

Chapter 26

- 26:1 And there was a famine in the land, beside the first famine that was in the days of Abraham.
And Isaac went unto Abimelech king of the Philistines unto Gerar.
- 26:2 And the LORD appeared unto him, and said,
Go not down into Egypt; dwell in the land which I shall tell thee of:
- 26:3 Sojourn in this land, and I will be with thee, and will bless thee; for unto thee, and unto thy seed, I will give all these countries, and I will perform the oath which I sware unto Abraham thy father;
- 26:4 And I will make thy seed to multiply as the stars of heaven, and will give unto thy seed all these countries; and in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed;
- 26:5 Because that Abraham obeyed my voice, and kept my charge, my commandments, my statutes, and my laws.
- 26:6 And Isaac dwelt in Gerar:
- 26:7 And the men of the place asked him of his wife;
and he said, She is my sister:
for he feared to say, She is my wife; lest, said he, the men of the place should kill me for Rebekah; because she was fair to look upon.
- question:** *I am a little concerned that Jacob preserved his life through deceit. Was the situation the same for him, as for Abraham, relative to kinship with his wife: It may have been so, in a distant relationship way -- cousin = sister. If this was not in his mind, then a negative seems to have been used to affect a positive outcome. I will seek further enlightenment.*
- 26:8 And it came to pass, when he had been there a long time,
that Abimelech king of the Philistines looked out at a window, and saw, and, behold, Isaac was sporting with Rebekah his wife.
- note:** *The same thing was done to Abimelech king of Gerar, by Abraham, with Sarah. According to certain Bible historians, these two locales are indicated as being the same locales; thus, this was most likely the same person, for both incidents.*
- 26:9 And Abimelech called Isaac, and said, Behold, of a surety she is thy wife; and how saidst thou, She is my sister?
And Isaac said unto him, Because I said, Lest I die for her.
- 26:10 And Abimelech said, What is this thou hast done unto us? one of the people might lightly have lien with thy wife, and thou shouldest have brought guiltiness upon us.
- 26:11 And Abimelech charged all his people, saying, He that toucheth this man or his wife shall surely be put to death.
- 26:12 Then Isaac sowed in that land, and received in the same year an hundredfold:
and the LORD blessed him.
- 26:13 And the man waxed great, and went forward, and grew until he became very great:
- 26:14 For he had possession of flocks, and possession of herds, and great store of servants:
and the Philistines envied him.
- 26:15 For all the wells which his father's servants had digged in the days of Abraham his father, the Philistines had stopped them, and filled them with earth.
- 26:16 And Abimelech said unto Isaac, Go from us; for thou art much mightier than we.
- 26:17 And Isaac departed thence, and pitched his tent in the valley of Gerar, and dwelt there.
- 26:18 And Isaac digged again the wells of water, which they had digged in the days of Abraham his father;

- for the Philistines had stopped them after the death of Abraham:
and he called their names after the names by which his father had called them.
- 26:19 And Isaac's servants digged in the valley, and found there a well of springing water.
- 26:20 And the herdmen of Gerar did strive with Isaac's herdmen, saying, The water is ours:
and he called the name of the well Esek; because they strove with him.
- 26:21 And they digged another well,
and strove for that also: and he called the name of it Sitnah.
- 26:22 And he removed from thence, and digged another well;
and for that they strove not:
and he called the name of it Rehoboth; and he said, For now the LORD hath made room for us, and we shall be fruitful in the land.
- 26:23 And he went up from thence to Beersheba.
- 26:24 And the LORD appeared unto him the same night,
and said,
I am the God of Abraham thy father: fear not, for I am with thee, and will bless thee, and multiply thy seed for my servant Abraham's sake.
- 26:25 And he builded an altar there, and called upon the name of the LORD, and pitched his tent there:
and there Isaac's servants digged a well.
- 26:26 Then Abimelech went to him from Gerar, and Ahuzzath one of his friends, and Phichol the chief captain of his army.
- 26:27 And Isaac said unto them,
Wherefore come ye to me, seeing ye hate me, and have sent me away from you?
- 26:28 And they said,
We saw certainly that the LORD was with thee: and we said, Let there be now an oath betwixt us, even betwixt us and thee, and let us make a covenant with thee;
- 26:29 That thou wilt do us no hurt, as we have not touched thee, and as we have done unto thee nothing but good, and have sent thee away in peace: thou art now the blessed of the LORD.
note: *This is as was done with Abraham, as is recorded in Genesis 21:29-32; moreover, it occurred at the same place, at Beersheba.*
- 26:30 And he made them a feast,
and they did eat and drink.
- 26:31 And they rose up betimes in the morning, and sware one to another:
and Isaac sent them away,
and they departed from him in peace.
- 26:32 And it came to pass the same day, that Isaac's servants came, and told him concerning the well which they had digged,
and said unto him,
We have found water.
- 26:33 And he called it Shebah: therefore the name of the city is Beersheba unto this day.
- 26:34 And Esau was forty years old when he took to wife Judith the daughter of Beeri the Hittite, and Bashemath the daughter of Elon the Hittite:
- 26:35 Which were a grief of mind unto Isaac and to Rebekah.