

**God's Blessing and Trouble**  
**Genesis 26:1-35, Pew Bible p. 19**  
**September 6, 2026**

**I. Before Trouble (V. 1-5)**

- A. To be prepared for trouble, you must be grounded in God's promises.
- B. To be prepared for trouble, you must be strengthened by God's presence.

**II. During Trouble (V. 6-22)**

- A. God can protect you even when you are not completely faithful.
- B. God can prosper you even when circumstances are not favorable.

**III. After Trouble (V. 23-34)**

- A. Enduring times of trouble helps us worship with power.
- B. Enduring times of trouble helps others look with wonder.

**Special Credit:**

Research Assistants: Mike Porter

Sermon Slide Editor: Mary Sanford

## Discussion Questions

1. Read Genesis 26:1-34.
2. Why do you think God did not allow Isaac to go to Egypt during the famine (V. 2)?
  - a. Has God ever led you to face trouble head-on, rather than flee from it? Why do you think God did that?
3. What do V. 5 and V. 24 reveal about God's view of Abraham?
  - a. How could God think so highly of Abraham when Abraham made so many mistakes?
  - b. What does this say about the way God views the whole life of the Christian?
4. What does Isaac's lie to Abimelech and the Philistines say about the capacity of believers to sin even though they are blessed by God?
  - a. How did Isaac's lie make him look in the eyes of King Abimelech?
  - b. How does sin in the life of the believer look to the world today?
5. What does Isaac's prosperity in a time of famine say about God's capacity to bless even during times of trouble?
6. Pray for our church members to be well prepared for times of trouble through God's promises and presence. Come to the church prayer meeting this Wednesday from 6:00-6:30 pm in the Worship Center lobby.