

FOUNDATIONS *of*
REDEEMPTIVE
HISTORY

Part 2

Genesis 12-24

BREAKDOWN OF TEXT

~~1. Abram Journeys to Egypt (12)~~

~~2. Abram, Lot, and the War (13-14)~~

~~3. God's Covenant with Abram (15)~~

~~4. Sarai, Hagar, and Doubt (16)~~

~~5. God's Covenant of Circumcision (17)~~

~~6. The Promised Birth of Isaac, and the~~

~~Destruction of Sodom/Gomorrah (18-19)~~

**7. Abraham, Abimelech, and Isaac's
Birth (20-21)**

8. The Sacrifice of Isaac (22)

9. Sarah's Death (23)

10. Isaac and Rebekah (24)

REVIEW

GENESIS 18-19

Some personal thoughts from ch. 18-19

- With the ugliness of what we saw in Sodom, it's crazy to think that by the time of the Judges, the wickedness of Israel had gone just as far.

Some personal thoughts from ch. 18-19

- Ezek. 16:48 “As I live,” declares the Lord GOD, “**Sodom, your sister and her daughters** have not done as you and your daughters have done. 49 “Behold, this was the guilt of your **sister Sodom**: she and her daughters had arrogance, abundant food and careless ease, but she did not help the poor and needy. 50 “Thus they were haughty and committed abominations before Me. Therefore I removed them when I saw it.

Some personal thoughts from ch. 18-19

- Matt. 10:5 These twelve Jesus sent out after instructing them: “Do not go in the way of the Gentiles, and do not enter any city of the Samaritans; 6 but rather go to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. 7 “And as you go, preach, saying, ‘The kingdom of heaven is at hand.’

13 “If the house is worthy, give it your blessing of peace. But if it is not worthy, take back your blessing of peace. 14 “Whoever does not receive you, nor heed your words, as you go out of that house or that city, shake the dust off your feet. 15 “Truly I say to you, it will be more tolerable for the land of **Sodom and Gomorrah** in the day of judgment than for that city.”

Personal study questions (Genesis 20-21)

1. Why does Abraham say that Sarah is his sister? What does this reveal about Abraham's fears? What chapter do we remember reading a story similar to this?
2. How does God intervene in Abimelech's life? What does this teach us about God's sovereignty over rulers and nations?
3. What does Abimelech say about his innocence and integrity? How does Abraham explain his actions?
4. Why is Abraham called a prophet in this context?
5. In regards to His covenant faithfulness, what does chapter 20 show us about God's protection over Sarah?
6. What details are repeated about the timing of Isaac's birth? How does Sarah respond to his birth?
7. How does Abraham feel about Sarah's demand concerning Hagar/Ishmael? Why would God tell him to listen to her? Why is it so important for Isaac and Ishmael to be separated?
8. How does God care for Hagar/Ishmael in the wilderness?
9. What agreement do Abraham and Abimelech make in the wilderness? Why is this covenant important in Abraham's story?
10. How is God's faithfulness and compassion seen in these chapters?

