## **3 Great Gifts**

## Genesis Chapter 21

- Gen 21:1 1) The Gift of a Son vs 1-8 A Promise Realized
  Then the LORD took note of Sarah as He had said, and the LORD did for Sarah as He had promised.
- Gen 21:2 So Sarah conceived and bore a son to Abraham in his old age, at the appointed time of which God had spoken to him.
  - Since Chapter 12 Abraham was 75 years old Now 100 (25 years)
  - God waited for the appointed time / That appointed time is when it is only possible by God's hand so no man can get the glory
  - Which God Had Spoken/Promised some of God's promises are conditional and depend upon something we must do. Other promises are unconditional and are not based on what we do but who He is.
- Gen 21:3 Abraham called the name of his son who was born to him, whom Sarah bore to him, Isaac.
  - Isaac = Laughter
- Gen 21:4 Then Abraham circumcised his son Isaac when he was eight days old, as God had commanded him.
- Gen 21:5 Now Abraham was one hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him.
- Gen 21:6 Sarah said, "God has made laughter for me; everyone who hears will laugh with me."
- Gen 21:7 And she said, "Who would have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse children? Yet I have borne him a son in his old age."
- Gen 21:8 The child grew and was weaned, and Abraham made a great feast on the day that Isaac was weaned. .
  - God Keeps His Promises
    - ROMANS 1 "Paul, a bond-servant of Christ Jesus, called {as} an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which He promised beforehand through His prophets in the holy Scriptures, concerning His Son, who was born of a descendant of David according to the flesh, who was declared the Son of God with power by the resurrection from the dead, according to the Spirit of holiness, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about {the} obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for His name's sake, among whom you also are the called of Jesus Christ;"
    - ROMANS 4:20 "...with respect to the promise of God, he did not waver in unbelief but grew strong in faith, giving glory to God, and being fully assured that what God had promised, He was able also to perform. Therefore IT WAS ALSO CREDITED TO HIM AS RIGHTEOUSNESS. Now not for his sake only was it written that it was credited to him, but for our sake also, to whom it will be credited, as those who believe in Him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, {He} who was delivered over because of our transgressions, and was raised because of our justification.
    - <u>TITUS 1:2</u> "In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began;"
    - <u>HEBREWS 10:19</u> "Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; And [having] an high priest over the house of God; Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the profession of [our] faith without wavering; (for he [is] faithful that promised;)
    - <u>JAMES 1:12</u> "Blessed [is] the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.
    - <u>1 JOHN 2:25</u> "And this is the promise that he hath promised us, [even] eternal life."

Life is happening - Last scene Festive & Laughter This next scene Conflict & Distress Now Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, mocking.

- Ishmael is now about 14
- 2<sup>nd</sup> child born in home. Attention diverted from him to a new born baby
- Galatians 4:22-31 Paul compares the Judiazers not as from Isaac but from Ishmael

GALATIANS 4:22-31 For it is written that Abraham had two sons, one by the bondwoman and one by the free woman. But the son by the bondwoman was born according to the flesh, and the son by the free woman through the promise. This is allegorically speaking, for these {women} are two covenants: one {proceeding} from Mount Sinai bearing children who are to be slaves; she is Hagar. Now this Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia and corresponds to the present Jerusalem, for she is in slavery with her children. But the Jerusalem above is free; she is our mother. For it is written, "REJOICE, BARREN WOMAN WHO DOES NOT BEAR; BREAK FORTH AND SHOUT, YOU WHO ARE NOT IN LABOR; FOR MORE NUMEROUS ARE THE CHILDREN OF THE DESOLATE THAN OF THE ONE WHO HAS A HUSBAND." And you brethren, like Isaac, are children of promise. But as at that time he who was born according to the flesh persecuted him {who was born} according to the Spirit, so it is now also. But what does the Scripture say? "CAST OUT THE BONDWOMAN AND HER SON, FOR THE SON OF THE BONDWOMAN SHALL NOT BE AN HEIR WITH THE SON OF THE FREE WOMAN." So then, brethren, we are not children of a bondwoman, but of the free woman.

