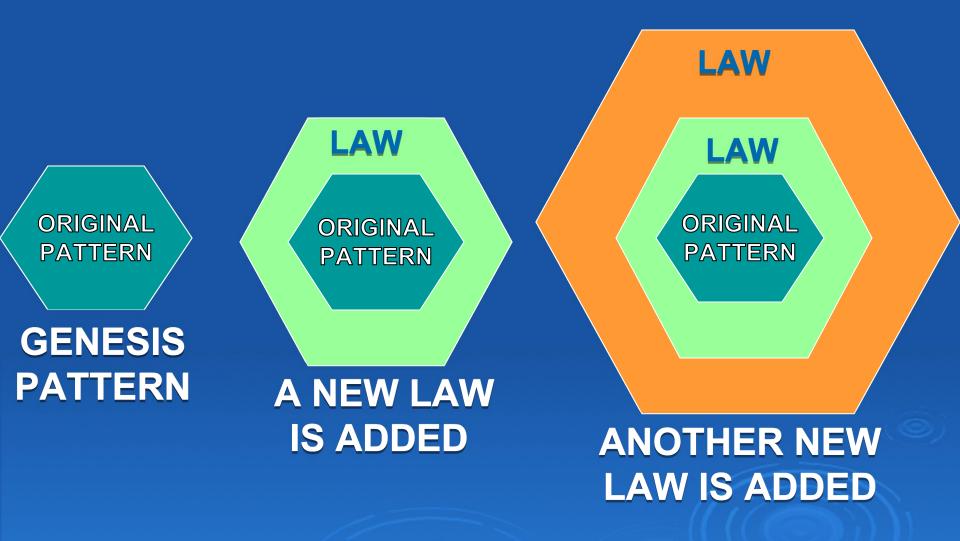
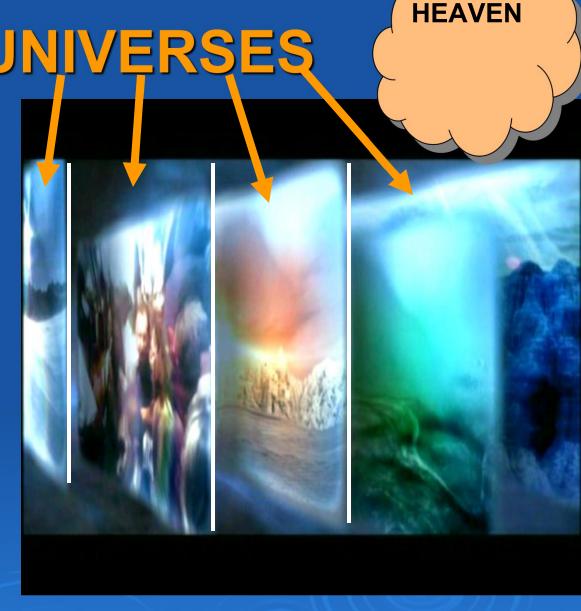
#### **GENESIS 26: PATTERNS**



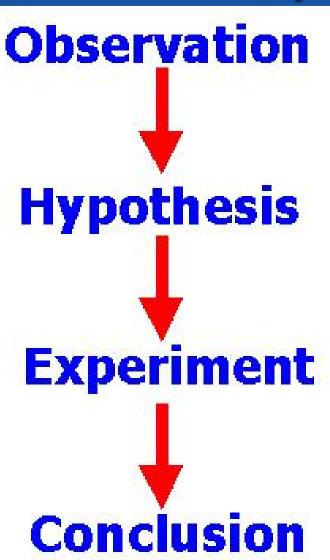
PARALLEL UNIVERSES

- More dimensions
   than the 4 we are
   familiar with (width,
   length, height, time)
- Our Universe is orderly and full of patterns
- Intelligent Design



#### THE SCIENTIFIC METHOD

A Secular Humanist system

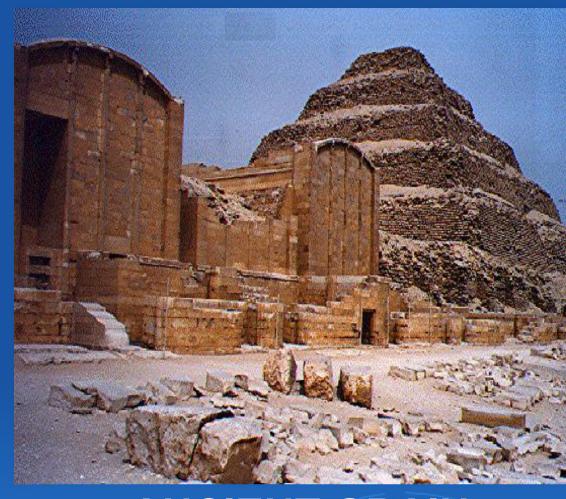


- We have been taught to study the Bible using secular humanist methods
- The Bible is NOT a Secular Humanist document!
- The search for WHY? in the Bible leads to dead-end trails
- We are a Universe and Life System of PATTERNS
- Repetitions and cycles of the Bible = God-patterns



