

Genesis 16 – 20

- What do you wish the story told you that it did not tell you?
- What are the meanings of the names in our Chapters: <https://www.behindthename.com/names/usage/biblical>
 - Hagar
 - HAGAR (Hā' gār) Personal name meaning “stranger.” The personal servant of Sarah, who was given as a concubine to Abraham and became the mother of Ishmael (Gen. 16:1–16; 21:8–21; 25:12; Gal. 4:24–25). Genesis 16:1–7 details the events of the initial conflict of Sarah with Hagar and the flight of Hagar. Verses 8–16 detail the visit of the messenger of Yahweh bringing the promise of a son to the mother in distress, encouraging Hagar to return to Sarah. These conflicts were related to the wife’s and concubine’s positions in the family and community (cp. similar conflicts in Gen. 29–30). Genesis 21:8–21 gives the story of the expulsion of Hagar and Ishmael and their miraculous deliverance. Pauline interpretation (Galatians) relates the superiority of a son born according to the Spirit over the son born according to the “flesh.” In Gal. 4 Paul used the Hagar story to stand for slavery under the old covenant in contrast to freedom of the new covenant symbolized by Isaac - David M. Fleming, “[Hagar](#),” ed. Chad Brand et al., *Holman Illustrated Bible Dictionary* (Nashville, TN: Holman Bible Publishers, 2003), 700.
 - Sarai/Sarah
 - SARAI (Sēr' ī) Personal name meaning “princess.” Wife and half sister of Abraham (Gen. 11:29–25:10). Sarah, first called Sarai, had the same father as Abraham. Marriages with half brothers were not uncommon in her time. Sarah traveled with Abraham from Ur to Haran. Then at the age of 65 she accompanied him to Canaan as Abraham followed God’s leadership in moving to the land God had promised. During a famine in Canaan, Abraham and Sarah fled to Egypt. This was Abraham’s first attempt to pass off Sarah as his sister rather than wife because he feared that he would be killed when the Egyptians saw Sarah’s beauty. Consequently, the Pharaoh thought Sarah was Abraham’s sister, took Sarah into court, and treated Abraham well. When the Lord sent serious disease on Pharaoh’s household, he saw the deception and sent them away. The second trick about Abraham’s relationship with Sarah was in the court of Abimelech, king of Gerar, who also took in Sarah. God intervened in Abimelech’s dream and protected Sarah. He sent them away with the right to live there and with a gift for Sarah. In her grief over her barrenness, Sarah gave her

maid Hagar to Abraham in the hope of an heir, but she expressed resentment when Hagar conceived. When Sarah was almost 90 years old, God changed her name and promised her a son. A year later she bore Isaac. At the age of 127, Sarah died at Hebron, where she was buried in the cave in the field of Machpelah near Mamre. In the NT Rom. 4:19 refers to Sarah's barrenness as evidence of Abraham's faith; Rom. 9:9 cites her conception of Isaac as an example of God's power in fulfilling a promise. Galatians 4:21–31 contrasts her with Hagar without naming her, Heb. 11:11 lauds her faith, and 1 Pet. 3:6 describes her relationship with Abraham. Judith Wooldridge, "Sarai," ed. Chad Brand et al., *Holman Illustrated Bible Dictionary* (Nashville, TN: Holman Bible Publishers, 2003), 1446–1447. - Judith Wooldridge, "Sarai," ed. Chad Brand et al., *Holman Illustrated Bible Dictionary* (Nashville, TN: Holman Bible Publishers, 2003), 1446.

