

Battling Recurring Sin

Text: Genesis 20

Context - Following the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah in Genesis 19, Genesis 20 shifts to Abraham's move to Gerar, where his deception about Sarah highlights human frailty and God's continued grace.

To Battle Recurring Sin...

I. _____ God's Sovereignty (vs. 1-5)

- A. Abraham sins in the exact same way that he did 25 years prior in Genesis 12:10-20. God intervenes again to preserve the lineage of Abraham - protecting His great plan of salvation.
- B. In this event, God uses a dream (vs. 3) to stop Abimelech from sinning against Sarah.

II. _____ God's Shaping (vs. 6-10)

- A. God brought Abraham's sin to light. God will often do this in our lives to shape us and help us battle sin.
- B. "What a humiliating thing to be openly rebuked by a pagan king. God sometimes uses the unsaved to chasten the saved. The fact that Abraham was a believer did not give him license to sin. Unfortunately, years later, Abraham's son Isaac would imitate his father's sin (Gen. 26)." (Warren Wiersbe)

III. _____ God's Steadfastness (vs. 11-18)

- A. Even though Abraham had messed up, he still leaves the king with sheep, oxen, male servants and female servants and 1000 pieces of silver.
- B. God's steadfast covenant love is a love that never departs. God faithfully sustains believers through sin and hardship, guiding them toward His ultimate purpose of glorifying Himself.