

“The Family That Followed God” Part 11




Genesis 20 Abraham's Treachery

Genesis 20:1-18 NLT

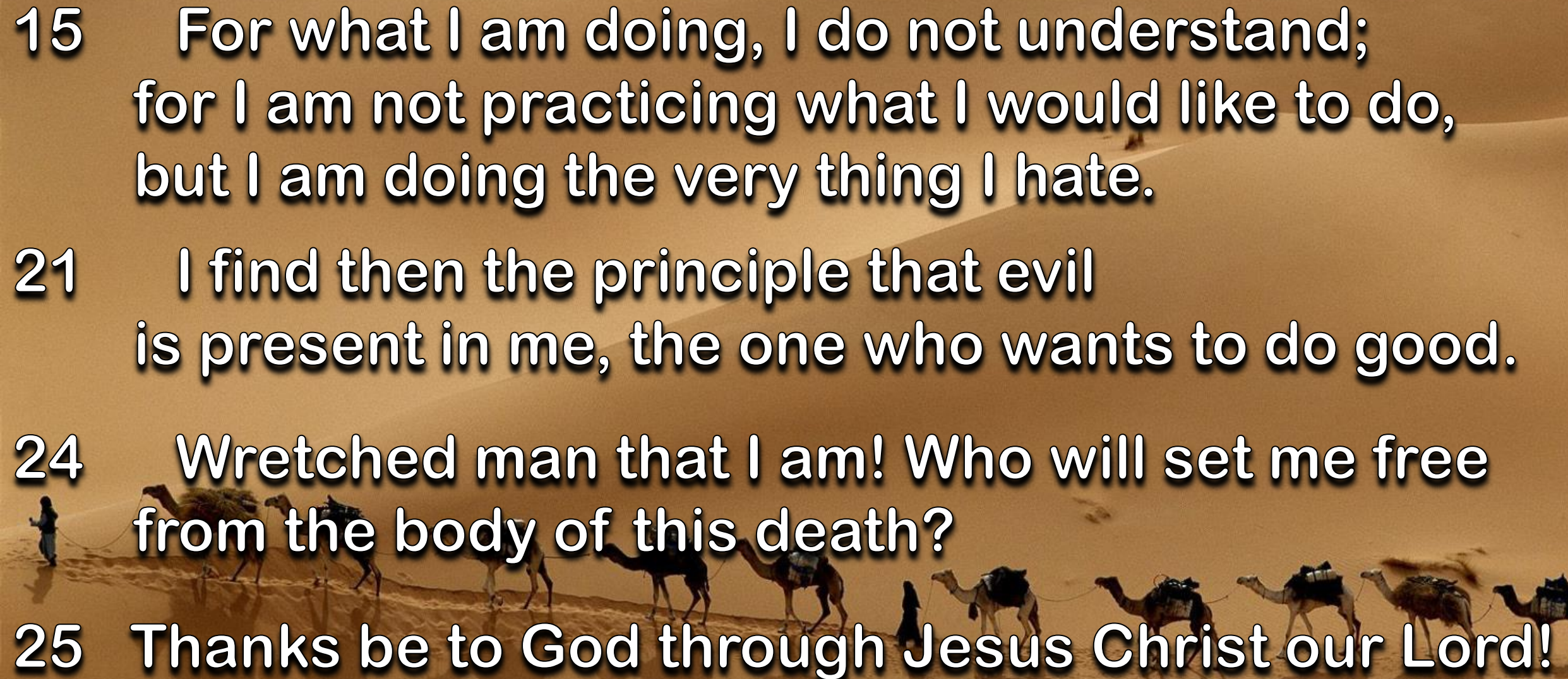
Abraham Deceives Abimelech

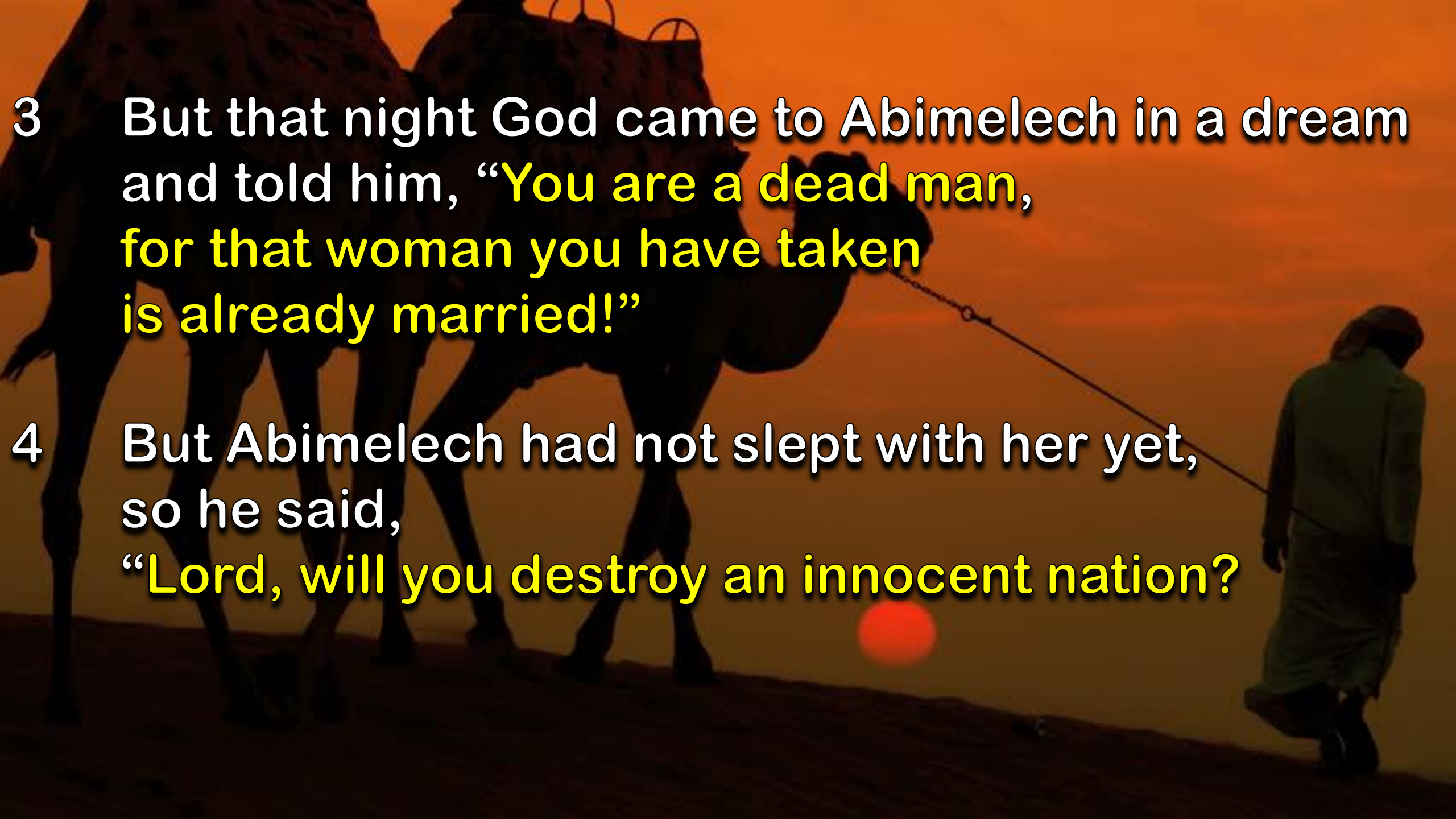
1 Abraham moved south to the Negev and lived for a while between Kadesh and Shur, and then he moved on to **Gerar**.

While living there as a foreigner,
2 Abraham introduced his wife, Sarah, by saying, “**She is my sister.**”
So King Abimelech of Gerar sent for Sarah and had her brought to him at his palace.

A silhouette of a caravan of camels and a person walking across a desert landscape at sunset. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and blue, with the sun low on the horizon. The camels are in a line, and a person is walking behind them.