GENESIS 20-21

Abraham, Abimelech, and Isaac's Birth

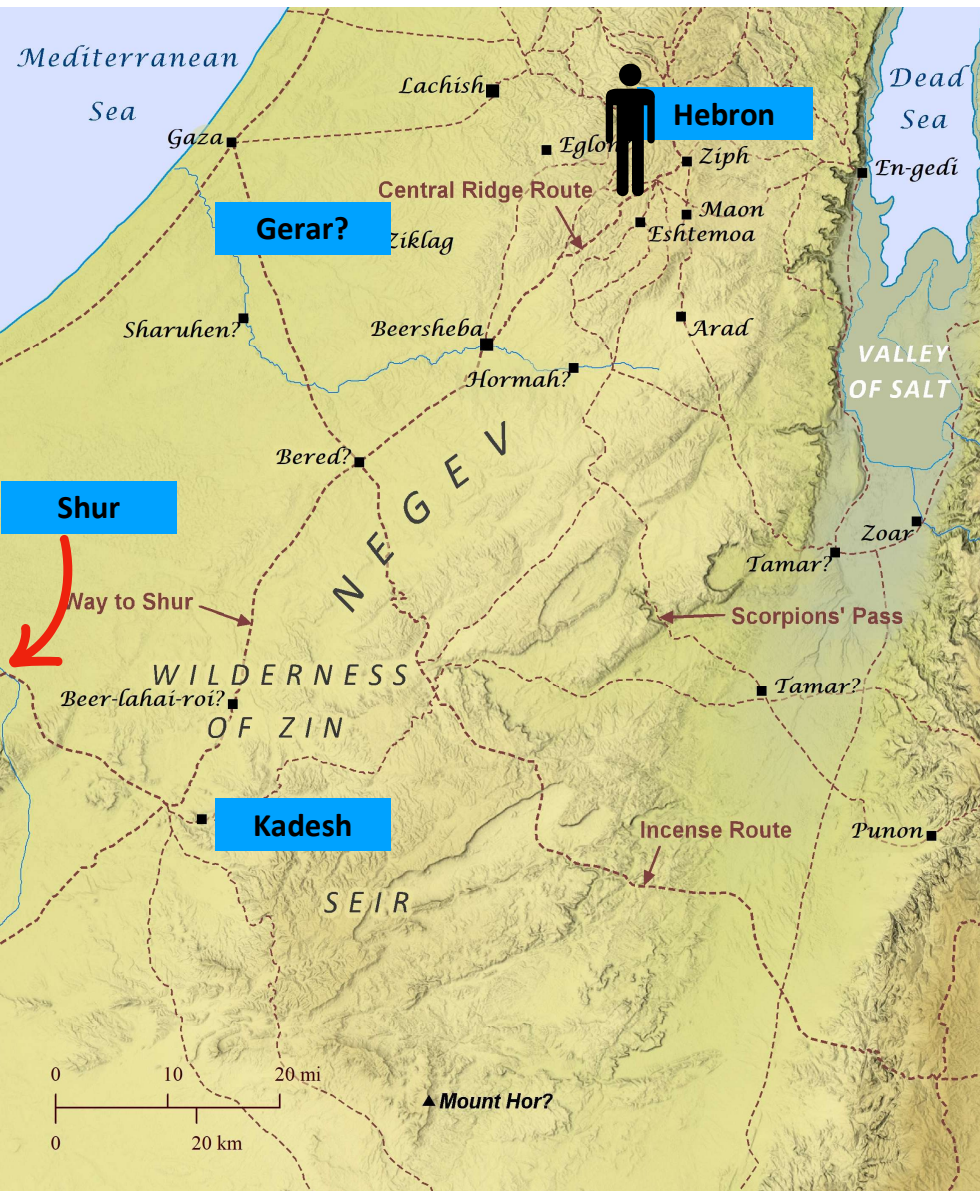
- 1. Setting Change (20:1)**
- 2. Ab deceives Abi, Abi asks for mercy (20:2-18)**
- 3. The LORD fulfills His promise of Isaac (21:1-8)**
- 4. Hagar and Ishmael p.2 (21:9-21)**
- 5. Ab covenant with Abi (21:22-34)**

1

1. Setting Change (20:1)

- Ask Questions
 - Where is Negev, Kadesh, Shur, Gerar?
 - Is there any significance to this region?
 - Have we come across any of these places before?

*Gen. 20:1 Now Abraham journeyed from there toward the land of the **Negev**, and settled between **Kadesh** and **Shur**; then he sojourned in **Gerar**.*



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*Gen. 10:19 The territory of the Canaanite extended from Sidon as you go toward **Gerar**, as far as Gaza; as you go toward Sodom and Gomorrah and Admah and Zeboiim, as far as Lasha.*

2

2. Ab deceives Abi, Abi asks for mercy (20:2-18)

- Ask Questions
 - Why does Abraham make the same mistake again as he did with Sarai and Pharaoh?
 - Why did God speak to Abimelech in a dream instead of to Abraham?
 - Was Abimelech blameless in this?
 - What does it mean that Abraham was a prophet?

Gen. 20:2 Abraham said of Sarah his wife, "She is my sister." So Abimelech king of Gerar sent and took Sarah. 3 But God came to Abimelech in a dream of the night, and said to him, "Behold, you are a dead man because of the woman whom you have taken, for she is married." 4 Now Abimelech had not come near her; and he said, "Lord, will You slay a nation, even though blameless? 5 "Did he not himself say to me, 'She is my sister'? And she herself said, 'He is my brother.' In the integrity of my heart and the innocence of my hands I have done this." 6 Then God said to him in the dream, "Yes, I know that in the integrity of your heart you have done this, and I also kept you from sinning against Me; therefore I did not let you touch her. 7 "Now therefore, restore the man's wife, for he is a prophet, and he will pray for you and you will live. But if you do not restore her, know that you shall surely die, you and all who are yours."

