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# DAILY READING

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Genesis 21:22-34

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## Genesis 21:22-34

### ABRAHAM'S COVENANT WITH ABIMELECH

<sup>22</sup> At that time Abimelech, accompanied by Phicol the commander of his army, said to Abraham, "God is with you in everything you do. <sup>23</sup> Swear to me by God here and now, that you will not break an agreement with me or with my children and descendants. As I have been loyal to you, so you will be loyal to me and to the country where you are a resident alien."

<sup>24</sup> And Abraham said, "I swear it." <sup>25</sup> But Abraham complained to Abimelech because of the well that Abimelech's servants had seized.

<sup>26</sup> Abimelech replied, "I don't know who did this thing. You didn't report anything to me, so I hadn't heard about it until today."

<sup>27</sup> Abraham took flocks and herds and gave them to Abimelech, and the two of them made a covenant.

<sup>28</sup> Abraham separated seven ewe lambs from the flock.

<sup>29</sup> And Abimelech said to Abraham, "Why have you separated these seven ewe lambs?"

<sup>30</sup> He replied, “You are to accept the seven ewe lambs from me so that this act will serve as my witness that I dug this well.” <sup>31</sup> Therefore that place was called Beer-sheba,<sup>k</sup> because it was there that the two of them swore an oath. <sup>32</sup> After they had made a covenant at Beer-sheba, Abimelech and Phicol, the commander of his army, left and returned to the land of the Philistines.

<sup>33</sup> Abraham planted a tamarisk tree in Beer-sheba, and there he called on the name of the Lord, the Everlasting God. <sup>34</sup> And Abraham lived as an alien in the land of the Philistines for many days.