- Abram
 - **Abram 1** אַבְרָם [m English, Biblical](#)
Means "high father" in Hebrew. In the Old Testament God changed Abram's name to [Abraham](#) (see [Genesis 17:5](#)).
- Abraham
 - **Abraham** אַבְרָהָם [m English, Hebrew, Spanish, French, Dutch, German, Swedish, Norwegian, Danish, Biblical, Biblical Latin](#)
This name may be viewed either as meaning "father of many" in Hebrew or else as a contraction of [Abram 1](#) and [הַמָּוֶן \(hamon\)](#) meaning "many, multitude". The biblical patriarch Abraham was originally named Abram but God changed his name (see [Genesis 17:5](#)). With his father [Terah](#), he led his wife [Sarah](#), his nephew [Lot](#) and their other followers from Ur into Canaan. He is regarded by Jews as being the founder of the Hebrews through his son [Isaac](#) and by Muslims as being the founder of the Arabs through his son [Ishmael](#). As an English Christian name, *Abraham* became common after the Protestant Reformation. A famous bearer was the American president Abraham Lincoln (1809-1865), who pushed to abolish slavery and led the country through the Civil War.
- Ishmael
 - Why was he named that?
 - ISHMAEL (Īsh' mā el) Personal name meaning "God hears." Son of Abraham by the Egyptian concubine Hagar (Gen. 16:11). He became the progenitor of the Ishmaelite peoples. The description in Gen. 16:12 points to an unruly and misanthropic disposition. Ishmael and his mother were expelled from the camp of Abraham at the insistence of Sarah following the birth of Sarah's son Isaac.

The boy was near death in the wilderness when the angel of God directed Hagar to a well. Genesis 21:20 explains that God was with Ishmael and that he became an archer. See Abraham; Midian, Midianites; Patriarchs. - Chad Brand et al., eds., [“Ishmael,”](#) *Holman Illustrated Bible Dictionary* (Nashville, TN: Holman Bible Publishers, 2003), 842.

○ Isaac

- Why was he named that?
- ISAAC (Ī' zək) Personal name meaning “laughter.” Only son of Abraham by Sarah and a patriarch of the nation of Israel. Old Testament Isaac was the child of a promise from God, born when Abraham was 100 years old and Sarah was 90 (Gen. 17:17; 21:5). Isaac means “he laughs” and reflects his parents’ unbelieving laughter regarding the promise (Gen. 17:17–19; 18:11–15) as well as their joy in its fulfillment (Gen. 21:1–7). Sarah wanted Hagar and Ishmael banished. God directed Abraham to comply, saying that it would be through Isaac that his descendants would be reckoned (Gen. 21:8–13; cp. Rom. 9:7). Abraham’s test of faith was God’s command to sacrifice Isaac (Gen. 22:1–19). Isaac married Rebekah (Gen. 24), who bore him twin sons, Esau and Jacob (Gen. 25:21–28). Isaac passed her off as a sister at Gerar (as Abraham had done). He became quite prosperous, later moving to Beersheba (Gen. 26). Isaac was deceived into giving Jacob his blessing and priority over Esau (Gen. 27). Isaac died at Mamre near Hebron at the age of 180 and was buried by his sons (Gen. 35:27–29). Though less significant than Abraham and Jacob, Isaac was revered as one of the Israelite patriarchs (Exod. 3:6; 1 Kings 18:36; Jer. 33:26). Amos used the name Isaac as a poetic expression for the nation of Israel (Amos 7:9, 16). New Testament In the NT Isaac appears in the genealogies of Jesus (Matt. 1:2; Luke 3:34), as one of the three great patriarchs (Matt. 8:11; Luke 13:28; Acts 3:13), and an example of faith (Heb. 11:20). Isaac’s sacrifice by Abraham (Heb. 11:17–18; James 2:21), in which he was obedient to the point of death, serves as a type looking forward to Christ and as an example for Christians. Paul reminded believers that “you, brothers, like Isaac, are children of promise” (Gal. 4:28 HCSB). - Daniel C. Browning Jr., [“Isaac,”](#) ed. Chad Brand et al., *Holman Illustrated Bible Dictionary* (Nashville, TN: Holman Bible Publishers, 2003), 837.

○ Lot

- LOT (Lōt) Personal name meaning “concealed.” Lot was the son of Haran and nephew of Abraham (Gen. 11:27). Lot, whose father died in Ur (Gen. 11:28), traveled with his grandfather to Haran

(Gen. 11:31). Terah had intended to travel to Canaan but stayed in Haran instead (Gen. 11:31). When Abraham left Haran for Canaan, he was accompanied by Lot and Lot's household (Gen. 12:5) - Phil Logan, "[Lot](#)," ed. Chad Brand et al., *Holman Illustrated Bible Dictionary* (Nashville, TN: Holman Bible Publishers, 2003), 1052.