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Abimelech

might have been a title,
like “Pharaoh”

Abimelech x 5

Genesis - King of Gerar Abraham's time

Genesis - King of Gerar Isaac's time

1 Samuel/Psalm - King Achish

Judges - Son of Gideon

1 Chronicles - The Priest (Ahimelech?)



*Gen. 21:32 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.***

*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*

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Gen. 12:11 It came about when he came near to Egypt, that he said to Sarai his wife, "See now, I know that you are a beautiful woman; 12 and when the Egyptians see you, they will say, 'This is his wife'; and they will kill me, but they will let you live. 13 "Please say that you are my sister so that it may go well with me because of you, and that I may live on account of you."

- How could you, Abraham?!
 - Abraham used a half truth to deceive rather than fully trust God. (Gen. 20:12)
 - His habitual fear in his travels was never fully mortified. (Gen. 20:13)
 - Temptation to doubt and sin has a tendency to repeat itself. (Gen. 26:6)

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*Gen. 26:6 So Isaac lived in **Gerar**. 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."*

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Gen. 20:17 Abraham prayed to God, and God healed Abimelech and his wife and his maids, so that they bore children. 18 For the LORD had closed fast all the wombs of the household of Abimelech because of Sarah, Abraham's wife.

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Genesis 3:15

And I will put enmity
Between you and the woman,
And between **your seed** and **her seed**;
He shall bruise **you** on the head,
And **you** shall bruise **him** on the heel.”

Matt. 1:1 The record of the **genealogy** of Jesus the Messiah, the son of David, the son of **Abraham**:

2 Abraham was the father of Isaac, Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers. 3 Judah was the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, Perez was the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Ram. 4 Ram was the father of Amminadab, Amminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon. 5 Salmon was the father of Boaz by Rahab, Boaz was the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse. 6 Jesse was the father of David the king.

David was the father of Solomon by Bathsheba who had been the wife of Uriah. 7 Solomon was the father of Rehoboam, Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asa. 8 Asa was the father of Jehoshaphat, Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah. 9 Uzziah was the father of Jotham, Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah. 10 Hezekiah was the father of Manasseh, Manasseh the father of Amon, and Amon the father of Josiah. 11 Josiah became the father of Jeconiah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon.

Matt. 1:12 After the deportation to Babylon: Jeconiah became the father of Shealtiel, and Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel. 13 Zerubbabel was the father of Abihud, Abihud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor. 14 Azor was the father of Zadok, Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud. 15 Eliud was the father of Eleazar, Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob. 16 Jacob was the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, by whom Jesus was born, who is called the

Messiah.



Gen. 18:22 Then the men turned away from there and went toward Sodom, while Abraham was still standing before the LORD. 23 Abraham came near and said, "Will You indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? 24 "Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will You indeed sweep it away and not spare the place for the sake of the fifty righteous who are in it?"

Num. 21:7 So the people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned, because we have spoken against the LORD and you; intercede with the LORD, that He may remove the serpents from us." And Moses interceded for the people.

Heb. 7:25 Therefore He is able also to save forever those who draw near to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.

Gen. 20:8 So Abimelech arose early in the morning and called all his servants and told all these things in their hearing; and the men were greatly frightened. 9 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 on my kingdom a great sin? You have done to me things that ought not to be done." 10 And Abimelech said to Abraham, "What have you encountered, that you have done this thing?" 11 Abraham said, "Because I thought, surely there is no fear of God in this place, and they will kill me because of my wife. 12 "Besides, she actually is my sister, the daughter of my father, but not the daughter of my mother, and she became my wife; 13 and it came about, when God caused me to wander from my father's house, that I said to her, 'This is the kindness which you will show to me: everywhere we go, say of me, "He is my brother.'""

