



Lesson #9: Deceit (Abraham)

In Genesis 20 we discover that the father of the faithful and the friend of God was prone to telling _____ - _____. Back in chapter 18 Abraham stands on a pedestal of faith as he makes supplication for Sodom and Gomorrah but in chapter 20 he falls off that pedestal and we find him mired in a sinister plot filled with deception that hurts many people. Abraham is actually repeating a lie he'd told before. Both in Genesis 12 and in Genesis 20 Abraham willingly tells a lie that puts _____ at risk in an effort to save his own skin.

1 Cor. 10:11 tells us that “all these things happened unto them for ensamples; and they are written for our admonition” and so in Genesis 20 we discover that everyone must be aware of the dangers of being _____ to deceit!

REMAIN IN PROPER _____ WITH GOD TO OVERCOME DECEIT

Abraham is on the move in verse 1 but if you turn to Genesis 13:18 we find where he is moving from. Abraham is moving from *Mamre*. That is an important word that means the place of “_____.” 3x God graciously visited him there.

A. Mamre was a place of _____ (15:1)

Think about it: when are you most prone to telling lies? Normally it's when you feel most _____. Abraham had left the place of protection and now felt alone and vulnerable.

B. Mamre was a place of _____ (17:1-2)

The lesson from Mamre that would stick out in the heart and mind of the deceiver is that God always keeps His promises.

C. Mamre was a place of _____ (18:1-2, 9, 19)

Mamre was a place where God and Abram met to converse together about the future. This is a friendly place where God's presences is clearly being enjoyed. It was here that the relationship Abram had with God was at its warmest.

RECOGNIZE THE _____ OF YOUR DECISION TO OVERCOME DECEIT
Always have it before you that making the decision to lie and going down the pathway of deceit is going to cost you more this time than it cost you last time.

A. Deceit will be cataclysmic in your _____

Abraham paid an awful price because of his addiction to deceit. He paid a price with his family. Here's the big surprise in Scripture – Abraham lied in the same way that hurt his family _____!

B. Deceit will cost you your _____

In verse 9 we see that King Abimelech lost any respect for Abraham he may have otherwise had. Before you _____ that lie again think of the price you are going to pay with people's ability to trust you.

C. Deceit will compromise you your _____

“Thou hast done deeds unto me that ought not to be done” (v. 9). As far as we know King Abimelech was not a _____.

REMEMBER THE PURPOSE OF YOUR _____ TO OVERCOME DECEIT

There's a stunning statement that God gives to Abimelech in the night dream that is found in verse 7 – “Restore the man his wife; for he is a _____.” There are two symptoms that often show up when we forget our purpose in life.

A. The deceiver's _____ is wrong (v. 11)

Abraham's testimony in verse 11 is not one of _____ but one of _____. Abraham had forgotten much and in a moment of fear he goes back to the same old half-truths he had tried once before.

B. The deceiver's _____ is wrong (v. 13)

Abraham decided to do _____ in order to get a chance to do _____. He decided to tell a lie in order to navigate through the weeds of a very difficult situation. His own web of lies would eventually ensnare him.

CONCLUDING THOUGHTS

Did you know that many experts now compare the “high” of telling lies to the “high” of _____? Lying is truly just as addicting as any alcoholic substance or drug. Have you become a lying addict? A study of the life of Abraham in Genesis 20 reveals to us that everyone must be aware of the dangers of being addicted to deceit! Don't allow half-truths to become the addictive pattern in your life. Remember the _____ of your life and live in truth.