

21.22-34

At that time **Abimelech**, with **Phicol the commander of his army**, said to Abraham, **"God is with you in all that you do**; 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 as I have dealt loyally with you, you will deal with me and with the land where you have resided as an alien." And Abraham said, "I swear it." **When Abraham complained to Abimelech about a well of water that Abimelech's servants had seized**, Abimelech said, "I do not know who has done this; you did not tell me, and I have not heard of it until today." So Abraham took sheep and oxen and gave them to Abimelech, **and the two men made a covenant**. Abraham set apart seven ewe lambs of the flock. And Abimelech said to Abraham, "What is the meaning of these seven ewe lambs that you have set apart?" He said, "These seven ewe lambs you shall accept from my hand, in order that you may be **a witness for me that I dug this well**." **Therefore that place was called Beer-sheba**; because there **both of them swore an oath**. **When they had made a covenant at Beer-sheba**, Abimelech, with **Phicol the commander of his army**, left and returned to the land of the Philistines. **Abraham planted a tamarisk tree in Beer-sheba**, and called there on the name of YHWH, the Everlasting God. And **Abraham resided as an alien many days in the land of the Philistines**.

26.3-6, 12-33

Reside in this land as an alien, and **I will be with you**, and will bless you; for to you and to your descendants I will give all these lands, and **I will fulfill the oath that I swore to your father Abraham** I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven, and will give to your offspring all these lands; and all the nations of the earth shall gain blessing for themselves through your offspring, because Abraham obeyed my voice and kept my charge, my commandments, my statutes, and my laws." So Isaac settled in Gerar.

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Isaac sowed seed in that land, and in the same year reaped a hundredfold. YHWH blessed him, and the man became rich; he prospered more and more until he became very wealthy. He had possessions of flocks and herds, and a great household, so that the Philistines envied him. **(Now the Philistines had stopped up and filled with earth all the wells that his father's servants had dug in the days of his father Abraham.)** And Abimelech said to Isaac, "Go away from us; you have become too powerful for us." So Isaac departed from there and camped in the valley of Gerar and settled there. **Isaac dug again the wells of water that had been dug in the days of his father Abraham**; for the Philistines had stopped them up after the death of Abraham; and he gave them the names that his father had given them. **But when Isaac's servants dug in the valley and found there a well of spring water, the herders of Gerar quarreled with Isaac's herders, saying, "The water is ours."** So he called the well Esek, because they contended with him. Then **they dug another well**, and they quarreled over that one also; so he called it Sitnah. He moved from there and **dug another well**, and they did not quarrel over it; so he called it Rehoboth, saying, "Now YHWH has made room for us, and we shall be fruitful in the land." **From there he went up to Beer-sheba**. And that very night YHWH appeared to him and said, **"I am the God of your father Abraham**; do not be afraid, for **I am with you** and will bless you and make your offspring numerous for my servant Abraham's sake." So he built an altar there, called on the name of YHWH, and pitched his tent there. And there Isaac's servants **dug a well**. Then **Abimelech** went to him from Gerar, with Ahuzzath his adviser and **Phicol the commander of his army**. Isaac said to them, "Why have you come to me, seeing that you hate me and have sent me away from you?" They said, **"We see plainly that YHWH has been with you**; so we say, let there be an oath between you and us, **and let us make a covenant** with you so that you will do us no harm, just as we have not touched you and have done to you nothing but good and have sent you away in peace. **You are now the blessed of YHWH**." So he made them a feast, and they ate and drank. In the morning they rose early and **exchanged oaths**; and Isaac set them on their way, and they departed from him in peace. That same day Isaac's servants came and told him about the well that they had dug, and said to him, **"We have found water!"** He called it Shibah; **therefore the name of the city is Beer-sheba to this day**.