
DAILY READING

Genesis 26:23-35

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THE LORD APPEARS TO ISAAC

26 ²³ From there he went up to Beer-sheba, ²⁴ and the Lord appeared to him that night and said, “I am the God of your father Abraham. Do not be afraid, for I am with you. I will bless you and multiply your offspring because of my servant Abraham.”

²⁵ So he built an altar there, called on the name of the Lord, and pitched his tent there. Isaac’s servants also dug a well there.

COVENANT WITH ABIMELECH

²⁶ Now Abimelech came to him from Gerar with Ahuzzath his adviser and Phicol the commander of his army. ²⁷ Isaac said to them, “Why have you come to me? You hated me and sent me away from you.”

²⁸ They replied, “We have clearly seen how the Lord has been with you. We think there should be an oath between two parties—between us and you. Let us make a covenant with you: ²⁹ You will not harm us, just

as we have not harmed you but have done only what was good to you, sending you away in peace. You are now blessed by the Lord.”

³⁰ So he prepared a banquet for them, and they ate and drank. ³¹ They got up early in the morning and swore an oath to each other. Isaac sent them on their way, and they left him in peace. ³² On that same day Isaac’s servants came to tell him about the well they had dug, saying to him, “We have found water!” ³³ He called it Sheba. Therefore the name of the city is still Beer-sheba today.

ESAU’S WIVES

³⁴ When Esau was forty years old, he took as his wives Judith daughter of Beeri the Hethite, and Basemath daughter of Elon the Hethite. ³⁵ They made life bitter for Isaac and Rebekah.