

# Message Title: Blessed but Bothered

## Point 1: Prosperity Requires Stewardship

**Scripture:** Genesis 26:12–14 (NKJV) <sup>12</sup>Then Isaac sowed in that land, and reaped in the same year a hundredfold; and the Lord blessed him. <sup>13</sup>The man began to prosper, and continued prospering until he became very prosperous; <sup>14</sup>for he had possessions of flocks and possessions of herds and a great number of servants. So the Philistines envied him.

**Key Idea:** The blessing of God doesn't remove responsibility—it multiplies it. Isaac worked the land, and *then* the blessing came. Too often we expect God to do what only our discipline can achieve. God's favor accelerated Isaac's results, but not without effort.

### Application:

- Blessing is not a replacement for stewardship.
- The more God gives you, the more you must manage.
- Ask yourself: “What systems, disciplines, and strategies am I using to sustain what God gave me?”

## Point 2: Blessing Brings Opposition (v.14–16)

**Scripture:** Genesis 26:14–16 (NKJV) <sup>14</sup>for he had possessions of flocks and possessions of herds and a great number of servants. So the Philistines envied him. <sup>15</sup>Now the Philistines had stopped up all the wells which his father's servants had dug in the days of Abraham his father, and they had filled them with earth. <sup>16</sup>And Abimelech said to Isaac, “Go away from us, for you are much mightier than we.”

**Key Idea:** Favor doesn't just attract opportunity—it attracts enemies. When others see your growth, influence, and success, they may respond with resistance instead of rejoicing. Isaac did nothing wrong, but he was still asked to leave.

### Application:

- Don't let rejection confuse you—sometimes it's confirmation.
- Not everyone can handle your harvest.
- Keep your character intact even when others misinterpret your increase.



### Point 3: Keep Digging—God Will Make Room (v.17–22)

**Scripture:** Genesis 26:17–22 (NKJV) <sup>17</sup>Then Isaac departed from there and pitched his tent in the Valley of Gerar, and dwelt there. <sup>18</sup>And Isaac dug again the wells of water which they had dug in the days of Abraham his father, for the Philistines had stopped them up after the death of Abraham. He called them by the names which his father had called them. <sup>19</sup>Also Isaac's servants dug in the valley, and found a well of running water there. <sup>20</sup>But the herdsmen of Gerar quarreled with Isaac's herdsmen, saying, "The water is ours." So he called the name of the well Esek, because they quarreled with him. <sup>21</sup>Then they dug another well, and they quarreled over that one also. So he called its name Sitnah. <sup>22</sup>And he moved from there and dug another well, and they did not quarrel over it. So he called its name Rehoboth, because he said, "For now the Lord has made room for us, and we shall be fruitful in the land."

**Key Idea:** The blessed don't stop—they relocate, they rebuild, they dig again. Isaac didn't retaliate; he relocated. He didn't fight for what was taken; he kept building until God gave him uncontested space.

#### Application:

- There's always a Rehoboth ahead for the faithful.
- The test is in how you respond to being pushed out of a place you prospered.
- Some conflict is God's way of pushing you into a broader future.

