

# Can You Dig It?

## Genesis Chapter 26

### Gen 26:1 1) Following in His Father's Footsteps vs 1-14

Now there was a famine in the land, besides the previous famine that had occurred in the days of Abraham. So Isaac went to Gerar, to Abimelech king of the Philistines.

- *100 years earlier Abraham did the same thing.*

Gen 26:2 The LORD appeared to him and said, "Do not go down to Egypt; stay in the land of which I shall tell you.

Gen 26:3 "Sojourn in this land and I will be with you and bless you, for to you and to your descendants I will give all these lands, and I will establish the oath which I swore to your father Abraham.

Gen 26:4 "I will multiply your descendants as the stars of heaven, and will give your descendants all these lands; and by your descendants all the nations of the earth shall be blessed;

Gen 26:5 because Abraham obeyed Me and kept My charge, My commandments, My statutes and My laws."

Gen 26:6 So Isaac lived in Gerar.

- *Southern edge of promise land. Most all people have spent a time where they live on the edge with God. They haven't yet immersed themselves with God's will. People will not necessarily live in Egypt but they live as close as they can without losing their Christian appearance. But lo they do not realize that they have.*
- *Sojourn - 1 Peter 2:11 "Dearly beloved, I beseech [you] as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul;"*
- *Vs. 3 The Lord told him to SOJOURN there (a temporary visit). Vs. 6 says he lived there. Vs. 8 says he had been there a long time.*

Gen 26:7 When the men of the place asked about his wife, he said, "She is my sister," **for he was afraid to say**, "my wife," {thinking,} "the men of the place might kill me on account of Rebekah, for she is beautiful."

- *Abraham told a ½ truth. Isaac is telling whole lie.*
- *Afraid to say The truth will set you free a lie will create bondage*

Gen 26:8 It came about, when he had been there a long time, that Abimelech king of the Philistines looked out through a window, and saw, and behold, Isaac was caressing his wife Rebekah.

- *Long Time*
- *Abimelech - Title of Philistine Kings*
- *Caressing (KJV) sporting He was at least getting to first base.*

Gen 26:9 Then Abimelech called Isaac and said, "Behold, certainly she is your wife! How then did you say, 'She is my sister'?" And Isaac said to him, "Because I said, 'I might die on account of her.'"

Gen 26:10 Abimelech said, "What is this you have done to us? One of the people might easily have lain with your wife, and you would have brought guilt upon us."

- *Why was Abimelech concerned? Imagine that our president had sported with a woman and then it came out that she was married. What a scandal. What a disgrace on the office, the nation.*

Gen 26:11 So Abimelech charged all the people, saying, "He who touches this man or his wife shall surely be put to death."

Gen 26:12 Now Isaac sowed in that land and reaped in the same year a hundredfold. And the LORD blessed him,

- *Isaac was wealthy from Abraham, yet here we see Isaac sowed or worked and then became rich. His wealth was not his unless he worked for it. Much inheritance doesn't make one rich it just gives a poor man money.*
- *Remember the birthright was the inheritance from the father for the son to take care of the entire family. It really wasn't Isaac's.*

Gen 26:13 and the man became rich, and continued to grow richer until he became very wealthy;  
Gen 26:14 for he had possessions of flocks and herds and a great household, so that the Philistines envied him.

- *Any time that you are being blessed by the Lord, in business, relationships, or in ministry, there will be Philistines around envying. This is a potential for attack and can be dangerous. Be aware.*
- *See Generational Curse Info Sheet at End*

Gen 26:15 **2) Digg'n Wells** vs 15-35

Now all the wells which his father's servants had dug in the days of Abraham his father, the Philistines stopped up by filling them with earth.

Gen 26:16 Then Abimelech said to Isaac, "Go away from us, for you are too powerful for us."

Gen 26:17 And Isaac departed from there and camped in the valley of Gerar, and settled there.

Gen 26:18 Then **Isaac dug again the wells** of water which had been dug in the days of his father Abraham, for the Philistines had stopped them up after the death of Abraham; and he gave them the same names which his father had given them.

- *Man of the well*
- *Dug again*

Gen 26:19 But when **Isaac's servants dug in the valley** and found there a well of flowing water,

Gen 26:20 the herdsmen of Gerar quarreled with the herdsmen of Isaac, saying, "The water is ours!" So he named the well Esek, because they contended with him.

Gen 26:21 Then **they dug another well**, and they quarreled over it too, so he named it Sitnah.

Gen 26:22 He moved away from there and **dug another well**, and they did not quarrel over it; so he named it Rehoboth, for he said, "At last the LORD has made room for us, and we will be fruitful in the land."

- *Moving away from Egypt for he was tiring of the contention*
- *Rehoboth = Room or Broad Streets*
- *Isn't funny how we live so close to the Egypt (worldliness) and we do it confessing our liberty. We say, "All things are lawful"; then when we mature to a place where we are drawn to dwell in the place of more regulations / discipline, we find freedom. We find more room.*
- *Example*

Gen 26:23 Then he went up from there to Beersheba.

- *Isaac is back on track. He is now where he was to dwell.*

Gen 26:24 The LORD appeared to him the same night and said, "I am the God of your father Abraham; Do not fear, for I am with you. I will bless you, and multiply your descendants, For the sake of My servant Abraham."

Gen 26:25 So he built an altar there and called upon the name of the LORD, and pitched his tent there; and **there Isaac's servants dug a well**.

