

GENESIS 26; January 26; Isaac Also Deceives Abimelech

ANALYSIS:

1. Whose obedience did the LORD remember when he renewed his covenant with Isaac? _____
2. How did Isaac deceive Abimelech, like his father Abraham had done, when he went to dwell in Gerar? _____
3. What percentage return did the LORD bless Isaac with one year when he dwelt at Gerar?

4. What important physical endeavor was Isaac and his servants involved in this chapter? _____ Why?

5. Why were Esau's choices of wives a grief to Isaac and Rebecca?

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT:

In this chapter we see Abimelech coming to Isaac and desiring a covenant with him because he saw that the LORD was with Isaac. Isaac was guilty of deceiving Abimelech in a way that could have brought guilt upon the king and his people (v 10). Yet the LORD blessed him greatly after the deception was cleared up. Notice the word "Then" in verse 12. The LORD was with Isaac and so he prospered in everything he did, just like Joseph in Egypt many years later. The LORD blessed Isaac because he was the chosen son of Abraham through the mercy of God, and so it is by the great mercy of our God that He has chosen us to be blessed with salvation and knowledge through our Lord Jesus Christ. All that we have is by the mercy of our God!

We can also see in this chapter that while the LORD was with Isaac and blessed him abundantly so that he became very great, Isaac also was a diligent man who sowed his fields in order to reap a harvest. Isaac did not just sit around and expect for the LORD to bless him. He sowed his fields and trusted in the LORD to bless the harvest. And the LORD did. In like manner, the LORD expects us to work diligently and trust him for the results. Will you work hard today at all your responsibilities and trust the God of heaven to bless your efforts?

HELP:

1. The obedience of Isaac's father, Abraham, in keeping the commandments of the LORD. (v.5)
2. He claimed that Rebecca was only his sister.
3. A 10,000% return on his seed sown. This is 100 times the amount of original seed sown.
4. Isaac and his servants dug many wells because there weren't many streams in that dry land. Water was critical for their lives and the lives of their large herds and flocks.
5. Because Esau had chosen his wives from the Hittites instead of the families of Abraham's kindred.