

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE CLASS
OCTOBER 26, 2022
GENESIS 21:22-33

INTRODUCTION:

1. **GENESIS 21.22:** *“And it came to pass at that time...”*
 - a) Abraham sent Hagar and Ishmael away. (Gen. 21.14)
 - b) God provides for Hagar and Ishmael who spend years in the wilderness (Gen. 21.20,21)
 - c) During this same time period, our attention is turned to Abraham and Abimelech.
2. In verses 22-33, Abimelech made a covenant with Abraham.

I. ABRAHAM AND ABIMELECH

- A. There is a proposal.
 1. **GENESIS 21.22:** *“Abimelech and Phichol...spoke to Abraham”*
 - a) Abimelech: Ab – “chief” and Melek – “king.” The chief king. (Gen. 20.2; 26.1)
 - b) This is not the first nor the last we will read about him.
 2. **GENESIS 21.22:** *“God is with you in all that you do.”* How was Abimelech aware of Abraham’s relationship with God? (Gen. 20.7)
 3. **GENESIS 21.23:** *“Now therefore, swear to me by God that you will not deal falsely with me, with my offspring, or with my posterity”*
 - a) Swearing to God was *“an end of all dispute”* (Heb. 6.16).
 - b) **GENESIS 21.23:** *“...that you will not deal falsely with me, with my offspring, or with my posterity.”* (Gen. 20.9,10)
 - c) **GENESIS 21.23:** *“but that according to the kindness that I have done to you, you will do to me and to the land in which you have dwelt.”* (Gen. 20.14,15)
- B. There is a problem.
 1. **GENESIS 21.25:** *“Then Abraham rebuked Abimelech because of a well of water which Abimelech’s servants had seized.”*
 - a) Wells were valuable in the land. (Gen. 21.19; Ex. 17.1,2; Num. 21.5; Deut. 8.15)
 - b) This well belonged to Abraham. (Gen. 21.30; 26.15)
 2. **GENESIS 21.27:** *“the two of them made a covenant.”*
 3. **GENESIS 21.28:** *“And Abraham set seven ewe lambs of the flock by themselves”*
 - a) The significance of seven. (Gen. 2.2,3; 8.4; Ex. 12.15,16; Lev. 25.3,4; Josh. 6.4,5)
 - b) Why did Abraham set the lambs before Abimelech? (Gen. 21.30).
- B. There is a pronouncement.
 1. **GENESIS 21.31:** *“Therefore he called that place Beersheba, because the two of them swore an oath there.”* Literally, the well of seven.
 2. Beersheba became the new home of Abraham. (Gen. 21.32,33; 22.19)
 3. Beersheba became the southern most city of Israel. (1 Sam. 3.20)

II. LESSONS OF APPLICATION

- A. The world needs to see that God is with you.
 1. God is seen by the way we live. (Matt. 5.16)
 2. God is seen by the way we treat each other. (1 Pet. 1.22; John 13.34,35)
 3. God is seen by the way we handle adversity. (1 Pet. 3.15)
- B. We are to be people of peace. (Rom. 12.18; Heb. 12.14; Rom. 14.19)