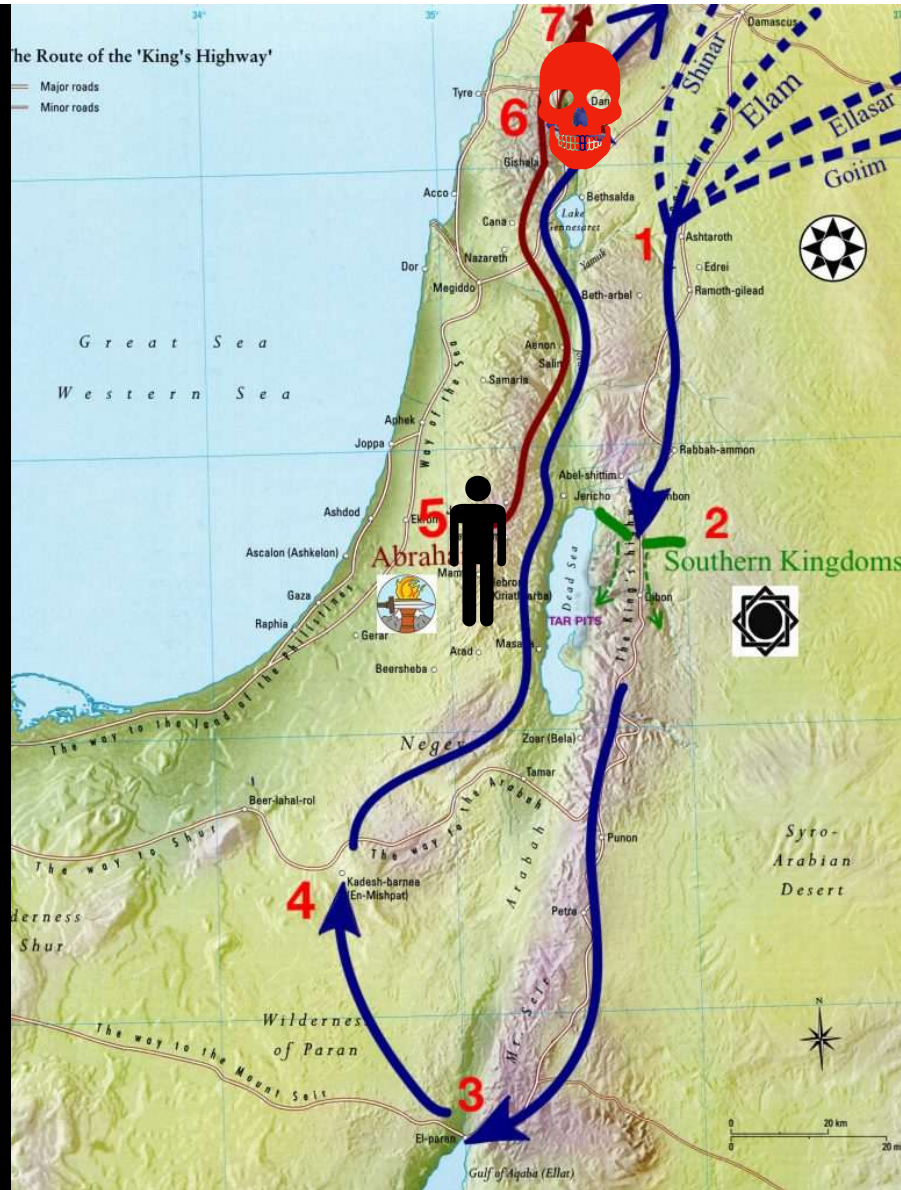
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Gen. 14:14 When Abram heard that his relative had been taken captive, he led out his trained men, born in his house, three hundred and eighteen, and went in pursuit as far as Dan. 15 He divided his forces against them by night, he and his servants, and defeated [Amraphel king of Shinar, Arch king of Ellasar, Chedorlaomer king of Elam, and Tidal king of Goiim], and pursued them as far as Hobah, which is north of Damascus. 16 He brought back all the goods, and also brought back his relative Lot with his possessions, and also the women, and the people.

The Route of the 'King's Highway'

- Major roads
- Minor roads



Gen. 20:14 Abimelech then took sheep and oxen and male and female servants, and gave them to Abraham, and restored his wife Sarah to him. 15 Abimelech said, "Behold, my land is before you; settle wherever you please." 16 To Sarah he said, "Behold, I have given your brother a thousand pieces of silver; behold, it is your vindication before all who are with you, and before all men you are cleared." 17 Abraham prayed to God, and God healed Abimelech and his wife and his maids, so that they bore children. 18 For the LORD had closed fast all the wombs of the household of Abimelech because of Sarah, Abraham's wife.