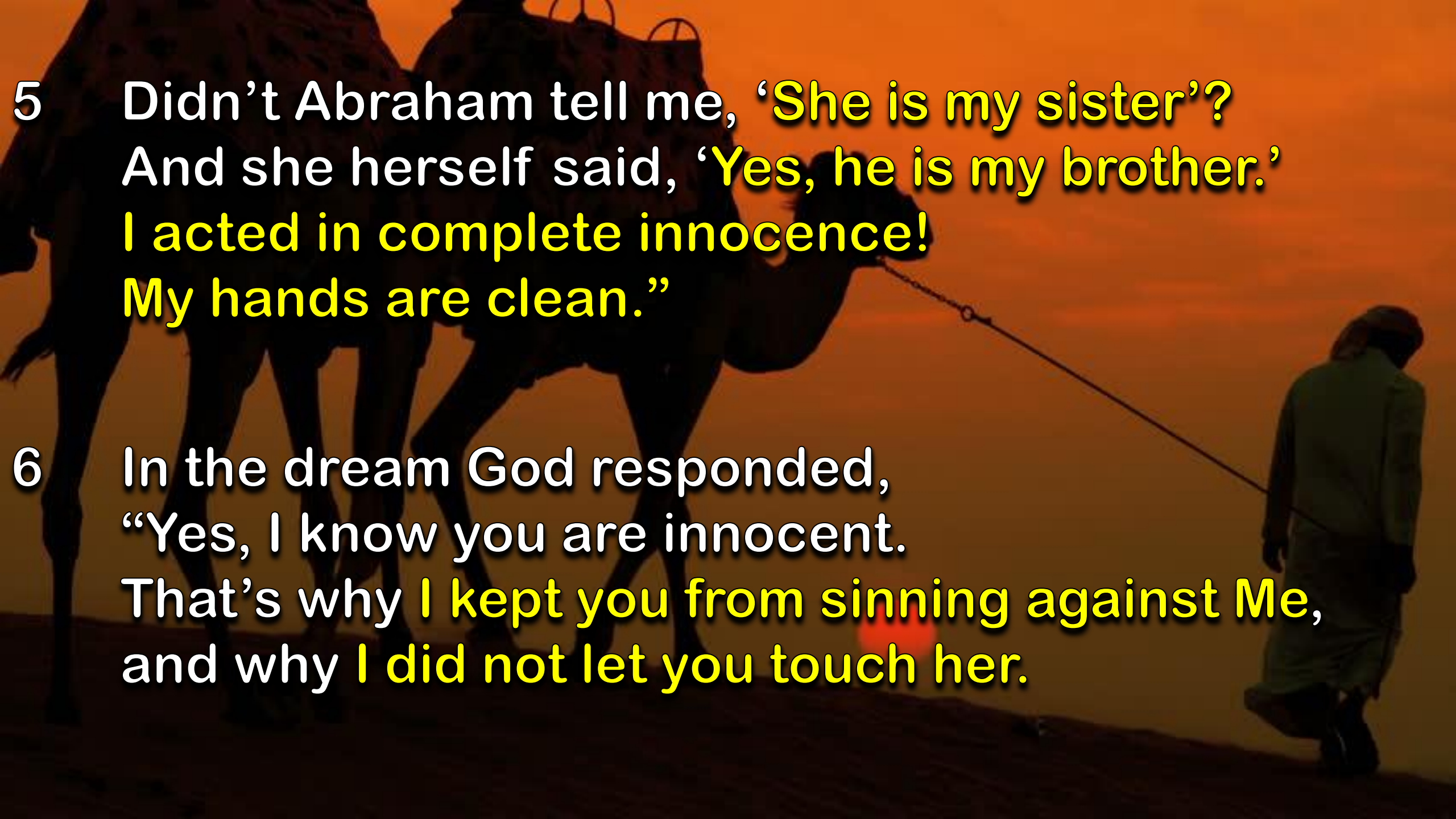
Romans 7

- 15 For what I am doing, I do not understand;
for I am not practicing what I would like to do,
but I am doing the very thing I hate.
- 21 I find then the principle that evil
is present in me, the one who wants to do good.
- 24 Wretched man that I am! Who will set me free
from the body of this death?
- 25 Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!
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- A photograph of a desert landscape with large, rolling sand dunes. In the foreground, a caravan of camels is walking across the sand, led by people. The scene is bathed in warm, golden light, suggesting sunrise or sunset. The camels are carrying loads, and the people are dressed in traditional desert attire. The overall atmosphere is one of a journey through a vast, arid landscape.



