

Blessed



Genesis 26

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1. Immediately after God confirms his covenant promises to Isaac (26:3–4), Isaac utters the exact same lie about his wife that his father did—even in the same place (Gerar) with the same king (Abimelech; see Genesis 20). Nevertheless the Lord blesses Isaac abundantly in that land. He has so many possessions that the Philistines envy him! Why do you think this account of blessing (26:12–16) is placed with the account of Isaac’s deception (vv. 7–11)? What does this suggest about the nature of God’s blessing in our lives?

2. The focus here is how Isaac moves about and digs the wells that Abraham had dug. This is not merely about water. It is about something more, since Isaac gives them the names that his father had given them. In particular, Beersheba is dug with remarkable similarities to how it was originally dug in Abraham’s time (Gen. 21:22–33). God has promised Isaac that “in your offspring all the nations of the earth shall be blessed” (26:4). How is this seen in these verses?



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