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*Gen. 12:17 But the LORD struck Pharaoh and his house with great plagues because of Sarai, Abram's wife. 18 Then Pharaoh called Abram and said, "What is this you have done to me? Why did you not tell me that she was your wife? 19 "Why did you say, 'She is my sister,' so that I took her for my wife? Now then, here is your wife, **take her and go.**" 20 Pharaoh commanded his men concerning him; and they escorted him away, with his wife and all that belonged to him.*

*Gen. 13:2 Now Abram was **very rich in livestock, in silver and in gold.***

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Unconditional Covenant Given

1. Land
2. Nation/People
3. Blessing

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- This story shows reveals about sin and its...
 - **Nature** - God sets the standard
 - **Seriousness** - The wages of sin is death
 - **Solution** - There must be an advocate

Rom. 6:23 For the wages of sin is death

- This story shows reveals about sin and its...
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Heb. 7:26 For it was fitting for us to have such a high priest, holy, innocent, undefiled, separated from sinners and exalted above the heavens; 27 who does not need daily, like those high priests, to offer up sacrifices, first for His own sins and then for the sins of the people, because this He did once for all when He offered up Himself.

APPLICATION

(Q) Why do you think Abraham repeated the same kind of sin he committed earlier? Why is it significant that God still calls Abraham His prophet? How does this point forward to Jesus and God's faithfulness?

(Q) Have I ever used a half truth to protect myself, my reputation, or my comfort? How might situations like these reveal that I trust in my own schemes more than God's protection?

(Q) How can my private sins create consequences for other people? Have I put someone else in a difficult position because of my own self-interest?

3

3. The LORD fulfills His promise of Isaac (21:1-8)

- Ask Questions
 - You can come up with them. Reminder, my questions are suggestions and helps. You don't need to answer all of them.

Gen. 21:1 Then the LORD took note of Sarah as He had said, and the LORD did for Sarah as He had promised. 2 So Sarah conceived and bore a son to Abraham in his old age, at the appointed time of which God had spoken to him. 3 Abraham called the name of his son who was born to him, whom Sarah bore to him, Isaac. 4 Then Abraham circumcised his son Isaac when he was eight days old, as God had commanded him. 5 Now Abraham was one hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him. 6 Sarah said, "God has made laughter for me; everyone who hears will laugh with me." 7 And she said, "Who would have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse children? Yet I have borne him a son in his old age." 8 The child grew and was weaned, and Abraham made a great feast on the day that Isaac was weaned.

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Gen. 12:2 And I will make you **a great nation**

Gen. 13:16 "I will make your **descendants as the dust of the earth**

Gen. 15:4 "This man will not be your heir; **but one who will come forth from your own body**, he shall be your heir."

Gen. 17:19 "**Sarah your wife will bear you a son**, and you shall call his name Isaac"

Gen. 18:10 "I will surely return to you at this time next year; and behold, **Sarah your wife will have a son.**"

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Heb. 11:11 **By faith even Sarah herself received ability to conceive**, even beyond the proper time of life, since she considered Him faithful who had promised. 12 Therefore there was born even of one man, and him as good as dead at that, as many descendants **AS THE STARS OF HEAVEN IN NUMBER, AND INNUMERABLE AS THE SAND WHICH IS BY THE SEASHORE.**

APPLICATION

(Q) Do I trust in God to fulfill His promises according to His timing, even if I can't see what He's doing?

4

4. Hagar and Ishmael p.2 (21:9-21)

- Ask Questions

Gen. 21:9 Now Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, mocking. 10 Therefore she said to Abraham, "Drive out this maid and her son, for the son of this maid shall not be an heir with my son Isaac." 11 The matter distressed Abraham greatly because of his son. 12 But God said to Abraham, "Do not be distressed because of the lad and your maid; whatever Sarah tells you, listen to her, for through Isaac your descendants shall be named. 13 "And of the son of the maid I will make a nation also, because he is your descendant." 14 So Abraham rose early in the morning and took bread and a skin of water and gave them to Hagar, putting them on her shoulder, and gave her the boy, and sent her away. And she departed and wandered about in the wilderness of Beersheba.

