

God's Promise/God's Covenant

What Is Our Role?

22 June 2008

Genesis 21:8-21

- 8** The child grew and was weaned, and on the day Isaac was weaned Abraham held a great feast. **9** But Sarah saw that the son whom Hagar the Egyptian had borne to Abraham was mocking, **10** and she said to Abraham, "Get rid of that slave woman and her son, for that slave woman's son will never share in the inheritance with my son Isaac."
11 The matter distressed Abraham greatly because it concerned his son.

Genesis 21:8-21

- 12** But God said to him, "Do not be so distressed about the boy and your servant. Listen to whatever Sarah tells you, because it is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned. **13** I will make the son of the servant into a nation also, because he is your offspring."
14 Early the next morning Abraham took some food and a skin of water and gave them to Hagar. He set them on her shoulders and then sent her off with the boy. She went on her way and wandered in the Desert of Beersheba.

Genesis 21:8-21

- 15** When the water in the skin was gone, she put the boy under one of the bushes. **16** Then she went off and sat down about a bowshot away, for she thought, "I cannot watch the boy die." And as she sat there, she began to sob.
17 God heard the boy crying, and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven and said to her, "What is the matter, Hagar? Do not be afraid; God has heard the boy crying as he lies there. **18** Lift the boy up and take him by the hand, for I will make him into a great nation."

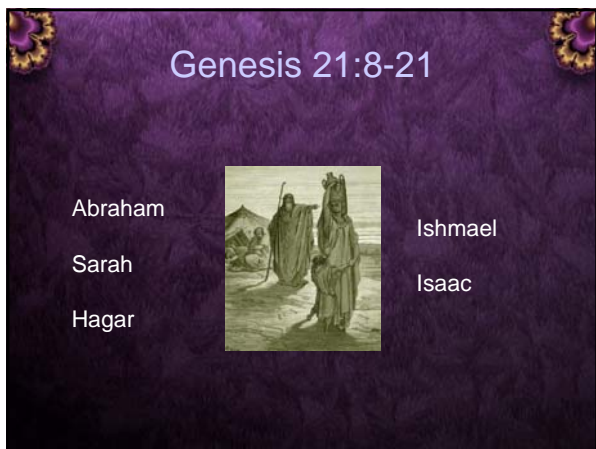
Genesis 21:8-21

- 19** Then God opened her eyes and she saw a well of water. So she went and filled the skin with water and gave the boy a drink.
20 God was with the boy as he grew up. He lived in the desert and became an archer. **21** While he was living in the Desert of Paran, his mother got a wife for him from Egypt.

(TNIV)

Promises We Make

- This is a **promising** new play
- I will try to be back on time – but no **promises**
- I **promise** to say NO to drugs
- I **promise** – cross my heart, hope to die
- Pinky **promise**
- I **promise** to tell the truth, the whole truth, nothing but the truth



Character Traits

- Abraham
 - Knowing, trusting, humble, submissive
 - Hebrews 11:8-10

Character Traits

- Sarah
 - Accepting, impatient, spurned, jealous
 - Hebrews 11:11-12

Character Traits

- Hagar
 - Afraid, rudderless, desperate
 - Genesis 16:7-15
 - Genesis 21:16-19

Child of Promise

<p>Ishmael</p> <p>Romans 9:7 Hebrews 11:7</p>	<p>Isaac</p> <p>Galatians 4:28 Galatians 4:21-23</p>
---------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------

Jeremiah 31:31-34

31 "The days are coming," declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah. **32** It will not be like the covenant I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they broke my covenant, though I was a husband to them," declares the LORD. **33** "This is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after that time," declares the LORD.

Jeremiah 31:31-34

"I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. **34** No longer will they teach their neighbors, or say to one another, 'Know the LORD,' because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest," declares the LORD. "For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more."

Jeremiah 32:42

- "This is what the LORD says: As I have brought all this great calamity on this people, so I will give them all the prosperity I have promised them.

How Do We Respond to God?

- Like Abraham?
- Like Sarah?
- Like Hagar?

We Have Been Given A Gift

- Proverbs 18:16 A **gift** opens the way for the giver and ushers him into the presence of the great.
- Ephesians 2:8 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the **gift** of God—

My Response . . .

- **6** With what shall I come before the LORD and bow down before the exalted God? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? **7** Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousand rivers of oil? Shall I offer my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul? **8** He has shown all you people what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To **act justly** and to **love mercy** and to **walk humbly** with your God.

Micah 6:6-8

Psalter 103

Leader: Praise the Lord, O my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name.

People: Praise the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits –

Psalter 103

Leader: Who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases,

People: Who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion,

Psalter 103

Leader: Who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

People: The Lord works righteousness and justice for all the oppressed.

Psalter 103

Leader: He made known his ways to Moses, his deeds to the people of Israel:

People: The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love.

Psalter 103

Leader: He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever;

People: He does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities.

Psalter 103

Leader: For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him;

People: As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

Psalter 103

Leader: As a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who fear him;

People: For he knows how we are formed, he remembers that we are dust.

Psalter 103

Leader: As for man, his days are like grass, he flourishes like a flower of the field;

People: The wind blows over it and it is gone, and its place remembers it no more.

Psalter 103

Leader: But from everlasting to everlasting
the Lord's love is with those who fear him
and his righteousness with their children's
children –

People: With those who keep his covenant
and remember to obey his precepts.

Psalter 103

Leader: The Lord has established his
throne in heaven, and his kingdom rules
over all.

People: Praise the Lord, you his angels,
you mighty ones who do his bidding, who
obey his word.

Psalter 103

Leader: Praise the Lord, all his heavenly
hosts, you his servants who do his will.

People: Praise the Lord, all his works
everywhere in his dominion.

All: Praise the Lord, O my soul.