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### **ABRAHAM DECEIVES PHARAOH AND ABIMELECH**

In Gen 12:10-13:2 a famine had struck the land of Canaan, forcing Abram to relocate. Abram and his wife Sarai migrated to Egypt. When they arrive in Egypt Abram tells his wife Sarai to call him his brother because when the Egyptians see her beauty and find out that Abram is her husband they would kill him and have her for themselves. So Abram gave Sarai to the pharaoh, but then the pharaoh had a dream and God told him to touch Sarai because that was Abram's wife and he would be killed and his people if he did. So the Pharaoh calls Abram and asks why he deceives him and then sends them away after Abram prays for him. Similar to Gen 12:10-13:2 NIV in Gen 20:1-18 NIV migrated to Gerar. Abraham introduces his wife once again as his sister so king Abimelech of Genar sent for Sarah and she brought him to his palace. But in a dream of Abimelech God told him he was a dead man because he had taken Abraham's wife. Abimelech pleaded that he was innocent and hadn't touched Sarai. God knew this and stopped him from sinning. Once he woke up he called for Abraham and asked why he did what he had done and sent them away after.

In Gen 12: 10-13:2 and Gen 20:1-18 we found a lot of similarities. One of the similarities in both these stories was that Abraham gave his wife out of the fear that he would be killed for her because of her beauty she was wanted by Pharaoh and Abimelech. Another similarity was that both Pharaoh and Abimelech received a dream and were told they would be killed because they took Sarah into their home and God told them that she was married to Abraham and needed to get prayed over by Abraham. There were many similarities but there were also many differences. One of the differences was the name. In these two stories, it was the same two people but they were given no names. In Gen 12:10-13:2 their original names were Abram and Sarai this was before the covenant that God made with them. In Gen 20: 1-18 after the covenant were given a new Abraham and Sarah.

When it comes down to Abraham's actions if I think they were right or wrong. I believe that Abraham's actions were wrong. The reason why I believe that Abraham's actions were wrong was that as a Child of God, there was no need to be afraid and deceive. In both of these stories, Abraham deceives them, and because he deceives Pharaoh and Abimelech plagues begin to fall upon them and their countries. These all happen because Abram chooses to tell them that Sarai/Sarah was his sister. It was because of God's mercy that they were able to live because God didn't allow them to sin. They would need Abraham to pray over them if Abraham told the truth.

If there was any other story that resonates with Gen 12:10 - 13:2 and Gen 20:1-18 it would be Gen 26: 1- 11. Instead of Abram/Abraham telling Sarai/ Sarah to tell the Pharaoh and Abimelech she was his sister, it was Issac his son. Just like his father Abraham Isaac would deceive people by telling his wife Rebekah to tell people that she was his sister. But Abimelech would comfort him and ask him why he lied that it was his sister because someone would be killed if they had slept with her. So Abimelech sends them away. Just like father Abram/Abraham and Sarai/Sarah Issac traits as his Father . I believe this story tells you a lot about God. One of the things they tell us about God is that he does not like adultery. He is also a righteous God. He didn't allow them to sin because they didn't know that they were taking another man's wife. These stories have a lot of lessons to them.

Reading Gen 12:10-13:2 and Gen 20: 1-18 I didn't think there was any lesson that I could learn for them that was positive. If you were the opposite of me and weren't a truthful person the only thing you learn for this is to deceive people so your life would be spared. I believe that Abraham didn't have a reason to fear his life being taken. God will defend his children at all times for those who are trying to pursue them. So I believe there was no lesson from these stories for me to learn.