

## GENESIS –Lesson 47

Learn: Forever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven. Psalm 119:89

Which shew the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts mean while accusing of else excusing them.

Romans 2:15

Read: Genesis 26:1-33

This incident takes place sometime after the two boys were grown to manhood, and Isaac himself was at least eighty years old.

1. What test did the Lord bring into Isaac's life at this time? v 1a
2. Where did Isaac go to escape the problem? v 1b
3. Isaac must have been considering moving even farther to get away from the severe famine, what was God's specific warning to Isaac? v 2
4. So far as record goes, this is the first time God had appeared to Isaac since he was on Mount Moriah. What was God's promise to Isaac if he obeyed this command? vv 3, 4
5. What reason did the LORD give for His promise of blessing? v 5
6. Though God's charge and commandments, His statutes, and His laws, were not codified in written form as they were later through Moses, what do we know from the following scripture?

Psalm 119:89

Romans 2:15

Isaac stayed in Gerar, which was part of Canaan but which had been controlled for some time by a colony of Philistines. At this time, the main body of the Philistines still lived on

the island of Crete, not actually moving en masse to Canaan until centuries later. The king, or “Abimelech,” of this colony was hardly the one encountered by Abraham nearly a century earlier, but no doubt he had heard of Abraham and his traumatic experience in Philistia on that earlier occasion. THE GENESIS RECORD p 420 Dr. Henry Morris

7. What same lie did Isaac tell that his father before him had told? v 7

8. How was Isaac’s lie found out? v 8

9. What was Isaac’s excuse when Abimelech confronted him with his lie? v 9

10. What was Abimelech’s rebuke to Isaac? v 10

Abimelech’s protest that he had his people had a much higher standard of morality than Isaac had given him credit for. He said adultery with Isaac’s wife would have involved the whole nation in guilt before God. This moral sensitivity on the part of a Philistine king seems strange, and why would Isaac have so misjudged them? Whatever the case, the Lord kept the men away from Rebekah.

11. What was Abimelech’s surprising pronouncement concerning Isaac and Rebekah?  
v 11

12. How did the Lord show His blessing upon Isaac? vv 12-14

13. How did the Philistines show their jealousy over Isaac’s prosperity? vv 14-15

Until this time, Isaac and his father seem to have been solely occupied with raising animals. Now, however, he acquired some land, possibly by rental, and he began to practice agriculture. He was highly successful. Verse twelve is the first mention of seed-sowing in the Bible.

14. What did Abimelech finally do about the troubling situation? v 16

Though Isaac could have resisted the demand by Abimelech, since the earlier Abimelech had given his father the right to dwell anywhere in the land that he might choose (Genesis 20:15), and since the wells belonged to Abraham by right of construction. Isaac chose to avoid the conflict and leave.

15. Isaac moved away from the capital, going east and farther up the valley of Gerar. There he and his servants also had to reopen Abraham's wells. Why? vv 18, 19

It seems odd to fill up wells that might be needed. But, evidently the Philistine settlers were not yet numerous or prosperous enough to need them, but wanted to discourage others from settling there in the meantime, as they were trying to maintain a claim on the land themselves. THE GENESIS RECORD p 423 Dr. Henry Morris

16. What would be a reason that Isaac would rename the wells with the names that Abraham had given them? Use Genesis 20:15 to help you answer.

17. When Abimelech's herdsman disputed the well of spring water, what did Isaac name it, and why? vv 19, 20

18. Now Isaac's men dug another well. What happened at the well of Sitnah? v 21

19. Sitnah the ("Hatred well"). Isaac left there also. This time he moved much farther away. What did Isaac name the new well that they dug where they settled and why? v 22

At Rehoboth Isaac left some of his flocks and herds with the herdsman and moved on to Beersheba. Beersheba was the place where Abraham had made a covenant with the Philistines ("the Well of the Covenant," or "Well of the Seven") and had built an altar there (Genesis 21:32-34). There, too, Isaac himself had lived after the sacrifice on Mount Moriah (22:19).

20. What happened at Beersheba when Isaac returned on this occasion? vv 24, 25

21. Now a delegation of Philistines came to see Isaac at Beersheba. What did they want?  
vv 26-29

22. Though the Philistines had treated Isaac unkindly, how did he treat them? vv 30,31