

A Journey of Faith (Part 10)
A Study of the Life of Abraham
(Gen. 20)

Introduction: We have to be so conscious of how we are living our lives both for the Lord and before others from situation to situation!

In our text today we see how sin in our lives can not only lead to our own spiritual failures; but it can also have a great impact on the world around us. The world is always watching us to see what we really believe about God.

Our text today reveals the failure of one of God's choice servants (Abraham). But, we'll also see how God is able to restore Abraham from such failure. This passage is filled with hope and encouragement for anyone who has ever felt like they failed God And there is good news my friends! God doesn't discard us when we fail; He desires to deal with us and to restore us so, we can show our faith in the streets!

I. ABRAHAM'S SIN RECORDED: (v.1-2)

It is never pleasant to see failure in the life of one of God's children, but the word of God records them for our sakes

1. **The faithfulness of scripture** – As scripture tells the truth about all people; (Gen.9:20-23; Num. 20:1-13; 2 Sam. 11; Mt. 26:69-75; Gal.2:13; 1 Cor 10:12; Heb. 12:1)

A. The failure of sin -

1. It was a repetition of his sin. Verse 13 tells us; that this is a sin he has carried with him for many decades, **v. 13.**
2. We need to bring the same caution we use for physical things into our spiritual walk –

C. The far reaching affect of our sin – (v.3-8)

1. Abraham's sin affected Sarah –
2. Abraham's sin affected the promise of God –
3. Abraham's sin affected the household of Abimelech (v.18) (Rom 14:7)

II. ABRAHAM'S SHAMEFUL REBUKE: (v8-10)

Abimelech finds himself under a death sentence (v3,7)

A. The integrity of a lost man –

B. The inquiry of a lost man –

1. God has called Abraham a prophet
2. This is why we must never let down our guard! **1 Cor. 10:12**

III. ABRAHAM'S SPIRITUAL INFLUENCE RUINED:

A. Abraham's character is compromised –

B. Abraham's testimony has taken a real hit –

C. Abraham's ministry was useless here –

IV. ABRAHAM'S STATED REASONS: (v.10-13) Abraham claims what he did was justified.

1. **First he blames the people of Gerar –**
2. **Second, Abraham said because of my first thought,**
3. **Thirdly, Abraham says, “besides, I didn't really lie.**
4. **Fourthly, Abraham gets around to blaming God –**
5. **Finally, Abraham re-labels his sin –**

V. ABRAHAM'S SPIRITUAL RESTORATION: (v.14-18)

1. Abimelech's restitution –

- a. Even though Abraham is clearly out of God's will at this time in his life, he is still enjoying the Lord's blessings!
- b. He Forgave Him Of His Sins
- c. He Protected Him From Harm - v. 2-9, 18
- d. He Blessed Him Financially - v. 14-16
- e. He Used Him For His Glory - v. 17

What does this teach us?

1. ***Simply the truth that who we are in Jesus cannot be invalidated by our sin!***
2. **We all know that God chastens His children - Rev. 3:19; Heb. 12:6-12. (What is this? Nothing less than our grace)!**
3. **This does not give us a license to sin!**
4. **But, thank God, even our sin is unable to separate us from the love we have in Jesus Christ -Rom. 8:38-39!**

2 Abraham's restoration -

- a. First he gets his wife back –
- b. Secondly, Abraham and Sarah are invited to stay in the land.
- c. Abraham himself seems to be beginning to come around.