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*Gen. 16:2 So Sarai said to Abram, "Now behold, the LORD has prevented me from bearing children. Please go in to my maid; perhaps I will obtain children through her." **And Abram listened to the voice of Sarai.***

*Gen. 16:4 He went in to Hagar, and she conceived; and when she saw that she had conceived, her mistress was despised in her sight. 5 And Sarai said to Abram, "May the wrong done me be upon you. I gave my maid into your arms, but when she saw that she had conceived, I was despised in her sight. May the LORD judge between you and me." 6 **But Abram said to Sarai, "Behold, your maid is in your power; do to her what is good in your sight."** So Sarai treated her harshly, and she fled from her presence.*

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*Gal. 4:28 And you brethren, like Isaac, are children of promise.
29 But as at that time he who was born according to the flesh
persecuted him who was born according to the Spirit, so it is
now also.*

30 But what does the Scripture say?

***“CAST OUT THE BONDWOMAN AND HER SON,
FOR THE SON OF THE BONDWOMAN SHALL NOT BE AN
HEIR WITH THE SON OF THE FREE WOMAN.”***

*John 8:34 Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is the slave of sin. 35 "The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son does remain forever. 36 **So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.** 37 I know that you are Abraham's descendants; yet you seek to kill Me, because My word has no place in you."*

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*Gen. 18:20 “As for Ishmael, I have heard you; behold, I will bless him, and will make him fruitful and will multiply him exceedingly. He shall become **the father of twelve princes**, and I will make him a great nation. 21 “But My covenant I will establish with Isaac, whom Sarah will bear to you at this season next year.”*

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Gen. 21:15 When the water in the skin was used up, she left the boy under one of the bushes. 16 Then she went and sat down opposite him, about a bowshot away, for she said, "Do not let me see the boy die." And she sat opposite him, and lifted up her voice and wept. 17 God heard the lad crying; and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven and said to her, "What is the matter with you, Hagar? Do not fear, for God has heard the voice of the lad where he is. 18 "Arise, lift up the lad, and hold him by the hand, for I will make a great nation of him." 19 Then God opened her eyes and she saw a well of water; and she went and filled the skin with water and gave the lad a drink.

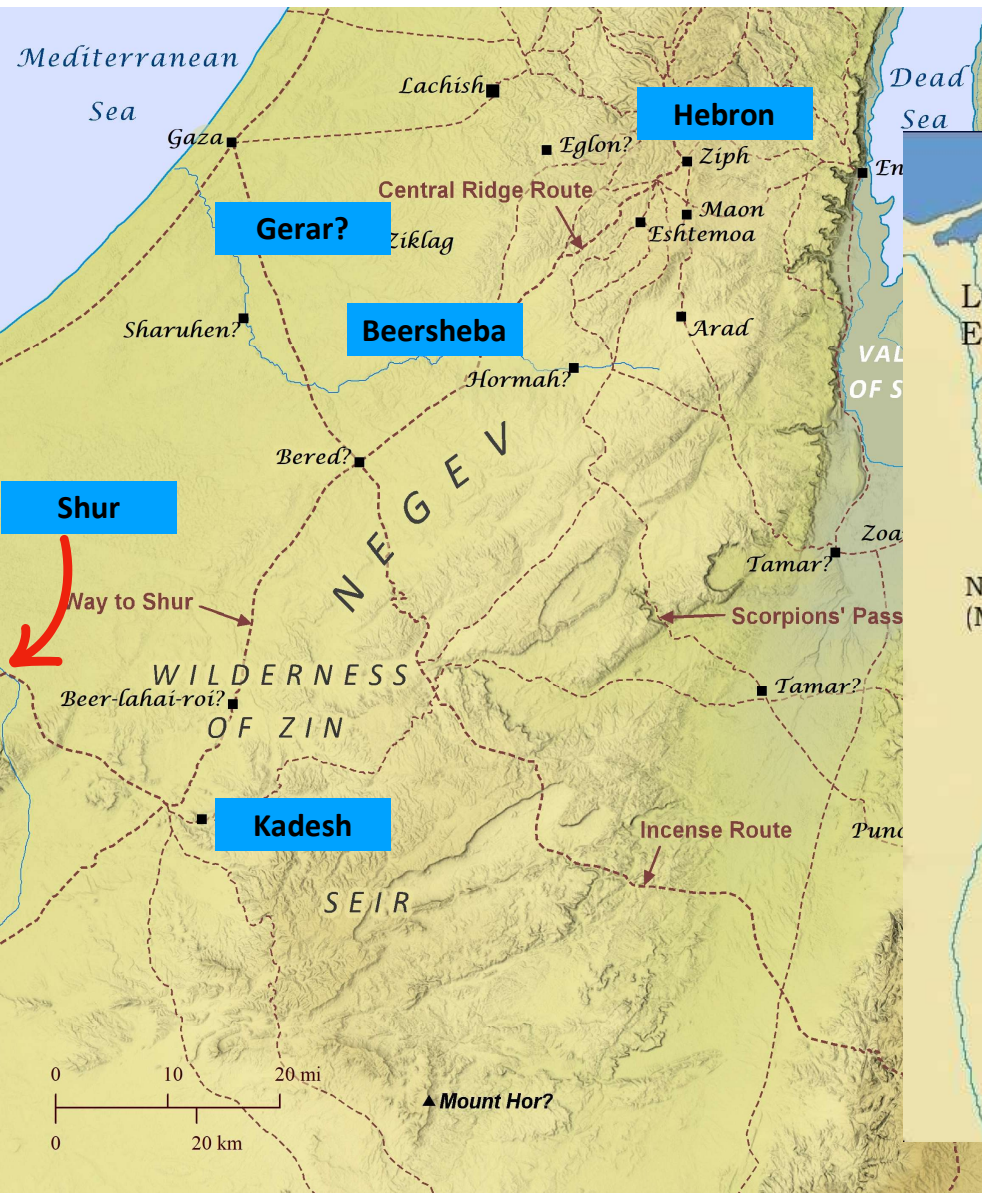
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Ishmael