- Moab
 - Means "of his father" in Hebrew. In the Old Testament this is the name of a son of Lot. He was the ancestor of the Moabites, a people who lived in the region called Moab to the east of Israel.
- Ben-Ammi
 - Means "son of my people" in Hebrew. This is the name of several people in the Bible.
- What were the long-term consequences of Abraham having a child with Hagar?
 - <https://enduringword.com/bible-commentary/genesis-16/>
 -
- What took place in the relationship between Sarai and Hagar?
 - What did Hagar do after she became pregnant?
 - Held her mistress in contempt
 - How did Sarai respond to Hagar after she became pregnant?
 - She only became upset when Hagar forgot her place
- Why did Abraham name Hagar's child Ismael?
 - We have to assume that Hagar told Abraham the story and the instructions she received.
- What new covenant did God make with Abraham?
 - Circumcision
 - The significance
 - The medical background
 - <https://evidence-for-the-bible.com/scientific-evidence-for-the-bible/scientific-evidence-for-circumcision-on-the-eighth-day/>
 - <https://www.premierchristianradio.com/Topics2/Church/Bible/How-circumcision-shows-God-exists>
 -
- How did Sarah react to the conversation she was eavesdropping on between Abraham and the visitors?
 - She laughed but there are various commentaries about what her laugh meant
- Who were the visitors?
 - Jesus and two angels what do you call the human presentation of God – theophany???
- How old were Abraham and Sarah when Isaac was born?
 - It was 12.7 "I will give to your offspring". He was 75 when they left UR and had traveled for some time to get to Canaan.

- 13.16 the first time God told Abram he would have heirs. It took a long time for Abraham to finally believe it and he and Sarai tried to fix it themselves with Hagar.
- How old were they when Ishmael was born?
 - Abram was 86, this was before the name change. Abraham was 90 when he was circumcised and Ishmael was 13. So if Abraham was 100 when Isaac was born, Ishmael was 23. When Sarah died, Ishmael would have been 65???
 - Sarai was 75
- How long did Abram have to wait for Isaac?
 - Abraham was 100 when Isaac was born
 - Sarah was 90 or 91, she died at 127, Isaac would have been about 37 so he was 40 when Abraham took him for the sacrifice
- What type of bargaining did Abraham do with God about Sodom and Gomorrah?
 - Intercession
- Make notes about what stands out to between the time the angels get to Sodom and Lot's daughters have children by their father.
 - What did the men of Sodom want from Lot?
 - 19.4 – the men in his house
 - What did Lot offer?
 - 19.8 – his daughters
 - What did the Angels do?
 - 19.10 – snatched Lot in the house and struck the men blind
 - What happened to Lot's wife?
 - 19.26 – she became a pillar of salt
- What deception did Abraham repeat?
 - The half lie that Sarah was his sister – 20.2
- How did God protect Sarah?
 - Was Sarah already pregnant with Isaac when they went to King Abimelech?
 - I don't think so but I could not find a timeline that made it clear
 - What does the timeline look like for when they were here and right after the visitation before the destruction of Sodom?
 - Sometime between Abraham being 99 and 100, but after Sodom, they went to Gerar where King Abimelech was, closer to 100
 - I heard one preacher say that God didn't let Abimelech touch her so that there would be no question about who the father of Isaac was

As usual, let me know if you have any questions or need any help researching something. You know I'd love two things; an opportunity to spend some one-on-one time with any of you AND an opportunity to help you with your passion to look deeper into God's word.

