



Way Point Chronicles

Traveling through the Old Testament by Chronological Stories

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children by her. And Abram hearkened to the voice of Sarai. 3 And Sarai Abram's wife took Hagar her maid the Egyptian, after Abram had dwelt ten years in the land of Canaan, and gave her to her husband Abram to be his wife.

Abraham as you will recall went into Egypt during a time of drought and famine. While there Sarah, his wife, acquired a servant named Hagar. Her name mean "flight" which we will see certainly is apt.

Again, we are told that Sarah was barren and unable to deliver a child to Abraham. So Sarah gets this big idea of Abraham having a child by Hagar; sort of a surrogate mother type arrangement. This was after then years of dwelling in Canaan. It says that he hearkened to the voice of Sarah. While it was not his idea, he certainly did not oppose it. We can say that this was not in the will of God to fulfill His heir.

III- Sarah Despised by Hagar: Gen 16:4-6

Notice the problems that arise from running ahead of God. **Genesis 16:4-6** *And he went in unto Hagar, and she conceived: and when she saw that she had conceived, her mistress was despised in her eyes.* 5 *And Sarai said unto Abram, My wrong be upon thee: I have given my maid into thy bosom; and when she saw that she had conceived, I was despised in her eyes: the LORD judge between me and thee.* 6 *But Abram said unto Sarai, Behold, thy maid is in thy hand; do to her as it pleaseth thee. And when Sarai dealt hardly with her, she fled from her face.*

Hagar when she was able to be with child became very haughty toward Sarah and even despised her. When she talks with Abraham about the situation, he told her that it was up to her to do with her maid as she chose.

This may have seemed like a good solution to the problem but in fact it turns out to be a bad one. When the will of God is plain many times we just need to be patient and let God work out the details. We all have a tendency reason within ourselves and then act on our reasoning instead of waiting on God to work out the details.

Sarah deals harshly with Hagar. An act probably of jealousy.

IV- Hiding in the Wilderness: Genesis 16:7-14

Remember the name Hagar means flight. What would Hagar do? She fled her face it said in the previous verse. Not only did she just get away from her, she took flight. **Genesis 16:7-10** *And the angel of the LORD found her by a fountain of water in the wilderness, by the fountain in the way to Shur.* 8 *And he said, Hagar, Sarai's maid, whence camest thou? and whither wilt thou go? And she said, I flee from the face of my mistress Sarai.* 9 *And the angel of the LORD said unto her, Return to*



Coordinates:

Genesis 15:1-16:16; 17:20-22

Sights to See:

- 1- God has a plan that includes Him timeline for history.
- 2- The ways of God are hard at times for humans to understand. *Isaiah 55:8-9* *For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says LORD. 9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.*
- 3- When we begin to feel like we need to help God fulfill His plan we must be careful that we are doing it in the flesh.
- 4- We cannot hide, like Hagar in the wilderness, anyplace that God cannot see us.
- 5- The suffering of humans touches the heart of God.
- 6- God's perfect will also has God's perfect timing and God's perfect orchestration of events to bring it about.
- 7- Our heart should only be to do what God wants when God wants.



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thy mistress, and submit thyself under her hands. 10 And the angel of the LORD said unto her, I will multiply thy seed exceedingly, that it shall not be numbered for multitude.” So this pregnant girl is fleeing and hiding from everyone but God. I personally feel this Angel of the Lord is a pre-Bethlehem appearance of Christ. Did you notice that He said “*I will multiply thy seed...*” Could an angel make such a promise? I say this is one evidence it was Christ.

We next get the first prophecy concerning the son of Abraham born to Hagar. *Genesis 16:11-12 And the angel of the LORD said unto her, Behold, thou art with child, and shalt bear a son, and shalt call his name Ishmael; because the LORD hath heard thy affliction. 12 And he will be a wild man; his hand will be against every man, and every man's hand against him; and he shall dwell in the presence of all his brethren.*

God knew what would be in the heart of Ishmael and his descendants. Conflict has certainly been a part of the nations that were of Ishmael.

Hagar gives us one of the great names of God here. She calls Him the “*Lord God seeth me.*” *Genesis 16:13-14 “And she called the name of the LORD that spake unto her, Thou God seest me; for she said, Have I also here looked after him that seeth me? 14 Wherefore the well was called Beerlahairoi; behold, it is between Kadesh and Bered.”* This little handmaid of Sarah has just had a personal encounter with the God of the universe. She, as an Egyptian, would not have been taught about a personal God who cares. This is a great revelation to her that God cares. She probably thought that no one cared if she lived or died. In her darkest time she discovered that God was there and cared.

V- A Son Born out of God’s Timeline: Gen 16:15-16

Genesis 16:15-16 And Hagar bare Abram a son: and Abram called his son's name, which Hagar bare, Ishmael. 16 And Abram was fourscore and six years old, when Hagar bare Ishmael to Abram.

The son was born to Hagar and she named him according to the Angel. Abraham was 86 years old when this son was born. I submit that this son was born out of God’s will and out of God’s timeline. Abraham has ran ahead of God and His perfect will.

How does this apply to the church?

Henry Morris says:

“...Abram and Sarai, realizing what was happening in the aging of their bodies, began to feel that they must somehow intervene to help God out in the accomplishment of His promise. This is an all-too-common experience for believers. “God helps those who help themselves,” as the motto goes. Failing to see God work as soon as we think He should, we begin to feel that He is waiting for us to do “our part” before He will do His. We then devise various plans and programs to get it done, only to find it is all in vain, and in fact we probably do more harm than good.” (*The Genesis Record*, p328-9)

This brings a question into my thought process for churches. Do we ever take a look at the programs we are doing to make sure they still are of God or if they ever were? Did we run ahead of God with that program or was it God conceived and born? Was it in God’s time or ours? Is it done with only human effort or is the Spirit of God giving it life?

