

**PLEASE NOTE** - The references below are taken from the 86-20 Index. Many verses have additional references that have not been included due to time & space. We are encouraged to do additional personal research.

(Genesis 20:2) 2 Abraham repeated concerning his wife Sarah: “She is my sister.” So A·bim'e·lech king of Ge'rar sent for Sarah and took her.

\*\*\* w15 5/15 p. 12 par. 11 Be Watchful—Satan Wants to Devour You! \*\*\*

Shortly before the birth of Isaac, a similar incident occurred in Gerar. (Gen. 20:1-7) Was Satan behind the scenes on those occasions? Did he hope that Sarah, who left prosperous Ur to dwell in tents, would be seduced by the luxurious palaces of Pharaoh and Abimelech? Was Satan thinking that Sarah would betray her husband—and Jehovah—and enter an adulterous marriage? The Bible does not say, but we have good reason to believe that the Devil would have been delighted to render Sarah unfit to bear the promised offspring. Satan would have suffered no pangs of guilt that a good woman's marriage, reputation, and standing with Jehovah would have been marred. How vicious Satan is!

\*\*\* it-1 p. 549 Crime and Punishment \*\*\*

Jehovah revealed his view of adultery and the punishment for it when telling Abimelech that he was as good as dead for taking Sarah with intentions of making her his wife (although Abimelech did not know that she belonged to Abraham).

(Genesis 21:9) 9 But Sarah kept noticing that the son of Ha'gar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, was mocking Isaac.

\*\*\* w01 8/15 p. 26 par. 5 Do Not Give Up in Doing What Is Fine \*\*\*

5 However, persecution does not necessarily involve violence. Abraham was eventually blessed with two sons—Ishmael and Isaac. Genesis 21:8-12 tells us that on one occasion Ishmael was “poking fun” at Isaac. In his letter to the Gala-

tians, Paul shows that this was more serious than childish play, for he describes Ishmael as persecuting Isaac! (Galatians 4:29) Ridicule from schoolmates and verbal attacks by opposers can thus legitimately be called persecution.

(Genesis 20:12) 12 And besides, she really is my sister, the daughter of my father but not the daughter of my mother, and she became my wife.

\*\*\* wp17 No. 3 p. 12 “What a Beautiful Woman You Are” \*\*\*

Sarah was the half sister of Abraham. Terah was father to both of them, but they had different mothers. (Genesis 20:12) While such a marriage is improper today, it is important to keep in mind how different things were back then. Humans were closer to the perfection that Adam and Eve had enjoyed but lost. For such robust people, marriage between close relatives evidently did not present genetic dangers to offspring. Some 400 years later, though, life spans were similar to ours. At that time, the Mosaic Law outlawed all sexual unions between close relatives.—Leviticus 18:6.

(Genesis 21:32, 33) . . . 33 After that he planted a tamarisk tree at Be'er-she'ba, and there he called on the name of Jehovah, the everlasting God.

\*\*\* w89 7/1 p. 20 par. 9 Abraham—An Example for All Who Seek God's Friendship \*\*\*

In addition, he ‘called on the name of Jehovah.’ (Genesis 12:8; 13:18; 21:33) The Hebrew phrase “call on the name” also means “declare (preach) the name.” Abram's household as well as the Canaanites must have heard him boldly declare the name of his God, Jehovah. (Genesis 14:22-24) Likewise, all who seek God's friendship today must call upon his name in faith. This would include sharing in public preaching, “always offer[ing] to God a sacrifice of praise, that is, the fruit of lips which make public declaration to his name.”—Hebrews 13:15; Romans 10:10.