Bruce Gore:

Chapter 16

- How have we sidestepped God's purpose and/or grace
- How has he shown you that his grace is bigger than our sin and you can always bring us back with insight
- Sin in our life can be forgiven but the effects do tend to linger
- You can put a nail in a piece of wood and pull it out but the hole is still there
- Irony: Hagar was from the first time Abram lied when he went to Egypt
- Sarai said: You see that the Lord has prevented me from having children.
Something I read said that just like Adam, Abram listened to his wife when he already had THE word from the Lord. As with Adam, he is ultimately responsible for the outcomes that occurred from not sticking to the word he had been given.
 - Outcomes:
 - Hagar mocking Sarai
 - Ishmael mocking Isaac
 - The ongoing war between these two branches of the family
- Dee's Question: What were the exact words in the promise God gave Abram? Did those words make it clear that Sarai was to be the bearer of the child?
 - While they did not make it clear, they also did not say it would be someone else [12.2-3; 12.7; 12.16; 15.4; 15.13; 17.1-10; **17.15 seems to be the first time Sarah was specifically named as the mother**; 18.10-15 (note in about a year she will have a son not be pregnant);
 - Can we assume that in addition to all the women in Abimelech's house, Sarah's womb was still closed at this time as well even though she was not touched by Abimelech 20.17-18
- Can we make the assumption that Abraham HAD NOT taken a concubine prior to Hagar [otherwise he might have had children with them, the Bible does not say]
- Book he refers to: The Samaritans by Sir Leonard Wooley
- Cultural norms during that period: married to royalty or important man, an heir was expected/necessary, it was not uncommon to give one's maid to provide the

heir, given the fact that God had given Abram these promises, pressure was on Sarai to produce the heir God spoke of [only she didn't wait for God's timing], fundamentally according to culture she was not wrong but according to the promise given by the word of God, they were as wrong as two left shoes – that is a clue for us – follow culture or God's word is always our option

- This was an absolute right that Sarai had at this time, she could insist and/or demand that Abram do this. Hmmm???
 - Send Hagar away
- Sarah was upset because it might have appeared that Abram was treating Hagar like she was equal to Sarai. This is perhaps the reason for her anger.

Chapter 17

- 17.15 - Here is the first time God makes it clear that the heir is to come through Sarai
- Ishmael is now 13 years old
- I find it interesting that their names didn't change much. What does this say to the original names their parents gave them? Pretty close and on point.
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Chapter 18

- Up until this point it HAD NOT been made clear that the child of promise would come through Sarah [yes, actually in 17.15]
- The text does make it clear that two of them were angels but the other was a Theophany or Christophany and eventually Abraham figures that out
- Notice that these strangers used Sarah's name and even notice that they did not use the old name Sarai. How did they know her name? Right?!?!?!?
- I will return in due season – now they both clearly know who they are dealing with
- Was Sarah made aware of the promise that Abraham had recently received that the child would come from Sarah? Perhaps not so that is why she laughed or she did not believe him until she got called out for laughing and then realized it was God she was dealing with.
- Sarah laughed with cynicism, but Abraham had laughed with joy

- Abraham did not hear Sarah laugh because she had laughed to herself
- This is now when they both know, this is Yaweh
- Perhaps He called her out to make sure she understood who was giving this word
- Sarah was not lying that she laughed but she knew she did not laugh out loud
- God wanted Abraham to know that what happens in Sodom and Gomorrah is His doing and not some natural disaster or something, he wanted him to make sure Abraham understood the headline behind the headline
- Abraham interceded as an example of what we should do, based on the fact that God was just, even though he and God both knew all the evil that was going on, but he was concerned for God's reputation, won't the God of all the earth do what is right, isn't there hope for some of these lost people if there are some righteous among them, do we hold out hope that there is hope for this world. Don't just point a finger at them and condemn them, what are you doing to intercede or to help. As the New Testament says, when you see one overcome in a fault, try to restore/redeem/reconcile them to God [Gal 6.1 (see BibleHub), 2 cor 2.7]

Genesis 19

- Is homosexuality the only issue of sin? I don't think so but do wonder why God had it highlighted in the text.
- Worth noting that Lot had been accepted in the culture since he was sitting at the city gate. He has established some authority in the city.
- It doesn't seem at first that he realizes they are angels, he is simply extending the standard courtesy of the culture
- He invited them in because he knew the dangers of the city, these men could not stay in the square, they would have been assaulted or worse
- Repeated 3 times that it was men. Oh, it said to the last man! So does that mean that his potential sons-in-law were in the crowd?
- I wonder if Lot's daughters heard it when he offered them up? Who gave the details of this story to be written? Was this just the custom of being responsible for visitors? Perhaps he just knew that they were not interested in his daughters.