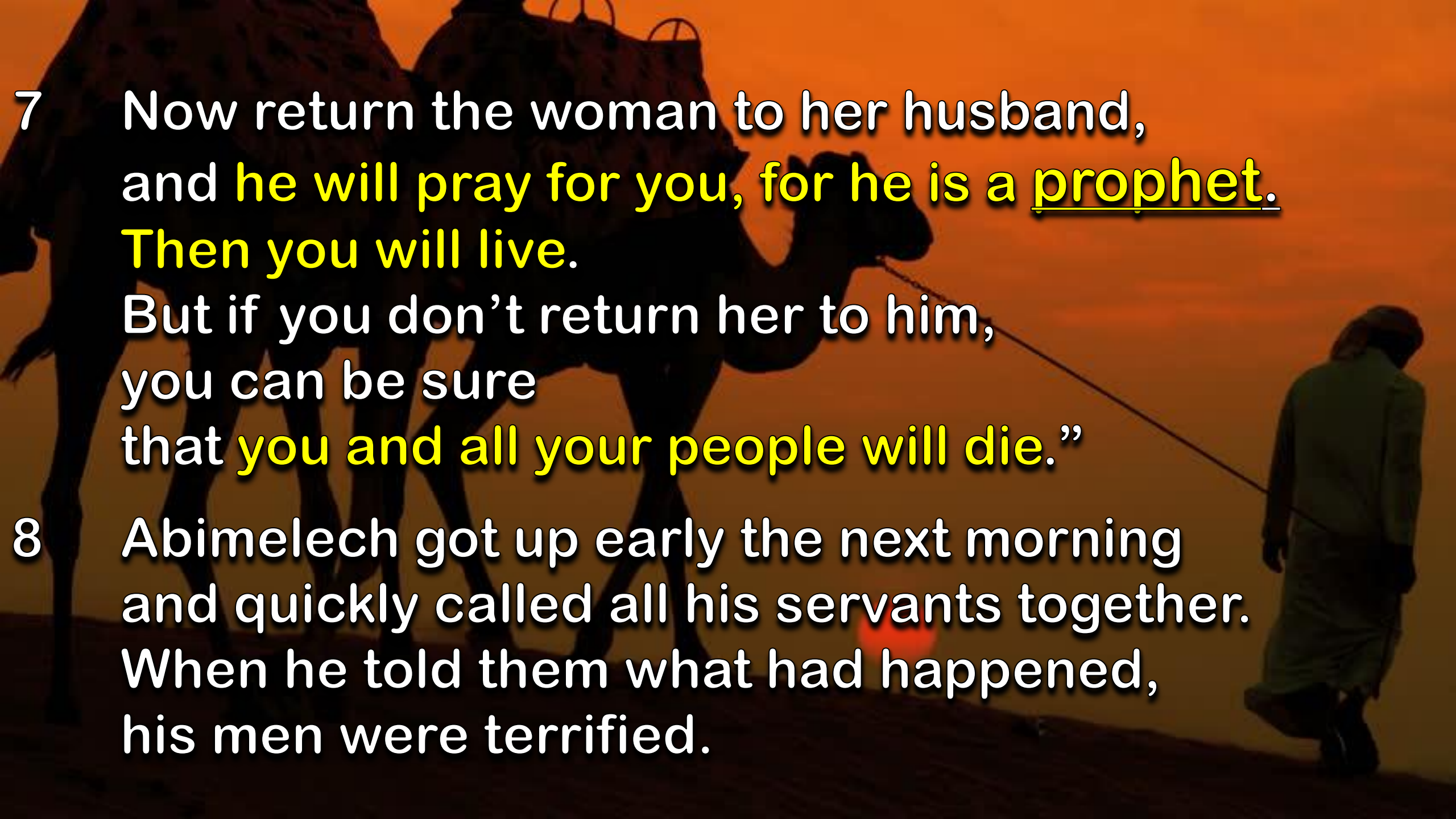
3 But that night God came to Abimelech in a dream and told him, “You are a dead man, for that woman you have taken is already married!”