- The Two cannot exist together, neither can a Christian live in both the flesh and the Spirit. One needs to be cast away!
- Gen 21:10 Therefore she said to Abraham, "Drive out this maid and her son, for the son of this maid shall not be an heir with my son Isaac."
- Gen 21:11 The matter distressed Abraham greatly because of his son.
- Gen 21:12 But God said to Abraham, "Do not be distressed because of the lad and your maid; whatever Sarah tells you, listen to her, for through Isaac your descendants shall be named.
- Gen 21:13 "And of the son of the maid I will make a nation also, because he is your descendant."
- Gen 21:14 So Abraham rose early in the morning and took bread and a skin of water and gave {them} to Hagar, putting {them} on her shoulder, and {gave her} the boy, and sent her away. And she departed and wandered about in the wilderness of Beersheba.
  - Responsiveness to the Lord "Early in the Morning"
  - Abraham develops this new pattern in his life. From here he will rise early every time in response to God.
  - Bread & Water given must be by some instruction from God (No other provision)
     From a wealthy man Is this all that is provided? He knew that no matter what he gave them apart from God it will not be enough.
    - What He (in the long run) gave them was a dependence and trust in God and God alone.
- Gen 21:15 When the water in the skin was used up, she left the boy under one of the bushes.
- Gen 21:16 Then she went and sat down opposite him, about a bowshot away, for she said, "Do not let me see the boy die." And she sat opposite him, and lifted up her voice and wept.
- Gen 21:17 God heard the lad crying; and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven and said to her, "What is the matter with you, Hagar? Do not fear, for God has heard the voice of the lad where he is.
  - Hagar weeping out loud But God hears the voice of the lad

- Gen 21:18 "Arise, lift up the lad, and hold him by the hand, for I will make a great nation of him."
- Gen 21:19 Then God opened her eyes and she saw a well of water; and she went and filled the skin with water and gave the lad a drink.
  - The Gift given not a well but open eyes
  - We need not material things, What we need is our eye open that
    - God Hears God Sees God Knows
    - God Provides God Saves God gives a future
  - <u>ACTS 26:18</u> "To open their eyes, [and] to turn [them] from darkness to light, and [from] the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me."
  - <u>2KINGS 6:26</u> "And Elisha prayed, and said, LORD, I pray thee, open his eyes, that he may see. And the LORD opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw: and, behold, the mountain [was] full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha.
- Gen 21:20 God was with the lad, and he grew; and he lived in the wilderness and became an archer.
- Gen 21:21 He lived in the wilderness of Paran, and his mother took a wife for him from the land of Egypt.
- Gen 21:22 3) The Gift of Support vs 22- 34 A Friendship Gained

  Now it came about at that time that Abimelech and Phicol, the commander of his army, spoke to Abraham, saying, "God is with you in all that you do;
- Gen 21:23 now therefore, swear to me here by God that you will not deal falsely with me or with my offspring or with my posterity, but according to the kindness that I have shown to you, you shall show to me and to the land in which you have sojourned."
- Gen 21:24 Abraham said, "I swear it."
- Gen 21:25 But Abraham complained to Abimelech because of the well of water which the servants of Abimelech had seized.
- Gen 21:26 And Abimelech said, "I do not know who has done this thing; you did not tell me, nor did I hear of it until today."
- Gen 21:27 Abraham took sheep and oxen and gave them to Abimelech, and the two of them made a covenant.
- Gen 21:28 Then Abraham set seven ewe lambs of the flock by themselves.
- Gen 21:29 Abimelech said to Abraham, "What do these seven ewe lambs mean, which you have set by themselves?"
- Gen 21:30 He said, "You shall take these seven ewe lambs from my hand so that it may be a witness to me, that I dug this well."
  - An offering of closure of the past bad experience and the new covenant found in this friend.
  - 7 meaning completeness, sealing of covenant
- Gen 21:31 Therefore he called that place Beersheba, because there the two of them took an oath.
  - Beersheba = place of the oath
- Gen 21:32 So they made a covenant at Beersheba; and Abimelech and Phicol, the commander of his army, arose and returned to the land of the Philistines.
- Gen 21:33 {Abraham} planted a tamarisk tree at Beersheba, and there he called on the name of the LORD, the Everlasting God.
  - Abraham called on the name Jehovah, El-Olam God is Eternal God

## Gen 21:34 And Abraham sojourned in the land of the Philistines for many days.

- 27 30 years
- PROVERBS 18:24 "A man [that hath] friends must shew himself friendly: and there is a friend [that] sticketh closer than a brother."
- <u>JOHN 15:15</u> "Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you."

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