- Did Lot know the men had blinded those trying to break in? Suggested that Lot spoke to them from his courtyard and they were outside his gate. Once they tried to break through, the men pulled him from the courtyard into the house.
- Why did his sons-in-law think Lot was jesting. What was funny? A culture who thinks God's judgement is funny is in trouble.
- Lot's wife turned back – there is a time when God calls you to abandon and burn a bridge for something to move on to what He has next. Don't put your hand to the plow and turn back – remember Lot's wife.
- Abraham went early to look toward Sodom – he did not turn into a pillar of salt, sometimes we are called to do things that are not relevant to others – Abraham was not called to leave Sodom behind. Things may not be a sin but a weight.
- There is an unconditional and categorical repudiation of homosexual behavior In the OT it is included in sins which are otherwise described as gross and heinous abominations [to the extent, like we discussed for Babylon, it does not allow the be fruitful and multiply decree to be fulfilled. Paul in Romans says that they are contrary to nature [again, even in putting the animals on the ark Noah was instructed to take a male and a female]
- Do we need to adjust our view based on culture? No, a practicing homosexual cannot be in ministry. Can they declare themselves a Christian? It is not the same sex desire, it is the acting on that desire. Did the Bible get it wrong? Have we outgrown this? Do we need to come of age and realize the Bible simply talked about the time. It is not necessary to become heterosexual, just simply do not submit to the desire of the flesh just like any other sin.
- Here are some resources: Christian – Elizabeth Moberly – Homosexuality a New Christian Ethic / non-Christian – Jeffrey Santinover – Jewish – Homosexuality and the Politics of Truth

Genesis 20

- I just realized that Abram had asked Sarai when they left to follow God's call that she should say you are my sister everywhere we go [Gen 12.10]

- Why did he go to mountains from Zoar when he didn't want to go to the mountains in the first place? Why didn't he just go back to Abraham? Assuming from the text that he had NOTHING expect his daughters.
- The daughters did the right thing but the wrong way. They perhaps reacted to their fathers despair. Even after he got drunk, at some point he realized that his daughters were pregnant by him. In their culture it was important to have an heir, but Um.... Not with their father!!! Crimeney.
- Ruth was a Moabite. WOW!
- Not sure if Sarah is pregnant at the time they went to Gerar. But Sodom and Gomorrah may have precipitated Abrahams move
- This was 25 years later
- Abimelech may have only wanted to establish a covenant with Abraham but even at 90 Sarah was still fire so....
- The implication is that plagues started as soon as Sarah entered Abimelech's household
- God told Abimelech Abraham was a prophet, but he wasn't acting like one was he
- Romans 11 – the gift and calling are without repentance/revocation. Even when you live at a level below the office, you still have been called – example. Saul was God's anointed and David recognized this even when Saul was trying to kill him, Samson ending up in bondage as a result of his relationship with Delilah
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Research

<https://www.gotquestions.org/Lots-daughters.html>

<https://jesusalive.cc/lot-offered-daughters-to-men/> - thought they would refuse his offer and leave because they were homosexuals, perhaps he thought they would just acknowledge the fact of how we are to care for our guests

<https://www.bibleodyssey.org/en/places/related-articles/lot-and-his-daughters>

<https://hermeneutics.stackexchange.com/questions/2757/how-are-we-to-take-the-fact-that-lot-offered-his-daughters-for-rape> -Lot was not offering his daughters to be raped, but was gambling on the esteem the men of Sodom had for him as a BROTHER, that they might abandon their wicked intent. Lot was wrong about their esteem for him, but the LORD had foreseen the end of Lot's continued safety among the people of Sodom, and had organised a just-in-time intervention to rescue him.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/>

[Wife%20%80%93sister_narratives_in_the_Book_of_Genesis#:~:text=The%20first%20episode%20appears%20in,that%20they%20can%20take%20her.](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wife%20%80%93sister_narratives_in_the_Book_of_Genesis#:~:text=The%20first%20episode%20appears%20in,that%20they%20can%20take%20her.)

