

## Part 7 – The God Who Sees Me

**Genesis 16:1** Now Sarai Abram's wife bare him no children: and she had an handmaid, an Egyptian, whose name was Hagar.

**2** And Sarai said unto Abram, Behold now, the LORD hath restrained me from bearing: I pray thee, go in unto my maid; it may be that I may obtain 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.

**4** 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.

- One of the most difficult things in this life to do is to wait on the Lord

- Abram and Sarai knew God's will was for them to have a child
- I would imagine that after a couple years of trying frustration began to grip Sarai
- Not every idea that comes to our mind in our quiet time is a prompting of the Holy Spirit.
- God had promised Abram and Sarai a child...
  - About 10 years have gone by since the promise
  - I just imagine Sarai pondering God's promise...
  - knowing that she is old...
  - although she has not passed her ability to bear children...
  - that's in another 10 years, when she laughs at God's promise, but that's for later.
  - She is sitting there thinking, "if I was gonna have a son, it would have happened by now..."
  - God must have other ways to fulfill this promise...
  - O, look, here is the slave I bought in Egypt when we were there,
  - I will have her lay with Abram and she can bear him a son for me."
  - I can't imagine what was going through Abram's head as Sarai told him her plan...
  - although, he is a man, so maybe I can.

- God has a plan to fulfill His promises.
  - It is a perfect plan that will work to perfection...but it will take patience.

**Genesis 16:6** 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.

- Sarai made a choice to “help out” God’s plan,
  - or in other words, **to do it her way**.
  - God’s Way didn’t make sense and wasn’t happening in her timeline.
  - Now that her planned worked, it blew up in her face.
  - Hagar now hated Sarai, in the sense that,
    - Sarai was less of a woman than she as that she gave Abram a son.
  - This cut Sarai to the core and angered her.
  - She went to Abram and confessed that she had made a bad choice and brought it on him.
  - Abram couldn’t have cared less...
    - he said, “do to Hagar whatever you want, she is your hand maid...
    - which is sad because, you would think that he would have had some pretty good feelings for Hagar.

- So, Sarai blamed and beat Hagar for doing exactly what she wanted her to do.
- When we “help God” we hurt ourselves.
- God may not have the same timeline as us,
  - but that doesn't give us liberty to step outside of what He wants to do.
  - When we do, it will hit us in the face.
  - Proverbs puts it like this, “Whoso diggeth a pit shall fall therein: and he that rolleth a stone, it will return upon him.” (Proverbs 26:27)
  - Then when we feel bad about our choice, we tend to go to one who couldn't care less to give us “permission” to deal with our problem, that we made, however WE want...which just compounds the problem.

**Genesis 16:7** 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 thy mistress, and submit thyself under her hands.

- It may not make sense to us...
  - it really doesn't make sense to me that God would have Hagar go back to Sarai,
  - who beat her for going along with her plan.
  - It doesn't make sense to have to endure any physical and emotional abuse at the hands of anyone who would be a tyrant over your life.
  - It really doesn't make sense because in about 10 years God is going to allow Abram, at Sarai's demand, to cast out Hagar and their son Ishmael for good.
- Going along with God's will often doesn't make sense from our perspective.
  - I honestly have no insight as to why God has Abram, Sarai, and Hagar going this way, yet.
  - I believe God will give me insight, when I am ready for it.
  - However, I know this, whether we understand it or agree with it, we are foolish not to go with God's plan
- Now we are going to shift gears here

- We are going to see just how merciful and gracious our Heavenly Father is

**Genesis 16:10** And the angel of the LORD said unto her, I will multiply thy seed exceedingly, that it shall not be numbered for multitude.

**11** 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.

- Abram had been promised this portion of land from God.
  - It is promised to God's Chosen.
  - Yet, because Abram didn't allow God to fulfill His will concerning Abram's son,
  - the middle east is a place of unrest.
  - Ishmael, Abram's first born, and his descendants feel just as much right to the land as do Isaac's.
  - They do not have claim, as that God deeded the land to Isaac, not Ishmael,

- however, God did say that Ishmael would “dwell in the presence of all his brethren.
  - So we have many of Israel's enemies that live in the surrounding areas.
  - Ishmael's, Esau's, and the son's of Keturah, Abram's 2nd wife.
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- We cannot put our hands on God's plans and not expect the backlash.
  - There will always be a price for our actions...reaping so to speak.
  - We would all do well to understand that each of our choices will bring some recompense or some reward
  - On this day, an Egyptian handmaiden
    - Sold to a man and his wife
    - Served faithful for over 10 years
    - Used as some ploy to circumvent some God she didn't know
    - Abused for simply doing what she was told
    - Cast out from everything she knew
    - Pregnant and rejected by the father
    - Found out that she was not as invisible as she thought...

**13** 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?

- What a wonderful statement!
  - “Thou God Seest Me!”
  - Hagar, an Egyptian slave who has now been used and abused by people of faith...
  - was not unnoticed by Jehovah!
  - The LORD talked to Hagar.
  - She began to use a new name for God. “AwTawElRohee”
  - She said to him, "You are 'God Who Sees Me.'"
  - She said this because she thought, "I see that even in this place God sees me and cares for me!"
  - God not only saw Hagar but He came to her,
  - He comforted her,
  - and He showed her copious grace!
  - Hagar became a child of the Living God this day!
- How many of us have ever gotten to a place where we just feel like we are all alone?
  - We feel used and abused by those who are supposed to be close to us



- Maybe it has even been those who call themselves God's people who have hurt us
- How sad it is that many people have a horrible perspective of God because of some horrible representatives
  - How sad that Abram, who had learned so much about faith and follow yet was still a fool in his own home
  - How many of us who claim to be like Christ have caused someone in our life to form a poor opinion of Christ because we are a poor picture
- Maybe you have been hurt and feel forgotten...invisible
- I want you to KNOW that there is a God in Heaven who SEES YOU!
- He is very aware of where you are and why
- He wants you to know that He can bless you and use you to do great things for Him
- **Lord, may I never be so blind as to not see that You do see.**
- **Then that I would never not see just how Good You are to me!**