

GENESIS 20; January 20; Abraham Deceives Abimelech

ANALYSIS:

1. Can you list several evidences which support the thought that Abimelech and his people knew the LORD?

2. Abimelech pleads with God for mercy after he “took Sarah,” based on the fact that “in the integrity of my heart and innocency of my hands have I done this.” What does he mean by the underlined words?

3. As Abimelech seeks for the reason(s) why Abraham said Sarah was his sister, what questions did Abimelech ask Abraham?

4. How does Abraham justify calling Sarah his sister?

5. Explain the need for, and the result of, Abraham's prayer for Abimelech.

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT:

Abraham's hiding of the fact he and Sarah were married was an act of deception which caused a great deal of danger, trouble and fear for Abimelech and his people. Do we ever resort to deception because we lack faith that God is in control? Let us speak and live the truth and avoid deception which could hurt others and dishonor the LORD.

Before assuming someone does not fear God (as Abraham did with Abimelech and his people [v 11]), let's make it a habit to talk about spiritual things with that person and discover the truth.

You might begin by saying, “May I share the blessing I received in meditating on ___ (a verse, word, subject)?” You may be a blessing to them and will likely receive a blessing.

Notice how forgiving and generous Abimelech was toward Abraham and Sarah (vs 14-16).

HELP:

1. God spoke to Abimelech, Abimelech pleads with God on the basis they are a righteous nation, The LORD explains He withheld Abimelech from sinning, The LORD promises Abimelech will live, the men were sore afraid, the LORD healed Abimelech and his people.
2. Integrity (8537 Strong's Concordance) uprightness, perfect, innocence, completeness.
- Innocency (5356 Strong's Concordance) clearness, cleanness.
3. What hast thou done unto us? What have I offended thee? What sawest thou, that thou hast done this thing?
4. Sarah was the daughter of Abraham's father, but not the daughter of his mother; she was his half-sister.
5. Abimelech, his wife and his maidservants needed healing, and the LORD healed them when Abraham prayed for them.