

A cosmic background featuring a view of Earth from space, showing the horizon and clouds. The Moon is visible in the upper center. The sky is filled with stars and the Milky Way galaxy, with a color gradient from blue to purple.

THE BOOK OF  
**GENESIS**

# **NOT AGAIN, ABRAHAM**

## **GENESIS 20**

Any of you thinking to yourselves: You must be kidding, **not this same sin again!**

- In some respects, **Genesis 20** is one of the most difficult chapters in the Bible to understand.
- But how often have you repeatedly fallen prey to the exact same tactic of the enemy in your moment of fleshly weakness? You plan to do good, but don't.

**Romans 7:19-25**

## ***TWO TRUTHS FROM THIS PASSAGE***

- 1.** *Satan will stop at nothing* to thwart the plans of God—including attempting to get you to wash, rinse, and repeat your previous failures.
- 2.** *As sinful humans*, we are never totally free from a capacity to do stupid things until we make it home to heaven.

This is a real story that really happened, but why does God tell this same basic story three times—twice with Abraham and once with Isaac?

# GOD'S REASONING

- Abraham and Isaac were at the center of the promised plan by which God was going to bless the whole world.
- Sarah is a key part of this narrative as she will actually carry the promised line of the Messiah.
- By seeing God work through the lives of the patriarchs who—in spite of all their flaws, blundering, lying, and mismanagement—could still be mightily used by God, ***we gain hope He can use us, too!***

# ***A HALF TRUTH IS STILL A WHOLE LIE***

- We must remember that God preserved the purity of Sarah and Rebekah in spite of all the idiotic maneuverings of their husbands.
- Sarah was Abraham's half sister (**Gen. 11:29**) and there was the Hurrian form of legal sister-marriage. Legal, but not righteous.
- The whole truth is Abraham and Isaac both just blew it again is the picture here; they lied and it was wrong!

# WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN GERAR?

How often do we go right back to the land of the Philistines after the Lord delivers us? *Name your Gerar!*

- In Abraham's case, he compromised for money.

**1 Tim. 6:10**

- Abraham was willing to overlook the Philistines' ungodliness as long as he could profit from them.

- Abraham's old man was rising up! Some days we just need to try a bit harder to kill that old man!

**2 Cor. 5:17**

# ***GOD'S GRACE TOWARDS SARAH***

- Before Abimelech touched Sarah, God struck him with a lethal infirmity (**v. 3, 17**) evidently of such severity as to prevent his coming in to her. **v. 6**
- How sad it is God had to use a heathen king to rebuke Abraham.
- It is amazing the excuses we can come up with to justify our sin—and then pass that sin to our kids!

Praise the Lord for His amazing grace. **Lam. 3:31-33;**  
**2 Cor. 12:9-10**



# THE PASTOR

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