Sites I was looking at on 7/18:

[https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/search.cfm?
Criteria=sister&t=KJV#s=s_primary_0_1](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/search.cfm?Criteria=sister&t=KJV#s=s_primary_0_1)

<https://biblescan.com/searchot.php?q=sister>

<https://www.britannica.com/biography/Isaac>

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sarah>

<https://app.logos.com/books/LLS%3ACSTONECM01GE/references/bible.1.19.1-1.19.38?layout=one&tile=left&zzls=2eMKcwo1VXXPCoJAUw70vw6zDtE3CkcKAw7jDtcKGw5RuW63ConUNw51ZZ8OdwocAwpfCkikSN8KJwrYdw4fDv8K%2BAcOrSitLfcOKcMOvw405w7fDjD03w6zCtC1wQVnCpg1QQ1vCkwxSZ8K9dsOZakXCskhowoNfOxXCIEIGVsKgDcK0wpZkLBXCrcKYwoQyYMOsSWtofbDgF%2FCtcOBTsOjwpBFw4AhwppDwqzCjzDjMOLw69AbMOEwPvpwrgJwqdCwqrDqg3DmckWw7PDgcKTW77CpcKoUSlJw5M8wpRCwpwXwq45ZcKcSsKFbMOZw4Z%2Bw594w59Fw44tWsKewofCryzCp8KjW8KGw55uw7EjwqxoBTRIQUc6wrLCm0g3wo1ywpNvJMKcPiYfWcK6wrUslwcvbsOuw6cPw5hZwrQSIMORM8OjwpFow50xw77DhMOlwqrCgsOhXEbCp19Lw6DDoiHDth%2FCrhfDg8Oxw5Abwp3CqcK5MsKHSSgCjCOKw4wlNQ8nwrpMWhfDITLcm8KWbsOowp3CksKqwrFIKEkuEsOVwrXDjsKgDw7DicKYBFHChigCwr7DimHCkMKSZsKpW4paw5puwqkJw4bDpVlBLMK1wpADwpEQXcKDCMKXWmPCqWOpPE9YBEUyw57CpGkRwpXCnMKIBB%2FDr8KsWERjWsK6FMOTVALCnyrCqnEkVEnCpsOuwqnCsADDgsODw6R7w57DiikIEcKVwofDiglLwrXDgcKwe8KBaSHDIG%2FDt23Cm0R2w5dCRhx0w6wIYhsVw7jDocKGwqvCqRTDlwQmW8OAUso1fMKCwqQCw5MIAsOCry9qwpEiw4jCkSXDN0DCkcKacShpwopJKsKgaC3ChVDDqcOOlcOzwqEUw53DvMKDc8KyMGEcwqsKwrXCoMOnwqAiYcOPN8Kqw7ZQw6bDg8KLPMOIEsK1cMKMwr%2FDuITCpsOHDsO3wqctO8K6JMKlw5nckxrDiDhSMcK1w5N0C8Ovw6drw5nctcOWQcOKOcKowovCqsOswprCpckyWEddcO%2Bw6%2FCpDLCvcOzw4FZw7XDjMK3w55kw6rDnsOOftxxZsO4IsKrWsOnViODw7rDuMKbaRjCvcOKd8KkwqfCnsKYwos4esK9T8KbHnvDnnDDqF3Cj13Cv8K0ccKYwqWTw4ovwqFowpvCh2V%2BG8OWYcOawqdrwqdcG8KZw7Vbw5%2FDlzt6wrVcwr3Dql05w6>

vDhDY6wrUEU8OHNcOQwrDCksKgwqPCo8OmW6HCqMOxRsKZw6nck8ORw53Du8KKw6
rDq8OoAVfDvwV0ZDU%2FwrViwPnCrso%2BwodzwqTDg8O%2BaDzCnTjDk2kla1dHw73C
iwbDmsKvw7%2FDscK4wpPDicOUwp8vw5zCucOvesKjwp%2FCs8K5w7rDsmZzw5fDt37D
nHvDp8KLw7fCpsO3QmZlwqXDn8O7wr8NAckewql%3D

<https://www.gotquestions.org/Abraham-Sarah-Isaac.html>

<https://jwa.org/encyclopedia/article/sarahsrai-bible>

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sarah>

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Print

How long did Abraham and Sarah have to wait for Isaac?