God who hears

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*Gen. 21:20 God was with the lad, and he grew; and he lived in the wilderness and became an archer. 21 He lived in the wilderness of **Paran**, and his mother took a wife for him from the **land of Egypt**.*



5

5. Ab covenant with Abi (21:22-34)

- Ask Questions

Gen. 21:22 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."

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Gen. 21:27 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.

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Beersheba

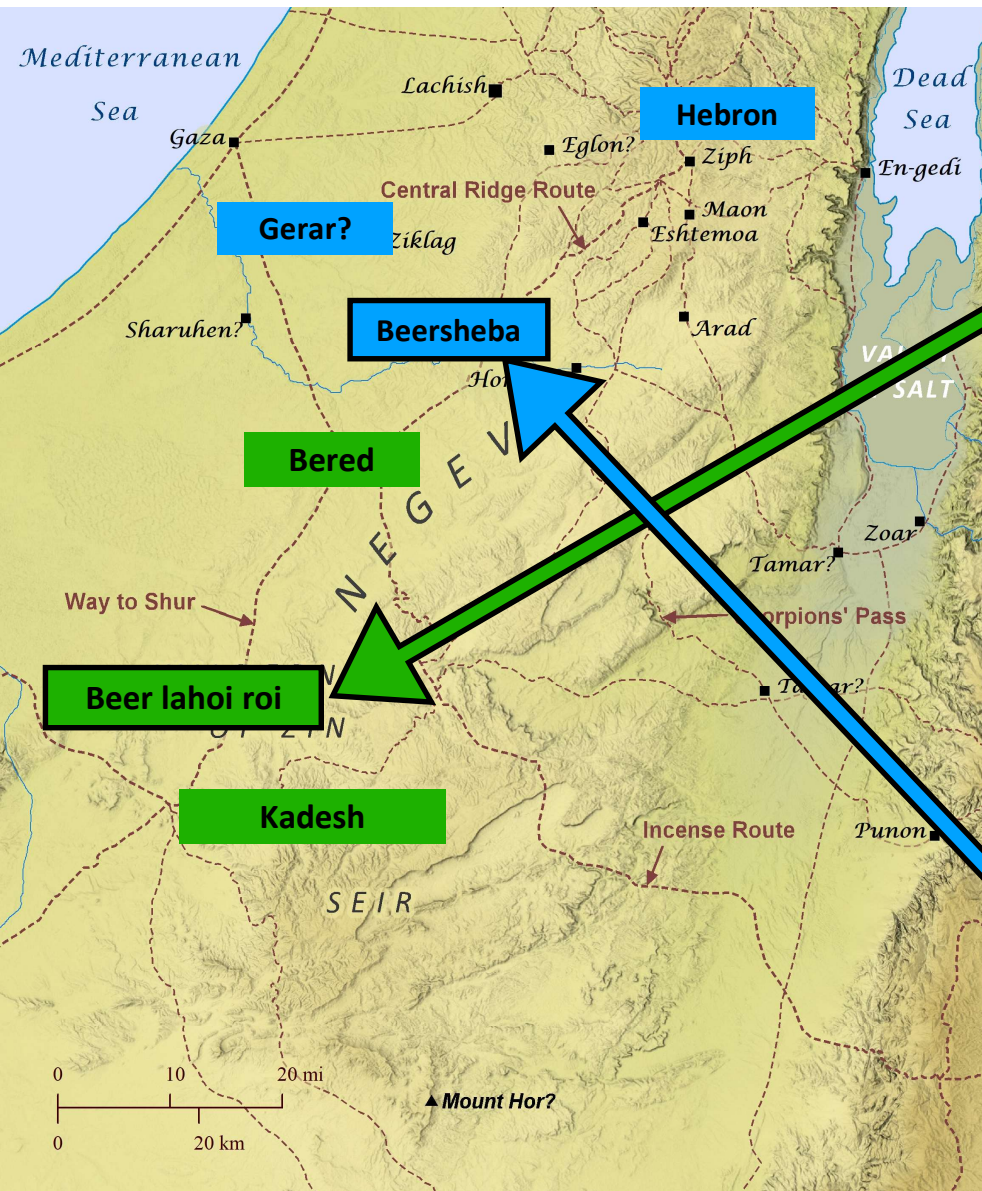
“Well of seven”

