

Re-opening Spiritual Wells

Scripture – Gen 26:14-25 (NLT)

14 He acquired so many flocks of sheep and goats, herds of cattle, and servants that the Philistines became jealous of him. 15 So the Philistines filled up all of Isaac's wells with dirt. These were the wells that had been dug by the servants of his father, Abraham.

16 Finally, Abimelech ordered Isaac to leave the country. "Go somewhere else," he said, "for you have become too powerful for us."

17 So Isaac moved away to the Gerar Valley, where he set up their tents and settled down. 18 He reopened the wells his father had dug, which the Philistines had filled in after Abraham's death. Isaac also restored the names Abraham had given them.

19 Isaac's servants also dug in the Gerar Valley and discovered a well of fresh water. 20 But then the shepherds from Gerar came and claimed the spring. "This is our water," they said, and they argued over it with Isaac's herdsmen. So Isaac named the well Esek (which means "argument"). 21 Isaac's men then dug another well, but again there was a dispute over it. So Isaac named it Sitnah (which means "hostility"). 22 Abandoning that one, Isaac moved on and dug another well. This time there was no dispute over it, so Isaac named the place Rehoboth (which means "open space"), for he said, "At last the LORD has created enough space for us to prosper in this land."

23 From there Isaac moved to Beersheba, 24 where the LORD appeared to him on the night of his arrival. "I am the

God of your father, Abraham," he said. "Do not be afraid, for I am with you and will bless you. I will multiply your descendants, and they will become a great nation. I will do this because of my promise to Abraham, my servant."
²⁵ Then Isaac built an altar there and worshiped the LORD. He set up his camp at that place, and his servants dug another well.

A. What's The Significance Of Wells?

1. The value of wells in ancient Bible times.

2. Wells symbolize:

- Salvation – Isa 12:3 (TNIV)

³ With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

- Spirit life – John 4:14 (Amplified)

¹⁴ But whoever takes a drink of the water that I will give him shall never, no never, be thirsty any more. But the water that I will give him shall become a spring of water welling up (flowing, bubbling) [continually] within him unto (into, for) eternal life.

3. Characteristics of wells:

a) The source of refreshing for the thirsty and tired

- Individual well
- Communal well – Psa 36:8-9 (TNIV)

⁸ They feast on the abundance of your house; you give them drink from your river of delights. ⁹ For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light.

b) The problem of dried up or blocked wells

- Spring vs cistern – Jer 2:13 (TNIV)

¹³ "My people have committed two sins: They have forsaken me, the spring of living water, and have dug their own cisterns, broken cisterns that cannot hold water.

- Demons lurk around dry places – Luke 11:24 (NKJV)

²⁴ "When an unclean spirit goes out of a man, he goes through dry places, seeking rest; and finding none, he says, 'I will return to my house from which I came.'

B. How To Re-open Wells?

1. Re-dig and remove dirt – Gen 26:14-25 (NLT)

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a) "Philistines" – Spiritual enemies

b) Potential "well-blockers"

- Envy and jealousy (v14)
- Dirt (v15)
- Strife (v20-21)

c) Prepare for hard work

2. Release the song of the Lord

- Sing – Num 21:16-17 (NKJV)

16 From there they went to Beer, which is the well where the LORD said to Moses, "Gather the people together, and I will give them water." 17 Then Israel sang this song: " Spring up, O well! All of you sing to it—

- Spiritual music – Eph 5:18-19 (NLT)

18 Don't be drunk with wine, because that will ruin your life. Instead, be filled with the Holy Spirit, 19 singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, and making music to the Lord in your hearts.

- Speak – Psa 42:11 (NLT)

11 Why am I discouraged? Why is my heart so sad? I will put my hope in God! I will praise him again— my Savior and my God!