

SEARCHING THE SCRIPTURES

AN OVERVIEW OF THE OLD TESTAMENT

JN. 5:39



Jn. 5:39 “**Search the scriptures....they are they which testify of me.**”

Jn 5:46 For had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed me: for **he wrote of me.**

Genesis 26:1-35

We began in Genesis with the beginnings of the human race.

I. THE PRIMEVAL HISTORY: BEGINNINGS OF THE HUMAN RACE, 1:1—11:32

II. PATRIARCHAL HISTORY: BEGINNINGS OF THE HEBREW RACE, 12:1—50:26

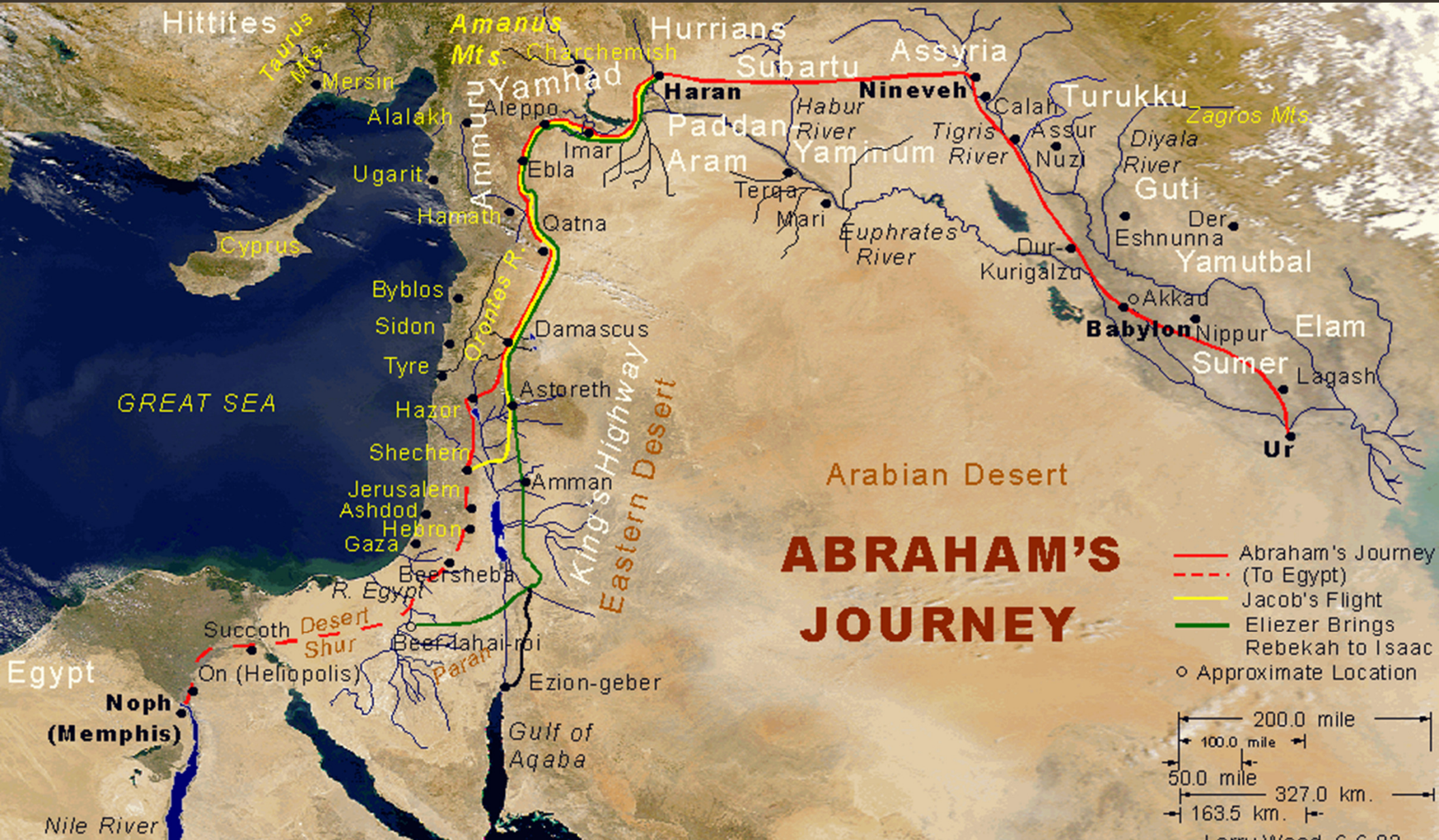
A. The Progenitor: Abraham, 12:1—25:11

B. The Pilgrim: Isaac, 25:19—27:46

1. Isaac and His Boys, 25:19-34

- a. The Beginning Was Extraordinary, 25:19
- b. The Barrenness was Extended, 25:20-21
- c. The Battle was Engaged, 25:22-26
- d. The Birthright was Execrated, 25:27-34

Tonight, we begin studying the next patriarch of Israel, Abraham's son, Isaac. In typology, Isaac is a type of the Lord Jesus, the Son of God.





