Main Thought  While all Christians sin, it was how we deal with it that matters.

**ABRAHAM THE TROUBLEMAKER (20).**

- **SIN (1-2).** Abraham and Sarah (5) repeat the same sin (12:10-20) out of fear (Prov. 29:25). Believers (15:6) still have a sinful nature (Rom. 7:21-25).

- **DIVINE INTERVENTION (3-8).** Though Abraham and Sarah jeopardized the covenant, God (Heb=elohim) protected the promise of Isaac’s birth by warning Abimelech (Psa. 105:12-15) to not touch Sarah or they would all die (18). Like Pharoah (12:19), Abimelech honored marriage (Heb. 13:4).

- **CONFRONTATION (9-10).** Here Abimelech demonstrates greater leadership by questioning Abraham (you – 5x). We will all give an account to God one day (Rom. 14:12).

- **EXPLANATION (11-13).** Abraham underestimated Abimelech’s fear of God. He explained the half-truth. He took the blame.

- **COMPENSATION (14-16).** Abimelech richly (1000 shekels – 167 years of work for one man) compensates Abraham for his own guilt. He also completely exonerates Sarah.

- **PRAYER (17-18).** As God had promised (7), Abraham, a PROPHET (mediator of God’s Word; 1st mention in the bible), prayed to God to heal Abimelech and his family who had all been struck with infertility.

**ABRAHAM THE PEACEMAKER (21:22-34).**

- **REPROVING (22-26).** Abimelech knew that God was with Abraham. They made a treaty to live in kindness with one another. Abraham complained about a well of water that had been seized (26:18).

- **WITNESSING (27-32).** Abraham gave Abimelech seven ewe lambs to confirm the agreement that Abraham had dug this well. He named the place Beer (Heb=well) sheba (Heb=seven).

- **PLANTING (33).** He also planted a tamarisk tree to commemorate it.

- **WORSHIPING (34).** He called God a new name – EL OLAM, or Eternal God. As an alien, he had been granted a settled place (20:15).