“Well of the oath”

Judg. 20:1 Then all the sons of Israel from Dan to Beersheba, including the land of Gilead, came out, and the congregation assembled as one man to the LORD at Mizpah.

1Sam. 3:20 All Israel from Dan even to Beersheba knew that Samuel was confirmed as a prophet of the LORD.





Gen. 16:13 Then she called the name of the LORD who spoke to her, “You are a God who sees”; for she said, “Have I even remained alive here after seeing Him?” 14 Therefore the well was called **Beer-lahai-roi**; behold, it is between **Kadesh** and **Bered**.

Gen. 21:14 So Abraham rose early in the morning and took bread and a skin of water and gave them to Hagar, putting them on her shoulder, and gave her the boy, and sent her away. And she departed and wandered about in the **wilderness of Beersheba** [...] 18 “Arise, lift up the lad, and hold him by the hand, for I will make a great nation of him.” 19 **Then God opened her eyes and she saw a well of water.**

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GENESIS 22

The Sacrifice of Isaac

NEXT WEEK: Personal study questions (Genesis 22)

1. How does the chapter begin? What does the narrator tell us right away?
2. What specific command does God give Abraham? What are the details that are mentioned, especially concerning Isaac? What makes this command especially difficult for Abraham?
3. How does Abraham respond? What stands out about his response? How does Abraham's journey of faith to this point contribute to his obedience?
4. What are the details of the journey? (Who went, what did they take, how long did it take, where did they go?) Where is Mt. Moriah? (Try doing a word search on "Moriah" in [intoBible.com](https://www.intoBible.com))
5. What does Isaac notice is missing, and how does Abraham answer Isaac's question?
6. How would you describe Isaac's role in this story? What do you notice about his willingness or silence?
7. Why does God stop Abraham before the sacrifice is completed? What promises does God repeat after Abraham's obedience?
8. How does the chapter end? What names/family details are included?
9. What themes in this chapter point forward to the rest of Scripture?

Application Questions (Ch. 20-21)

1. **Gen 20:2-18** Why do you think Abraham repeated the same kind of sin he committed earlier? Why is it significant that God still calls Abraham His prophet? How does this point forward to Jesus and God's faithfulness?
2. **Gen 20:2-18** Have I ever used a half truth to protect myself, my reputation, or my comfort? How might situations like these reveal that I trust in my own schemes more than God's protection?
3. **Gen 20:2-18** How can my private sins create consequences for other people? Have I put someone else in a difficult position because of my own self-interest?
4. **Gen 21:1-8** Do I trust in God to fulfill His promises according to His timing, even if I can't see what He's doing?