<https://4.bp.blogspot.com/-dBkfVqqYkv4/V0dPTYbcMtl/AAAAAAAAAPa/36jNK88ZA00wNJxx9J4b68qAARFFpGKxACLcB/s1600/04.2%2BGen%2B37%2B-%2BIsaac%2BJacob%2BJoseph%2Bmap%2Bp61.jpg>

2. Isaac and His Behavior, 26:1-35

a. The Reminder, 26:1-5

Gen. 26:1 And there was a famine in the land, beside the first famine that was in the days of Abraham. And Isaac went unto Abimelech king of the Philistines unto Gerar.

2 And the LORD appeared unto him, and said, Go not down into Egypt; dwell in the land which I shall tell thee of:

3 **Sojourn in this land**, and **I will** be with thee, and **will** bless thee; for unto thee, and unto thy seed, **I will** give all these countries, and **I will** perform the oath which I sware unto Abraham thy father;

4 And **I will** make thy seed to multiply as the stars of heaven, and **will** give unto thy seed all these countries; and in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed;

5 Because that Abraham obeyed my voice, and kept my charge, my commandments, my statutes, and my laws.

- ❖ Chapter 26 begins with a reminder of the Abrahamic Covenant which was passed to Isaac, not Ishmael.
- ❖ The unconditional covenant emphasizes that God will bless and give to Isaac promises.

- ❖ Like his father, “...Isaac went unto Abimelech king of the Philistines unto Gerar.”
- ❖ Isaac was told, “...Go not down into Egypt; dwell in the land which I shall tell the of:”

b. The Retrospect, 26:6-7

Gen. 26:6 And Isaac dwelt in Gerar:

7 And the men of the place asked *him* of his wife; and he said, She *is* my sister: for **he feared** to say, *She is my wife*; lest, *said he*, the men of the place should kill me for Rebekah; because she *was* fair to look upon.

Isaac's Journeys

Bethel ●
Gen 13:3

Jerusalem ●
(For reference only)

● Hebron
Gen 13:18, 23:2, 23:19

● Gerar
Gen 10:19, 20:1-2, 26:1, 6, 17, 20, 26

● Beer-sheba
Gen 21:14, 31-33, 22:19, 26:23, 26:33

Gen 26:2
←--Egypt

— = 5 km.

PHILISTIA
NEGEV
Hebrew word for "the south country" in Gen 24:62

DEAD SEA



❖ Isaac follows in his father Abraham's footsteps (see Gen. 12 and 20.) "he feared"

c. The Rebuke, 26:8-11

Gen. 26:8 And it came to pass, when he had been there a long time, that Abimelech king of the Philistines looked out at a window, and saw, and, behold, Isaac *was* sporting with Rebekah his wife.

9 And Abimelech called Isaac, and said, Behold, of a surety she *is* thy wife: and how saidst thou, She *is* my sister? And Isaac said unto him, Because I said, Lest I die for her.

10 And Abimelech said, What *is* this thou hast done unto us? one of the people might lightly have lien with thy wife, and thou shouldest have brought guiltiness upon us.

11 And Abimelech charged all *his* people, saying, He that toucheth this man or his wife shall surely be put to death.

- ❖ Abimelech observed Isaac “sporting with Rebekah” and knew she was NOT a sister.
- ❖ A heathen king had more concern for propriety than Isaac did. (See “touch” in v. 11 and Gen. 20:6.)

d. The Reaping, 26:12-16

Gen. 26:12 Then Isaac sowed in that land, and received in the same year an hundredfold: and the LORD blessed him.

13 And the man waxed great, and went forward, and grew until he became very great:

14 For he had possession of flocks, and possession of herds, and great store of servants: and the Philistines envied him.

15 For all the wells which his father's servants had digged in the days of Abraham his father, the Philistines had stopped them, and filled them with earth.