- *The order is telling of Isaac's priorities*

Gen 26:26 Then Abimelech came to him from Gerar with his adviser Ahuzzath and Phicol the commander of his army.

Gen 26:27 Isaac said to them, "Why have you come to me, since you hate me and have sent me away from you?"

Gen 26:28 They said, "We see plainly that the LORD has been with you; so we said, 'Let there now be an oath between us, {even} between you and us, and let us make a covenant with you,

- Gen 26:29 that you will do us no harm, just as we have not touched you and have done to you nothing but good and have sent you away in peace. You are now the blessed of the LORD.' "
- Gen 26:30 Then he made them a feast, and they ate and drank.
- Gen 26:31 In the morning they arose early and exchanged oaths; then Isaac sent them away and they departed from him in peace.
- *Proverbs 16:7 "When a man's ways please the LORD, he maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him."*
- Gen 26:32 Now it came about on the same day, that Isaac's servants came in and told him about the well which they had dug, and said to him, "We have found water."
- *Here we get the sense that some time has elapsed from when they started to dig to when they found water.*
  - *In our quiet times we will experience time where there is seemingly no water. But the digging is critical. Keep Digging. Water is soon to flow.*
- Gen 26:33 So he called it Shibah; therefore the name of the city is Beersheba to this day.
- Gen 26:34 When Esau was forty years old he married Judith the daughter of Beeri the Hittite, and Basemath the daughter of Elon the Hittite;
- Gen 26:35 and they brought grief to Isaac and Rebekah.
- *Isaac ultimately tells Jacob not to take a wife from the Cainaanites but sends him to Rebekah's family to get a wife. (Ch. 28)*
  - *Esau saw this and was angrier still and married women from Ishmael's lineage to spite Isaac & Rebekah even more.*
  - *Esau's character was a fornicator and profane person (Hebrews 12:16).*

#### **FOUR REASONS THE WELLS GET STOPPED UP**

The Enemy  
Neglect  
Miss Use  
The Lord

#### **FOUR WELLS YOU WILL DIG**

Digging first wells of the Father	a Beginning. How to dig wells? What is a good well?
Digging wells before the Enemy	a Strengthening. Is this well worth fight'n for?
Digging wells in the Valley	a Discipline. Digging even in tough times. Are you going to quit?
Digging wells where there were no wells	a Blessing. When it all fits together. Others and Myself are blessed and the Lord is glorified.

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**Question: "What does the Bible say about breaking generational curses?"**

**Answer:** The Bible mentions “generational curses” in several places.

*“ And he passed in front of Moses, proclaiming, "The Lord, the Lord, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished; **he punishes the children and their children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation.**" (Ex. 34:6-7 (NLT))  
(Exodus 20:5; 34:7; Numbers 14:18; Deuteronomy 5:9).*

It sounds unfair for God to punish children for the sins of their fathers. However, this is looking at it from an earthly perspective. God knows that sin is passed down from one generation to the next. When a father has a sinful lifestyle, his children are likely to have the same sinful lifestyle as well. That is why it is not unjust for God to punish sin to the third or fourth generation – because they are committing the same sins their ancestors did. They are being punished for their own sins, not the sins of their ancestors. The Bible specifically tells us that God does not hold children accountable for the sins of their parents (Deuteronomy 24:16).

(Ezekiel 18:1-4 (NIV)) *“The word of the Lord came to me: "What do you people mean by quoting this proverb about the land of Israel: 'The fathers eat sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge'? As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign Lord, you will no longer quote this proverb in Israel. For every living soul belongs to me, the father as well as the son--both alike belong to me. The soul who sins is the one who will die."*

(Ezekiel 18:14-16,18-20 (NIV)) *"But suppose this son has a son who sees all the sins his father commits, and though he sees them, he does not do such things: He does not eat at the mountain shrines or look to the idols of the house of Israel... He does not oppress anyone... He does not commit robbery, but gives his food to the hungry and provides clothing for the naked... He will not die for his father's sin; he will surely live. But his father will die for his own sin, because he practiced extortion, robbed his brother and did what was wrong among his people. Yet you ask, 'Why does the son not share the guilt of his father?' Since the son has done what is just and right and has been careful to keep all my decrees, he will surely live. The soul who sins is the one who will die. The son will not share the guilt of the father, nor will the father share the guilt of the son. The righteousness of the righteous man will be credited to him, and the wickedness of the wicked will be charged against him."*

(Jeremiah 31:29-32 (NIV)) *“In those days people will no longer say, 'The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge.' Instead, everyone will die for his own sin; whoever eats sour grapes--his own teeth will be set on edge. "The time is coming," declares the Lord, "when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant I made with their forefathers..."*

There is a trend in the church today to try and blame every sin and problem on some sort of generational curse. This is not Biblical. The cure for generational curses is salvation through Jesus Christ. When we become Christians, we are new creations (2 Corinthians 5:17). How can a child of God still be under God's curse (Romans 8:1)? The cure, then, for a generational curse is faith in Christ and a life consecrated to Him (Romans 12:1-2). Jesus became a curse for us thus redeeming us from the curses. “ *Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree.*” (Gal 3:13-14)

Jesus never taught generational curses. The closest He came to it was in John 9 a man blind from birth was asked who sinned? His Parents? or He himself? Jesus did not speak at all of generational curses but simply replied Neither that the works of God would be made manifest in him.” No where in the New Testament is there anything indicating a generational curse. There is a curse from our father Adam that all man suffer from, yet the graced of God in Christ Jesus has removed that curse from those that believe in Jesus.