

Genesis 15-16

-

“So shall your descendants be.”

Galatians 3:16 — Now to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made. He does not say, “And to seeds,” as of many, but as of one, “And to your Seed,” who is Christ.

-

Believed = 'āman(אָמַן) to stand firm, to trust, to be certain, to believe in
-This is the root word for “Amen”

*Spurgeon “They who repent in mimicry shall go to hell in reality.”

James 2:21-23 — Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered Isaac his son on the altar? Do you see that faith was working together with his works, and by works faith was made perfect? And the Scripture was fulfilled which says, “Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.” And he was called the friend of God.

James 2:14 — What does it profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can [that] faith save him?

-

“he brought all these to Him and cut them in two”

Jeremiah 34:18 — ‘And I will give the men who have transgressed My covenant, who have not performed the words of the covenant which they made before Me, when they cut the calf in two and passed between the parts of it—

-

“and they will afflict them four hundred years”

Exodus 12:40-41 — Now the sojourn of the children of Israel who lived in Egypt was four hundred and thirty years. And it came to pass at the end of the four hundred and thirty years—on that very same day—it came to pass that all the armies of the LORD went out from the land of Egypt.

Abraham receives promise at age 75

-25 years later Isaac is born

-60 years later Jacob is born

-130 years later Jacob enters Egypt
-25 + 60 + 130 = 215 years

From Abraham's promise to Jacob entering Egypt = 215 years

-From Jacob entering Egypt to Exodus = another 215 years

-Total = 430 years

400 vs 430?

Genesis 21:9 — And Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, scoffing.

Galatians 4:29 — But, as he who was born according to the flesh [Ishmael] then persecuted him who was born according to the Spirit [Isaac]

430 years = Abrahamic promise to Exodus/Sinai

-400 years = Abraham's seed (Isaac) is afflicted by Ishmael at his weaning (age 5)

-215 years = actual time Israel spent in Egypt

-Slavery/oppression = less than 215 years

-

"But in the fourth generation they shall return here"

4th generation:

-400 years later

-Moses was literally the 4th generation to live in Egypt (Levi>Kohath>Amram>Moses)

-

CHAPTER 16

In Vitro Fertilization (IVF) Discussion:

- Infertility is a serious issue

-Sarah, Rebekah, Rachel, Hannah, Elizabeth, and others all experienced infertility.

- Children are gifts from God

- Human life begins at conception

- IVF is not inherently wrong

- The central issue is creating, freezing, and discarding or abandoning embryos

- Do not create embryos you are not willing to receive

- Egg freezing may avoid some embryo-related problems

- Limited fertilization is the safest ethical path

- Avoid embryo destruction, selective reduction, research use, and indefinite abandonment

- Speak to couples with conviction and compassion
- Are we “playing God”?
- Don't forget about adoption

-

The Angel of the LORD

Genesis 22:11-12 — But the Angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said... “since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me.”

Exodus 3:2 & 4 — And the Angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire from the midst of a bush... So when the LORD saw that he turned aside to look, God called to him from the midst of the bush...

John 1:18 — No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared [exēgeomai] Him.