

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE CLASS

JUNE 28, 2022

GENESIS 16:7-15

INTRODUCTION:

1. After being treated harshly by Sarai, Hagar “*fled from her presence*” (Gen. 16.6).
 - a) She was found “*by the spring on the way to Shur*” (Gen. 16.7; cf. Ex. 15.22).
 - b) She was found by “*the Angel of the LORD*” (Gen. 16.7). Could this be a reference to Christ? (Zech. 12.8; Ex. 3.2; 14.19; Num. 22.20ff; 1 Cor. 10.1-5)
2. After speaking with the Angel of the LORD, Hagar returned home to Abram. [READ]

I. COMMAND

- A. The Angel of the Lord issued two commandments to Hagar.
 1. **GENESIS 16.9:** “*The Angel of the LORD said to her, “Return to your mistress”*
 - a) Mistress: Literally, a female master. (cf. Jer. 13.18)
 - b) Hagar was commanded to return to a difficult situation of her own making. She could not escape the consequences of her actions. (Gen. 16.4; Prov. 30.23)
 2. **GENESIS 16.9:** “*...and submit yourself under her hand.*”
 - a) Hagar could resolve the conflict between her and Sarai by humbling herself.
 - b) Humility can resolve conflict: Apology, Understanding.
- B. Two lessons that we can learn from this command.
 1. God does not always remove us from conflict but expects us to resolve it.
 2. God expects of us to resolve conflict by humility.
 - a) Humility is a prominent attitude that God expects of us. (1 Pet. 5.5; Rom. 12.10)
 - b) Jesus came to serve. We are to have His mindset. (Matt. 20.25-28; Phil. 2.5)
 - c) Humility is a characteristic of love. (1 Cor. 13.4)

II. BLESSING

- A. The Angel of the Lord provided two blessings.
 1. **GENESIS 16.10:** “*I will multiply your descendants exceedingly, so that they shall not be counted for multitude.*” (Gen. 17.20; 25.12-16)
 2. **GENESIS 16.11:** “*Behold, you are with child, And you shall bear a son.*”
 - a) He would be a free spirit. (Gen. 16.12; cf. Job 39.5-8)
 - b) He would be antagonistic. (Gen. 16.12)
 - c) He would be a leader. (Gen. 12.12)
- B. The difficulties of life can produce wonderful blessings. Look for the silver lining.
 1. **ROMANS 5.3:** “*We glory in tribulations...*” (cf. James 1.2,3)
 2. **2 CORINTHIANS 12.9,10:** “*Therefore, I take pleasure in infirmities...*”

III. AWARENESS

- A. The Angel of the Lord reminded Hagar that He was aware of her hardships in two ways.
 1. The name of Ishmael. (Gen. 16.11)
 2. The name of the place where He appeared to her. (Gen. 16.13,14)
 - a) “Beer Lahoi Roi” Literally, watering place alive see. (cf. Num. 21.16)
 - b) Either, “I am alive after seeing the One who sees me” or “the living God who sees”
- B. God is always aware of our hardships.
 1. Is there anything that God does not see? (Prov. 15.3; Ps. 33.18; 34,15)
 2. Nothing can keep us from God’s help. (Ps. 139.7-12)