16 And Abimelech said unto Isaac, Go from us; for thou art much mightier than we.

❖ God's blessings were upon Isaac in agricultural, ranching, herdsman, etc.

- ❖ The Philistines were jealous, cruel, and intimidating. Isaac was told to leave.
- ❖ God used Abimelech to facilitate movement, like Acts 8:1 to fulfill Acts 1:8.

Acts 1:8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: **and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria**, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

Acts 8:1 And Saul was consenting unto his death. And **at that time there was a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered abroad throughout the regions of Judaea and Samaria**, except the apostles.

e. The Redeeming, 26:17-25

Gen. 26:17 And Isaac departed thence, and pitched his tent in the valley of Gerar, and dwelt there.



18 And Isaac **digged again the wells of water**, which they had digged in the days of Abraham his father; for the Philistines had stopped them after the death of Abraham: and he called their names after the names by which his father had called them.

19 And Isaac's servants digged in the valley, and **found there a well of springing water**.

20 And the herdmen of Gerar did strive with Isaac's herdmen, saying, The water *is* ours: and he called the name of the well Esek; because they strove with him.

21 And they digged another well, and strove for that also: and he called the name of it Sitnah.

22 And he removed from thence, and **digged another well**; and for that they strove not: and he called the name of it Rehoboth; and he said, For now the LORD hath made room for us, and we shall be fruitful in the land.

23 And he went up from thence to Beersheba.

24 And the LORD appeared unto him the same night, and said, I *am* the God of Abraham thy father: fear not, for I *am* with thee, and will bless thee, and multiply thy seed for my servant Abraham's sake.

25 And **he builded an altar there, and called upon the name of the LORD**, and pitched his tent there: and there Isaac's servants digged a well.

- ❖ The wells were necessary for life in an arid land.
- ❖ The Lord Jesus is the water of life for the believer.

Jn. 4:14 But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.

- ❖ The wells were a source of contention by the Philistines for Isaac and his family.

Original Word: עֵשֶׂק; **Transliteration:** Eseq;

Definition: "contention", a well in Gerar

<https://biblehub.com/hebrew/6230.htm>

Original Word: שִׁטְנָה; **Transliteration:** Sitnah;

Definition: "hostility", the name of a well near Gerar

<https://biblehub.com/hebrew/7856.htm>

Prov. 5:15 Drink waters out of thine own cistern, and running waters out of thine own well.

Jer. 2:13 For my people have committed two evils; **they have forsaken me the fountain of living waters,** and hewed them out cisterns, broken cisterns, that can hold no water.

f. The Reconciliation, 26:26-33

Gen. 26:26 Then Abimelech went to him from Gerar, and Ahuzzath one of his friends, and Phichol the chief captain of his army.

27 And Isaac said unto them, Wherefore come ye to me, seeing **ye hate me, and have sent me away from you?**

28 And they said, **We saw certainly that the LORD was with thee:** and we said, Let there be now an oath betwixt us, *even* betwixt us and thee, and let us make a covenant with thee;

29 That thou wilt do us no hurt, as we have not touched thee, and as we have done unto thee nothing but good, and have sent thee away in peace: **thou art now the blessed of the LORD.**

30 And he made them a feast, and they did eat and drink.

31 And they rose up betimes in the morning, and swore one to another: and Isaac sent them away, and they departed from him in peace.

32 And it came to pass the same day, that Isaac's servants came, and told him concerning the well which they had digged, and said unto him, **We have found water.**

33 And he called it Shebah: therefore the name of the city *is* Beersheba unto this day.

Original Word: שִׁבְעָה; **Transliteration:** Shibah;

Definition: a well in Beersheba

<https://biblehub.com/hebrew/7656.htm>

g. The Rebel, 26:34-35

Gen. 26:34 And Esau was forty years old when he took to wife Judith the daughter of Beeri the Hittite, and Bashemath the daughter of Elon the Hittite:
35 Which were a grief of mind unto Isaac and to Rebekah.

❖ Esau was a polygamist, unconcerned about spiritual principles, or pleasing his parents.

Summary

Like Jesus, Isaac “called on the name of the LORD” (v. 25), was hated without a cause (v. 27), and was called “the blessed of the LORD” (v. 29).

Conclusion

Isa. 53:3 **He is despised and rejected of men**; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were *our* faces from him; **he was despised, and we esteemed him not.**

Jn. 1:10 He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not.

11 He came unto his own, and his own received him not.

12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, *even* to them that believe on his name:

13 Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.