

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE CLASS
SEPTEMBER 28, 2022
GENESIS 20:7FF

INTRODUCTION:

1. After being told that Sarah was Abraham's sister, Abimelech took Sarah. (Gen. 20.1,2)
 - a) In a dream, God threatened Abimelech for taking another man's wife. (Gen. 20.3-6).
 - b) **GENESIS 20.7:** *"Now therefore, restore the man's wife"*
2. Studying the command of God carefully reveals three thoughts.

I. PROPHECY

- A. Abraham is described as a prophet.
 1. **GENESIS 20.7:** *"Now therefore, restore the man's wife; for he is a prophet"*
 2. The Bible defines a prophet as a spokesman for God. (Ex. 4.15,16; 7.1; 2 Pet. 1.20,21)
 3. All the prophets spoke about the coming of Christ. (Luke 1.70; Acts 3.20-24; cf. 13.20)
 4. Not all prophecies are recorded. (1 Pet. 3.21; Luke 11.49-51)
 5. When did Abraham speak for God? (Gen. 12.1-3; 18.18; 26.4; Gal. 3.8)
- B. Does God speak to us through prophecies?
 1. There were prophets in New Testament times. (Eph. 2.20; 3.5; 4.11)
 2. Prophecy ceased with the completed revelation of scripture. (1 Cor. 13.8; Heb. 1.1,2)

II. PRESCRIPTION

- A. Abimelech is threatened, but there is a way of escape.
 1. Abimelech was told what to do to save his life.
 - a) There was a command. **GENESIS 20.7:** *"Now therefore, restore the man's wife."*
 - b) There was a condition. **GENESIS 20.7:** *"But if you do not restore her..."*
 2. Abimelech confronts Abraham in the presence of his servants.
 - a) **GENESIS 20.8-10:** *"What have you done to us?" "How have I offended you?" "What did you have in view?"*
 - b) **GENESIS 20.11:** Abraham excused his behavior.
 - c) **GENESIS 20.12-13:** Abraham justified his behavior.
 3. Abimelech restores Sarah to Abraham.
 - a) **GENESIS 20.14,15:** Abimelech gave Abraham a gift.
 - b) **GENESIS 20.16:** The gift was to vindicate Sarah proving she is not to be shamed.
- B. Like Abimelech, God threatens us. But there is a way of escape.
 1. There is a command. **ACTS 2.40:** *"Be saved from this perverse generation."*
 2. There is a condition. **ACTS 2.38:** *"Repents, and let every one of you be baptized"*

III. PRAYER

- A. Abraham was to pray for Abimelech.
 1. **GENESIS 20.7:** *"and he will pray for you and you shall live."*
 2. This wasn't the only time one was asked to pray on behalf of others.
 - a) **JOB 42.7-9:** *"My servant Job shall pray for you."*
 - b) **ACTS 8.22-24:** *"Pray to the Lord for me."*
 3. **GENESIS 20.17:** *"So Abraham prayed to God; and God healed Abimelech"*
- B. Like Abraham, we are to pray for the sins of others.
 1. We are only to pray for those who commit sin *"not leading to death"* (1 John 5.16)
 - a) In context, we are promised that God hears our prayers. (1 John 5.15,16)
 - b) God will give us our petition in reference to forgiveness. **1 JOHN 5.16:** *"He will ask, and He will give him life for those who commit sin"*
 2. We are not to pray for those who commit sin *"leading to death."* (1 John 5.16,17)
 - a) The blood of Jesus "cleanses us from all sin" (1 John 1.7).
 - b) But unrepentant sins are unforgivable. (Heb. 6.4-6).