

## THE COVENANT WITH ISAAC

Old Testament Lesson #18

After Abraham died, there was a famine in Canaan. As a result, Isaac went to Abimelech (a-BIM-e-lek), king of the Philistines, in Gerar (GE-rar), a Philistine city in Canaan. God gave specific instructions that Isaac should not continue heading south into Egypt but should stay in Canaan for a while.

Then God repeated to Isaac the promises he had made to Abraham, that Isaac and his descendants would be as numerous as the stars, would receive the land of Canaan, and would be a source of blessing to other nations.

Isaac planted crops and reaped a great harvest because the LORD blessed him. He became very wealthy, and his flocks grew so large that the Philistines were envious of him. Because of their envy, the Philistines filled with dirt the wells that Isaac's father, Abraham, had dug. Abimelech ordered Isaac to move away from the Philistines because Isaac had become so powerful.

He moved to the Valley of Gerar and reopened the wells there. This angered the Philistines even more, and they said the water was theirs. So Isaac moved farther and dug another well, but again the Philistines quarreled with him over it. Finally, after the third well, there was no dispute.

Isaac then went to Beersheba where God again appeared to him. God told Isaac not to be afraid because he was with him and would bless him because of God's promise to Abraham.

Then Abimelech went to Isaac and explained that the Philistines clearly saw that God was with Isaac. They wanted to make a treaty with him, and they didn't want Isaac to harm them. Isaac consented to this, and after giving them a feast, he sent them away in peace.

### POINTS TO CONSIDER:

- Isaac was the result of a promise given to Abraham. Now that Abraham was dead, God repeated his promises to Isaac. Isaac would have been told all this from Abraham as he was growing up, but now God spoke to him directly.
- Although this Abimelech may have been the same person that Abraham had dealt with (Genesis 20:1-18), it's likely that he was a successor. Abimelech (meaning "royal father") was a general title like "Pharaoh."

### The Covenant With Isaac

- I. A famine caused Isaac to go to King Abimelech.
  - A. God said Isaac shouldn't move but should stay in the land.
  - B. God promised to bless him there.
- II. The LORD richly blessed Isaac.
  - A. His harvests were great.
  - B. He became wealthy and had large flocks.
  - C. The Philistines were envious and filled Isaac's wells with dirt.
  - D. Abimelech finally ordered Isaac to leave the area.
- III. Isaac moved.
  - A. The Philistines still quarreled about the wells.
  - B. God told Isaac not to be afraid.
  - C. The Philistines saw that God was with Isaac and requested a treaty with him.
  - D. Isaac and the Philistines made a treaty to be peaceful.

### ANSWER KEY:

"Stay in this land ... and I will bless you."  
Isaac planted crops and reaped a great harvest. He became very wealthy.  
They filled his wells with dirt so he had to move his tents.

"Do not be afraid, for I am with you; I will bless you and will increase the number of your descendants for the sake of my servant Abraham."



**I**saac was in Gerar, the land of the Philistines. God repeated the promises to Isaac that He had made to his father Abraham.

Use this code to find the answer.

8 = A	43 = D	9 = G	4 = J	6 = M	79 = P	88 = S	87 = V	91 = Y
21 = B	65 = E	1 = H	60 = K	22 = N	10 = Q	98 = T	34 = W	100 = Z
3 = C	12 = F	55 = I	0 = L	46 = O	7 = R	5 = U	45 = X	

What did God promise?

“  
88 98 8 91 55 22 98 1 55 88 0 8 22 43 ... 8 22 43 55  
34 55 0 0 21 0 65 88 88 91 46 5.” Isaac did as God said.

55 88 8 8 3 79 0 8 22 98 65 43 3 7 46 79 88 8 22 43  
7 65 8 79 65 43 8 9 7 65 8 98 1 8 7 87 65 88 98  
1 65 21 65 3 8 6 65 87 65 7 91 34 65 8 0 98 1 91

The Philistines became envious of Isaac.

98 1 65 91 12 55 0 0 65 43 1 55 88 34 65 0 0 88  
34 55 98 1 43 55 7 98 88 46 1 65 1 8 43 98 46  
6 46 87 65 1 55 88 98 65 22 98 88

Starting with the “D,” write on the lines every other letter from the spiral.

After the 3rd well, Isaac went to Beersheba.

God appeared to him and said:

“ \_\_\_\_\_,  
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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.”

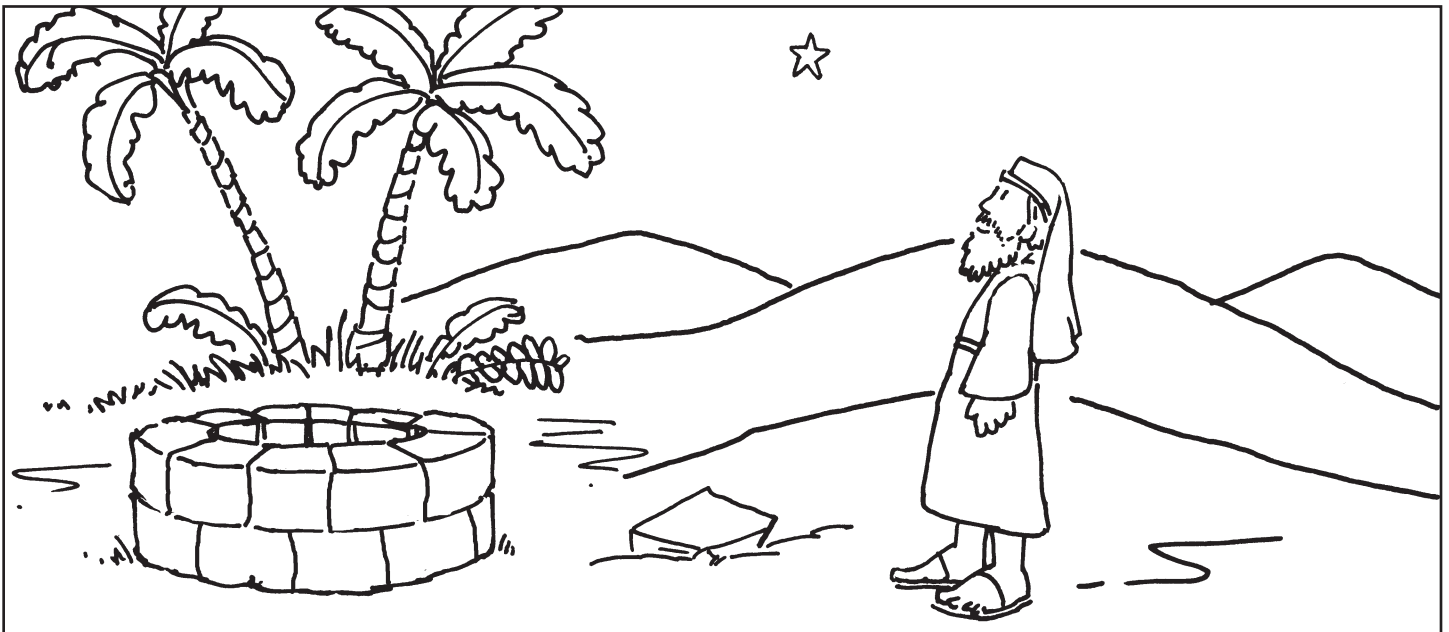


Name \_\_\_\_\_

Genesis 26:24

**G**od promised many blessings to Isaac, just as he did to Abraham.

Circle 10 things different in the bottom picture.



Name \_\_\_\_\_