

SERMON NOTES

July 28, 2013

Scripture: Genesis21:22-34 (NAS)
Topic: "God Deals with Ordinary People"
Rev. Bruce Gardner

- 22 Now it came about at that time that Abimelech and Phicol, the commander of his army, spoke to Abraham, saying, "God is with you in all that you do:
- 23 now therefore, swear to me here by God that you will not deal falsely with me or with my offspring or with my posterity, but according to the kindness that I have shown to you, you shall show to me and to the land in which you have sojourned."
- 24 Abraham said, "I swear it."
- 25 But Abraham complained to Abimelech because of the well of water which the servants of Abimelech had seized.
- 26 And Abimelech said, "I do not know who has done this thing; you did not tell me, nor did I hear of it until today."
- 27 Abraham took sheep and oxen and gave them to Abimelech, and the two of them made a covenant.
- 28 Then Abraham set seven ewe lambs of the flock by themselves.
- 29 Abimelech said to Abraham, "What do these seven ewe lambs mean, which you have set by themselves?"
- 30 He said, "You shall take these seven ewe lambs from my hand so that it may be a witness to me, that I dug this well."
- 31 Therefore he called that place Beersheba, because there the two of them took an oath.
- 32 So they made a covenant at Beersheba; and Abimelech and Phicol, the commander of his army, arose and returned to the land of the Philistines.
- 33 Abraham planted a tamarisk tree at Beersheba, and there he called on the name of the LORD, the Everlasting God.
- 34 And Abraham sojourned in the land of the Philistines for many days.

I. WHAT IS THIS PASSAGE TEACHING?

- A. Often The Principle Being Taught In Biblical Narrative Is Clear
 - 1. The judgment of God
 - 2. The power of God
 - 3. The provisions for His people
- B. Here It Is Not Quite So Obvious
 - 1. God is dealing with the ordinary
 - 2. He deals with ordinary people James 5:17

II. TWO GREAT PROMISES OF GOD TO ABRAHAM

- A. A Son Through Whom All The Nations Would Be Blessed
- B. A Land In Which To Live

III. GOD PROVIDES PROTECTION

- A. Our Days Are Numbered By God Psalm 139:16
- B. He Gives Us Food We Need To Survive
- C. He Does It Through Normal Means II Thessalonians 3:10

IV. GOD CALLS ORDINARY PEOPLE TO BE HIS WITNESSES

- A. The Way We Live
- B. The Way We Treat Others
- C. The Way God Blesses Us