

DO YOU FEAR GOD OR MEN? Genesis 20

Signs that Abraham feared men:

1. He lied

And Abraham said of Sarah his wife, "She is my sister." (2)

2. He pressured others to lie

Did he not himself say to me, 'She is my sister'? And she herself said, 'He is my brother.' (5)

3. He made excuses for his lies

Abraham said, "I did it because I thought, 'There is no fear of God at all in this place, and they will kill me because of my wife.'" (11)

4. He passed blame when caught lying

And when God caused me to wander from my father's house, I said to her, 'This is the kindness you must do me: at every place to which we come, say of me, "He is my brother."' (13)

Signs that Abimelech feared God:

1. He heeded God's warning

But God came to Abimelech in a dream by night and said to him, "Behold, you are a dead man because of the woman whom you have taken, for she is a man's wife." (3)

2. He led others to fear God

So Abimelech rose early in the morning and called all his servants and told them all these things. And the men were very much afraid. (8)

3. He spoke boldly

Then Abimelech called Abraham and said to him, "What have you done to us? And how have I sinned against you, that you have brought on me and my kingdom a great sin? You have done to me things that ought not to be done." (9)

4. He sought to make things right

Then Abimelech took sheep and oxen, and male servants and female servants, and gave them to Abraham... (14)

5. He obeyed God

...and returned Sarah his wife to him. (14)