

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

GENESIS 21:8FF
OCTOBER 19, 2022

INTRODUCTION:

1. Why was the Old Testament written? What is the significance of learning about Abraham and his son? (Rom. 15.4; 1 Cor. 10.6)
2. After Sarah caught Ishmael “scoffing,” she told Abraham to “*cast out this bondwoman and her son; for the of this bondwoman shall not be heir with my son*” (Gen. 21.9,10)
 - a) “*Cast out*” Imperative. “to drive out, divorce” [Strong]. “to be banished” [Mounce]
 - b) “*Bondwoman and her son*” compared to “*my son.*”
3. Abraham was very displeased “*because of his son*” (Gen. 21.11).

I. CONNECTION

- A. The circumstances of Ishmael’s birth.
 1. Ishmael was born to be the heir of the promise. (Gen. 16.1-3)
 2. Ismael would become his own nation. (Gen. 16.11)
- B. The concern for Ishmael’s birthright. (Gen. 17.18-20)
 1. The firstborn had the right to be the heir. (Deut. 21.15-17; Luke 15.11,12)
 2. Though the firstborn, Esau sold his birthright. (Gen. 25.29-34)
 3. Sarah: “*the son of this bondwoman shall not be heir with my son*” (Gen. 21.11).

II. CARE

- A. God promised that He would take care of Hagar and Ishmael.
 1. **GENESIS 21.12:** “*But God said to Abraham, “Do not let it be displeasing”*”
 2. Displeasing: Grievous, distressed. It distressed Abraham greatly to send his own son out of the house. (Gen. 21.10). How would it make you feel?
- B. Two reasons why Abraham should not be grieved over banishing Hagar and Ishmael.
 1. Reason #1: The promise of God toward Isaac.
 - a) **GENESIS 21.12:** “*for in Isaac your seed shall be called.*”
 - b) Sarah correctly said what God had promised. (Gen. 17.19)
 - c) Before the beginning, God had a plan. (Titus 1.2; Rom. 9.6-9; Gal. 4.31)
 2. Reason #2: The promise of God toward Ishmael. (Gen. 21.13; 25.16)

III. CONVICTION

- A. All through the life of Abraham, we read of his faith.
 1. His faith concerning the promise of his son. (Gen. 15.4-6)
 2. His faith concerning the sacrifice of his son. (Gen. 22.7-10)
 3. His faith concerning the sending away of his son. (Gen. 21.14ff)
- B. Out of faith, Abraham did what God had commanded.
 1. **GENESIS 21.14:** “*So Abraham rose early in the morning ...and sent her away.*”
 2. **GENESIS 21.14:** “*Then she departed and wandered in the Wilderness of Beersheba.*”
 - a) “*Wilderness*” literally means, “wasteland, barren, desolate land.”
 - b) In the wilderness, food and water were hard to find. (Ex. 17.1-4; Num. 20.1-6)
 3. **GENESIS 21.15,16:** “*And the water in the skin was used up.*” Being out of water, Hagar expected her and her son to die in the wilderness.
 4. **GENESIS 21.17-19:** As promised, God provided for Hagar and Ishmael.