4 But Abimelech had not slept with her yet, so he said, “Lord, will you destroy an innocent nation?”

A silhouette of a camel with a person riding on its back, walking across a desert landscape at sunset. The sky is a warm orange color, and the ground is dark. A person is also visible in the distance, leading the camel.

5 Didn't Abraham tell me, 'She is my sister'?
And she herself said, 'Yes, he is my brother.'
I acted in complete innocence!
My hands are clean."

6 In the dream God responded,
"Yes, I know you are innocent.
That's why I kept you from sinning against Me,
and why I did not let you touch her."



7 Now return the woman to her husband,
and **he will pray for you, for he is a prophet.**
Then you will live.

But if you don't return her to him,
you can be sure
that **you and all your people will die.**"

8 Abimelech got up early the next morning
and quickly called all his servants together.
When he told them what had happened,
his men were terrified.

9 Then Abimelech called for Abraham.
“What have you done to us?” he demanded.
“What crime have I committed
that deserves treatment like this, making me
and my kingdom guilty of this great sin?


10 Whatever possessed you to do such a thing?”



11 Abraham replied,
“I thought, ‘This is a godless place.
They will want my wife & will kill me to get her.’

12 And she really is my sister,
for we both have the same father,
but different mothers. And I married her.

13 When God called me to leave my father's home
and to travel from place to place, I told her, ‘
Do me a favor. Wherever we go,
tell the people that I am your brother.’ ”

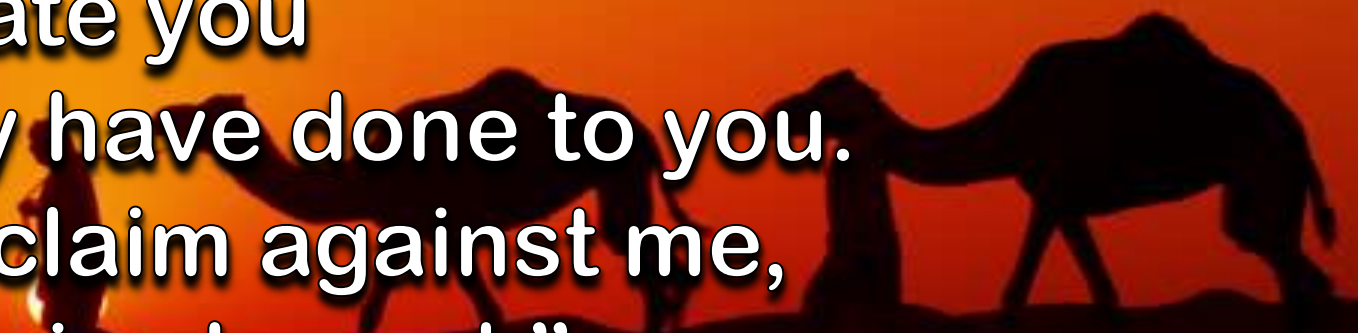
A line of camels is silhouetted against a vibrant sunset sky with orange and yellow hues. The camels are walking from left to right across the horizon.

14 Then Abimelech took some of his sheep and **goats, cattle, and male and female servants,** and he presented them to Abraham. He also returned his wife, **Sarah,** to him.

15 Then Abimelech said,
“**Look over my land & choose any place where you would like to live.**”



16 And he said to Sarah,
“Look, I am giving your ‘brother’
1,000 pieces of silver
in the presence of all these witnesses.
This is to compensate you
for any wrong I may have done to you.
This will settle any claim against me,
and your reputation is cleared.”



17 Then Abraham prayed to God,
and **God healed Abimelech,**
his wife, and his female servants,
so they could have children.

18 For the LORD had caused all the women
to be infertile because of what happened
with Abraham's wife, Sarah.



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