

"Oh, LORD, I Lied" Genesis 20

Have you ever embarrassed yourself because of your poor behavior?
The Bible tells the truth about all people, including GOD's people and their foolish mistakes. 1 John 1:8

- 1.** Abraham felt huge _____, after moving his people to a _____ place, Gerar. **V.1**
 - A. There Abraham began to be _____. **V.11** Prov. 29:25 He started walking by _____, and not by faith. 2 Cor. 5:7, 2 Tim. 1:7
 - B. Abraham forgot that he was in covenant with the _____; (17:1) ... the ONE who could _____. 18:14
 - C. He was about to pull the same embarrassing stunt that could have gotten them all killed _____ earlier in Egypt. 12:10-20
 - D. Indeed he asked Sarah, who was still a stunningly, beautiful woman, _____ ... and say that she was his _____. **V.2**
 - E. "A _____ is worse than an out-right lie. A half-truth has just enough fact to make it _____, but just enough deception to make it _____." (Warren Wiersbe)
 - F. The powerful _____ King in that region, Abimelech, sent armed men to take Sarah to be added to his harem. (Abimelech is a _____ for a Philistine ruler, like Caesar, Pharaoh, President.)

- 2.** GOD powerfully _____: **V.3** (good or bad?)
 - A. HE appeared to Abimelech in a dream and said, "You are a _____, _____ because of the married woman that you have taken."
 - B. Abimelech humbly proclaimed his _____, and stated that both Abraham and Sarah had lied to him. In his fear of the LORD, he asked "Will you slay a _____, when we were misled?" **V.4-5**
 - C. GOD stated that HE knew that Abimelech possessed _____ of heart, and that HE _____ Abimelech from sinning. **V.6**
But HE sternly _____ the Philistine that:
 1. Abraham was a _____ (1st time in Scripture). He was GOD's Man, that spoke on _____.
 2. Abraham would _____ on Abimelech's behalf.
 3. If Sarah was not restored to Abraham, all of Abimelech's people _____ at GOD's Hand. **V.7**

- 3.** At _____ Abimelech hurriedly,
 - A. Told his court officials how much _____ they were in. **V.8**

B. He had Abraham brought to his court, and said, "What have you _____? What did _____ to you, that caused you to put my entire kingdom in such mortal jeopardy?" **V.9-11**

* A _____ that you tell; or a single time that you show a _____, doesn't just affect you!

C. Who had more integrity? The _____ of GOD?
OR the man that _____ GOD? Gen. 26:7-11

4. Abraham gave _____ for his lack of integrity. V.12-13

A. "Because I _____" ... (that's his problem) – "there was no _____ (respect) in this place." ("GOD is where I used to be, but not where _____ in my circumstances.")

B. "They will _____ for my beautiful wife." Who do you fear?
Who do you _____? Prov. 9:10

C. "She actually is my half-sister." Is _____ ever a good thing, even if you think it's necessary in the moment? Is it ever good to hide your _____?

D. "It came about when _____ me to wander." (what?)

E. I said to my wife, " _____, if you really love me, please, please, please SAY to the Philistines at the _____, that you are _____."

5. An _____, but fearful Abimelech gave Sarah back. V.14-16

A. He gave Abraham sheep, cattle, and _____, and offered him the best of his land for _____. (a clear gesture)

B. He turned to Sarah, and said, "I have given _____ ... one thousand pieces of silver, because of my _____ and your embarrassment. It is a _____ of vindication. Are we good?"

C. A chastised Abraham prayed for the healing of _____.

6. Take Away's:

A. Your _____ (and behavior), and more importantly GOD's reputation, is more significant than anything else. Proverbs 22:1

B. If Abraham had not _____ of his sin, and the moral dilemma of Genesis 20 would have not been resolved, and Genesis 21:1 would never have happened. (GOD rescued _____)

C. Do you have _____? Do you have unclean hands?
Isaiah 6:1-8 Will you _____ yourself before GOD?
- OR will HE be forced to _____ you publicly?

D. If you do not repent before Heaven's Eyes, you will never be _____ by GOD, and you will never find your Destiny.