

Beersheba



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- “Beersheba” means “well of seven” or “well of swearing.”
 - Appears 34 times in the Bible, all in the Old Testament.
 - A place of seven wells where Abraham, Isaac and Jacob dwelt much of the time.
 - One of the wells excavated to a depth of 65 feet.
 - The southern most boundary of Canaan, halfway between the Great Sea (Mediterranean Sea) and the Dead Sea.
 - Location:
 - Southern Palestine
 - 54 miles south of Jerusalem.
 - 47 miles west of the Dead Sea.
 - Less than 50 miles north of Kadesh-Barnea and must have been one of the first areas visited by the 12 spies.
 - 15 miles southeast of Gerar.
 - In the lands of the Philistines.
 - The ancient city is thought to have been some four miles east of the modern city of Beersheba.
 - Rebekah and Jacob deceived Isaac and Esau in the matter of the stolen blessing. **Genesis 27**
 - Abraham and Abimelech made a covenant at the well. The covenant was that they would not do harm to one another. Abraham planted a vineyard and called it Beersheba. **Genesis 21:21-34**
 - From Beersheba Abraham set out for Mt. Moriah (Jerusalem area) to offer Isaac as God requested. **Genesis 22:1-18**
 - The Philistines filled the well, but when Isaac came to that area, he had it reopened and once again called it Beersheba. Here he made a pact with the king of Gerar just as his father, Abraham, had done. **Genesis 28:10**

- It was from here that Jacob set out to Paddan-aram (Haran) to find a wife. **Genesis 28:1-10**
- From here Jacob and his household (70 in number) journeyed into Egypt where they prospered.
- Before going, God spoke to Jacob in a vision and promised He would make of him a great nation. **Genesis 46:1-7**
- Samuel's sons were judges in Beersheba. **I Samuel 8:2**
- Elijah stopped here when he was fleeing from Ahab and Jezebel. Left his servant there and traveled another day's journey into the wilderness. **1 Kings 19:3**
- It was occupied by the sons of Judah after the captivity. **Nehemiah 11:27-30**
- It was during the period of the judges that Beersheba was reckoned as the southernmost part of Israelite territory, giving birth to the phrase, "from Dan to Beersheba." **Judges 20:1; 1 Samuel 3:20**

