

“THE WALK OF FAITH”

“THE PROMISE OF GOD AND THE PATH OF THE PATRIARCHS”

Part 2 of the Book of Genesis (Chapters 12-50)

PART 33

“MY WAY OR THE HIGH WAY”

“What Happens When We Fail to Wait on God”

(Genesis 16:1-16)

INTRODUCTION:

“For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD.
For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.”

—Isaiah 55:8, 9

“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.**”

—Galatians 4:22, 23

REVISITING THE COVENANT THEME

THE PREGNANT PROMISE - THE COVENANT OF ABRAHAM: (Gen. 12, 15 & 17)

“Go... to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ...”

THE PATRIARCHS AND THE PROMISE:

1. This period covers approximately 2165 B.C. to 1875 B.C. It presents the narrative of God's **promise** (Abrahamic Covenant) and the **testing** of the people to whom it is given. The _____ of the Patriarchs is put to the **test** while the **promise** of God is placed at _____.
2. Two other themes emerge, **subordinate** to the primary theme but just as **significant** in the unfolding metanarrative of the **promise** of God: the _____ of God and the _____ of God.

OVERVIEW OF THIS TWO-PART STORY...

1. The story takes place in two very different _____.
2. The story centers around two very different but equally decisive _____.
3. The story involves two very different but equally difficult _____.

1A. THE _____ OF SARAI AND HER DECISION (16:1-6)

- _____ - Take _____.

“Now Sarai, Abram’s wife had borne him no children, and she had an Egyptian maid whose name was Hagar. So Sarai said to Abram, ‘Now behold, the LORD has prevented me from bearing children. Please go in to my maid; perhaps I shall obtain children through her.’ And **Abram listened to the voice of Sarai.**”

—Genesis 16:1, 2

2A. THE _____ OF HAGAR AND HER DECISION (16:7-16)

- _____ - Take _____.

“Now **the angel of the LORD found her** by a spring of water in the wilderness, by the spring on the way to Shur. And he said, ‘Hagar, Sarai’s maid, **where have you come from and where are you going?**’ And she said, ‘I am fleeing from the presence of my mistress Sarai.’ Then the angel of the LORD said to her, ‘**Return** to your mistress, and **submit yourself to her authority.**”

—Genesis 16:7-9

3A. THE _____ FOR SARAI AND HAGAR

- _____ - Take _____.

1B. Wait! God is _____ even when you aren’t aware of it.

2B. Wait! God is _____ even when you aren’t aware of it.

CONCLUSION:

“Wait for the LORD;
Be strong and let your heart take courage;
Yes, wait for the LORD.”

—Psalm 27:14

“Our soul waits for the LORD;
He is our help and our shield.”

—Psalm 33:20