

**Series "In The Beginning...God"**  
**"Promise Between Men"**  
**Genesis 21:22-34**  
**Study-46**

**Our word, our promise of commitment, is extremely important. A peace treaty between Abraham and Abimelech, in which both parties commit themselves to upholding their part of the agreement.**

**Our witness as a child of God is extremely powerful and useful to God:  
Matthew 5:14-16**

**Thought Of Our Passage:** "Believers Through Honesty Should Attempt To Keep, Restore And Strive For Peace In Our Service To The Lord."

- 1. Verses 22-24 Agreement For Peace:**
- 2. Verses 25-27 Restore The Peace:**
- 3. Verses 28-30 Striving For Peace:**
- 4. Verses 31-34 Service In Peace:**

**1. Verses 22-24 Agreement For Peace:**

**Genesis 21:22 Now**

**Context – Genesis 21:1-21** God fulfilled a 25-year-old promise of a son to Abraham and Sarah. There was rejoicing and great laughter (**Isaac – to laugh**), Ishmael (16) mocked Isaac. Ishmael and his mother, Hagar, were banished.

**it came about at that time,**

With the expulsion of Hagar and Ishmael, there is a lapse of time. Abraham had been living in Gerar **Genesis 20:1 Gerar.**

Now revealed in **Genesis 21:32 Beersheba;**

Abraham moved about 25 miles southeast to the area of Beersheba.

**Abimelech** – "*father of a king*" is a title, not his name, like Pharaoh, king of Egypt, President.

**and Phicol, "strong" the commander of his army,**  
Chief captain of the army of the king

**Lesson In Faith: The Believer's Witness Of Jesus Christ Is Powerful:**  
**saying, "God is with you in all that you do; God – Elohim meaning**

*"God of strength or power of effect, the infinite, all-powerful God who shows by His works that He is the creator, sustainer, and supreme judge of the world"*

**Abimelech** had respect and fear for Abraham's God. This is from the fact that Abimelech could see and acknowledge that God was with Abraham.

**Genesis 12:2-3**

**"God is with you – Isaac - 26:28, Jacob - 30-27,  
Joseph - 39:3, 21-23; Psalm 1:1-3**

**The Lord's words to Joshua after the death of Moses: Joshua 1:9**

**Impossible to walk with God without the world noticing it!**

**Peter and John - Acts 4:13**

**Genesis 21:23 now therefore, What is the "therefore, there for?"  
Genesis 21:22 "God is with you in all that you do;**

**swear to me here**

The word **swear – three times**, here and in

**Verse - 24 Abraham said, "I swear it."**

**Verse - 31 the two of them took an oath.**

**by God – Elohim** Why would he say such a thing to Abraham?

In **Genesis 20**, Abraham did not treat this king Abimelech rightly!

**that you will not deal falsely with me, or with my offspring, or with my  
posterity;** (Abimelech knew two things about Abraham)

1. God was with him

2. Abraham had not been honest, he had lied, and was cowardly about Sarah

**"Abraham would be a great friend but a bad enemy"**

**Genesis 20:1-2** Abraham's scheme did not work. Sarah taken into his harem

**Genesis 20:7, 9-11**

**Genesis 20:12 "Besides, she actually is my sister, (half-truth is a full lie)**

**Genesis 20:13-18**

**but according to the kindness that I have shown to you,**

**Genesis 20:14-16**

**Deuteronomy 20:10**

**Genesis 21:24 Abraham said, "I swear it."**

Abraham was quick to agree to peace.

**Lesson In Faith: Believers Should Be People Of Peace Where No  
Compromise Is Involved: Abraham said, "I swear it."**

As long as God is acknowledged and given glory to, we will not compromise His will. **Colossians 4:5; 1 Thessalonians 4:12**

## **2. Verses 25-27 Restore The Peace:**

**Genesis 21:25 complained to Abimelech** –  
the word **complained** "*to correct, rebuke, to judge*"

**servants of Abimelech had seized.**

This word **seized** – "*to steal, take violently, rob*"  
*A later term used in court for a violation of another's property.*

**servants of Abimelech** those that worked for Abimelech

**Lesson In Faith:**

**Believers Should Attempt To Restore Peace When It Is Disrupted:**

Believers should try and work things out, not hide from problems.

**Mark 9:50; Romans 12:18; 2 Corinthians 13:11; Hebrews 12:14**

**Genesis 21:26 Lesson In Judgement:**

**Always Hear Both Sides Before You Make A Judgement:**

**And Abimelech said, "I do not know who has done this thing;  
Proverbs 18:17**

The old saying, "There are always two sides to every story"

**Abimelech's Complaint To Abraham For Not Saying Something:  
you did not tell me, nor did I hear of it until today."**

**Genesis 21:27**

**Abraham took sheep and oxen and gave them to Abimelech,**  
Abraham was the offended party. Abraham gave. **2 Timothy 2:24-26**

Covenants were sealed with blood (**Genesis 15:9**)

**and the two of them made a covenant.** – literally, "*cut*"

## **3. Verses 28-30 Striving For Peace:**

**Genesis 21:28 seven ewe lambs of the flock by themselves.**

That at a covenant it was usually accompanied by the giving of gifts.  
It was Abraham that now gives a gift.

**seven – three times** number of "*completion*" well would permanently belong to  
Abraham

**Genesis 21:29-30 Abraham gave him a receipt for the covenant that they  
were entering into.**

## **4. Verses 31-34 Service In Peace:**

**Genesis 21:31 Therefore he called that place Beersheba,**  
When we see the **Therefore** we ask "What is the therefore, therefore?"  
**Verse 30 seven ewe lambs**

**Beersheba** – "*Well of the oath*" or "*Well of the seven*"  
*The seven lambs were given to seal the deal.*  
Isaac and Abimelech in **Genesis 26:32-33**

**Pictures of the Well of Beersheba:**

**Genesis 21:32 arose and returned to the land of the Philistines.**  
Friendship with Abraham, but not fellowship with Abraham and God.

**Genesis 21:33 Abraham planted a tamarisk tree** Abraham believed in a constant supply of water and a plan to stay in the region. (Fruitfulness and prosperity)

**there he called on the name of the LORD, the Everlasting God. El Olam,**  
*"the Everlasting God."* This name stresses *God's eternal nature. God's promises are everlasting because God is eternal.*

Abraham already knew **El Elyon** "*God Most High*"—**14:19, 22** and **El Shaddai**  
*"God Almighty, the All-Sufficient One"*—**17:1**

**Psalm 90:1-2**

**What an encouragement to know "the Everlasting God!"**

**Genesis 21:34 many days.** These "many days" could be as long as 15 years.

**Application:**

- 1. The Spiritual Value Of The Christians Ordinary Everyday Life:** The Life Of The Believer Is Not Perpetual Trials, Nor Is It Perpetual Miraculous Events. The Normal Life Is The Pattern Of The Believer. To Live Consistently In Good, Mondain, And Bad Times In Order To Please God And To Let Our Light Shine.
- 2. The Importance Of Our Daily Witness Before The Unsaved:**  
We May Be The Only Bible That Some People Will Ever Read.  
**Ephesians 5:15-16; Colossians 4:5**
- 3. The Life Of The Christian Is Blessed With New Experiences With God:**  
God Will Reveal Himself To Us So That We May Be Fully Equipped For Greater Service In The Kingdom Of God.