## TAXES WERE PAID IN PRODUCE

- Stores-cities existed to stockpile grain paid as taxes
- Isaac told NOT to go down to Egypt
- God would see Isaac and his clan THROUGH the trouble, not take them OUT of the trouble



ANCIENT GRAIN
WAREHOUSE IN EGYPT

# CHAPTER 26 OCCURS <u>BEFORE</u> CHAPTER 25

- Esau and Jacob not born yet
- "The Lord appeared....." Y-H-W-H
- > Appeared = va-yerah' Divine Revelation
- > Va-yomer = words Divine Speech
- "Appearance" not usually visible...... generally indicates a *near-ness* of God
- > THIS Abimelech is NOT the same Abimelech that Abraham dealt with
- Abimelech is an epithet, a title "father-king"

#### **Vs.** 3

#### **GOD RENEWS PROMISES TO ISAAC**

- After looking at his circumstances, Isaac NEEDED to be reassured
- Vs. 4 "....so that all the nations of the earth shall bless themselves by your heirs..."
- PRINCIPLE: All humanity has it's hopes and wellbeing organically connected to Israel!
- Genesis 48, 49, 50 adds more info and mystery
- "NATIONS" in the Bible is more referring to PEOPLE, not territory with defined boundaries
- Nation = A definable group of people
- Nation and Country are not the same thing



#### **ISAAC**

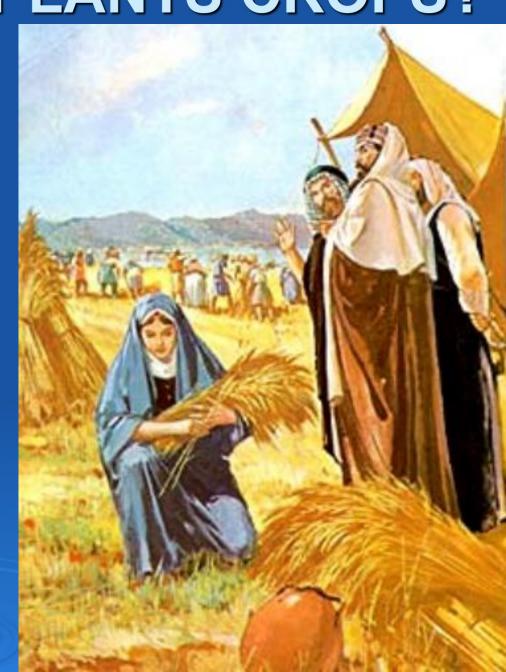
**AND** 

#### **ABIMELECH**

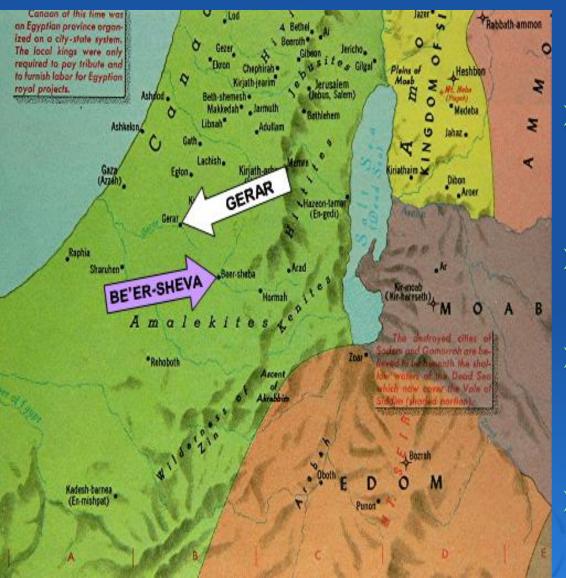
- Isaac obeyed, and stayed in Canaan
- Isaac tells locals that Rivka is his SISTER
- Abimelech observes that THIS is a lie!
- Patterns:
- 1) Famine
- 2) Intent to go to Egypt
- 3) King of Philistines notices wife
- 4) Lies
- Abimelech calls God of Isaac "Y-H-W-H"

## Vs. 13: ISAAC PLANTS CROPS?

- Not unusual for owners of flocks and herds to plant a large "garden"
- NOT an indication to settle down permanently
- 100 times crop yield was a supernatural act of God
- Philistine people become jealous and fearful of Isaac, see his clan as a threat
- A pattern that will be played out with the Hebrews, Israelites, Jews throughout history



# ISAAC MOVES TO BE'ER-SHEVA



- Philistines were a WEAKER nation than Isaac
- After Isaac moved, the Philistines STILL weren't satisfied
- Be'er-Sheva = well of seven
- Well known place to Isaac, lived their with Abraham for a time
- Be'er-Sheva was ONLY an Oasis

## FEAR NOT!

- Isaac was fearful
- Probably felt like he failed by not fighting Abimelech
- Abimelech comes to make a peace treaty
- Ahuzzath, chief of staff
- Phicol, general of army
- Be'er-Sheva is on the border of the land of the Philistines, so Abimelech feels insecure

