a relationship with the Lord, although they had some personal righteousness (fearing the sin in early chapters), they felt powerless and like they would lose out**

Conviction of others around a believer

### **An oath, an agreement that HE would do THEM no harm**

They claim to have not done him harm, and that may have been true directly, but the king's people certainly were constantly stopping up his wells, arguing with his servants, etc.

Not exactly 100% honest here

**He made them a feast**, stay the night, make the accord in the morning

Always important to consider a deal before rushing into it

**They departed in peace. The best outcome possible.**

**Mat 5:9-11, 39-48 NKJV - Blessed [are] the peacemakers, For they shall be called sons of God. Blessed [are] those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven. "Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. ... "But I tell you not to resist an evil person. But whoever slaps you on your right cheek, turn the other to him also. "If anyone wants to sue you and take away your tunic, let him have [your] cloak also. "And whoever compels you to go one mile, go with him two. "Give to him who asks you, and from him who wants to borrow from you do not turn away. "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' "But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you, "that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. "For if you love those who love you, what reward have you? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? "And if you greet your brethren only, what do you do more [than others]? Do not even the tax collectors do so? "Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.**

## **32-35**

**Yet another well found and dug!**

**Sheeba** - an oath

Beersheeba - well of the oath

**This was the founding of Beersheeba**

**Moving on...we're switching gears to Esau**

**Esau took wives at age 40**

Same age that his dad got married  
 Man of the wild didn't want to be tied down until getting up in age

**But he doesn't go to his familial land to find a wife  
 He goes to the Hittites...**

**Jdg 14:1-3 NKJV - Now Samson went down to Timnah, and saw a woman in Timnah of the daughters of the Philistines. So he went up and told his father and mother, saying, "I have seen a woman in Timnah of the daughters of the Philistines; now therefore, get her for me as a wife." Then his father and mother said to him, "[Is there] no woman among the daughters of your brethren, or among all my people, that you must go and get a wife from the uncircumcised Philistines?" And Samson said to his father, "Get her for me, for she pleases me well."**

The Lord allowed that in Samson's life that the end might be a move against the Philistines, but it would eventually cost Samson his life

### **Judith - praised**

Esau praised her for some reason, probably her beauty  
 But she was not a praise-worthy woman apparently

Name still around today

### **Bashemath or Basmath = "spice"**

Esau liked this spice girl as well  
 But her fragrance and flavor was bitter to his parents

I don't know that anyone names their daughter that anymore...

### **Grief of mind**

Bitterness of soul

**These were not the women they'd want their son to marry...he obviously was not in holy, pure love since he took two wives. They were worldly women and Esau was a man of the flesh.**

These wives were not the wholesome, responsible, motherly, godly, chaste women that any good parent would dream of and desire for their son. They must have proved it by their actions, that it wasn't just a bad first impression, but a lasting condition in their family

Interesting that it said "grief of mind" to Isaac and Rebekah.

We know Esau was Isaac's favorite, so perhaps he wouldn't say anything, even if he was grieved

But you know, since Rebekah favored Jacob, that I'm sure Rebekah wanted to say something to Esau but maybe Isaac wouldn't let her.

Can you imagine the family dynamic and holiday meals? Wild, clamorous and wordly wives of Esau at the table, a part of your family...

**Have we taken "wives" of the world in our lives that would be a grief of mind to God?  
Are we digging wells in the right places and finding water?**

**Have we allowed God to speak to us, tell us where to live and go?**

*Talking with friends of moving and being open to God's leading*

**Do we need to live in peace with others somehow? Make peace?**

**If the Godly wells in your life need to be redug, redig them today. Name them the old names. Drink from them again.**

**Jhn 4:5-14 NKJV - So He came to a city of Samaria which is called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Now Jacob's well was there. Jesus therefore, being wearied from [His] journey, sat thus by the well. It was about the sixth hour. A woman of Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give Me a drink." For His disciples had gone away into the city to buy food. Then the woman of Samaria said to Him, "How is it that You, being a Jew, ask a drink from me, a Samaritan woman?" For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans. Jesus answered and said to her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, 'Give Me a drink,' you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water." The woman said to Him, "Sir, You have nothing to draw with, and the well is deep. Where then do You get that living water? "Are You greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well, and drank from it himself, as well as his sons and his livestock?" Jesus answered and said to her, "Whoever drinks of this water will thirst again, "but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life."**