When Abraham (then known as Abram) was **seventy-five years old**, God called him to leave his homeland and journey to a land God would show him. In return, God promised, "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" (Genesis 12:2). Abram, his wife Sarai (later known as Sarah), and his nephew Lot then traveled to Canaan where God promised, "To your offspring I will give this land" (Genesis 12:7). Due to a famine in the land, Abram and Sarai continued on to Egypt. When they returned to the land of Canaan, God expounded on His promise saying, "I will make your offspring as the dust of the earth, so that if one can count the dust of the earth, your offspring also can be counted" (Genesis 13:16).

Some time later, Abram confronted God and said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless" (Genesis 15:2). But God confirmed, "'your very own son shall be your heir.' And he brought him outside and said, 'Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them.' Then he said to him, 'So shall your offspring be'" (Genesis 15:4–5). **However, the Bible records that ten years after Abram had returned from Egypt, he and his wife remained childless.** At this time, "Sarai, Abram's wife, took Hagar the Egyptian, her servant, and gave her to Abram her husband as a wife" (Genesis 16:3). Hagar became pregnant and **"Abram was eighty-six years old when Hagar bore Ishmael to Abram"** (Genesis 16:16).

But Ishmael was not the child God intended to receive the covenant. **"When Abram was ninety-nine years old the LORD appeared to Abram and said to him, '...I may make my covenant between me and you, and may multiply you greatly...and you shall be the father of a multitude of nations'"** (Genesis 17:1–2, 4). At this time, God also changed his name from Abram to Abraham and his wife's from Sarai to Sarah. He added "I will bless her, and moreover, I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall become nations; kings of peoples shall come from her" (Genesis 17:16). God also directed, "Sarah your wife shall bear you a son, and you shall call his name Isaac... I will establish my covenant with Isaac, whom Sarah shall bear to you at this time next year" (Genesis 17:19, 21). **After Abraham obeyed God in the covenant of circumcision, the promise was repeated to him by heavenly visitors: "I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah your wife shall have a son"** (Genesis 18:10). The Bible records, "And Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age at the time of which God had spoken to him" (Genesis 21:2). It then confirms, "Abraham was a hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him" (Genesis 21:5).

So Abraham was first promised descendants twenty-five years before Isaac's birth. However, when God provided the name of Isaac and a timeline of one year until his birth, it came true just as He said.

There is often a delay between God's promise and its fulfillment. There were twenty years between Joseph's dreams and the time his brothers and father bowed before him in Egypt (Genesis 37:2; 41:46, 53). David was a teenager when Samuel anointed him the next king of Israel, but "David was thirty years old when he began to reign" (2 Samuel 5:4). There were more than four hundred years between God's promise of a Messiah and Jesus' birth. Even the disciples had to wait about nine days between Jesus' ascension and the outpouring of the promised Holy Spirit (Acts 1:3; 2:1).

Although there may have been a delay between the promise and the fulfillment, God has always been faithful to

keep His promises. Joshua 21:45 records, "Not one word of all the good promises that the LORD had made to the house of Israel had failed; all came to pass." Paul assured the Corinthians in 2 Corinthians 1:20, "For all the promises of God find their Yes in [Jesus Christ]." So God is faithful to fulfill His promises, even if it took twenty-five years in the case of Abraham and Sarah. Both Abraham and Sarah are mentioned as examples of faithful believers in the "Hall of Faith" listed in Hebrews 11. In reference to their long wait for Isaac, Hebrews 11:11 says, "By faith Sarah herself received power to conceive, even when she was past the age, since she considered him faithful who had promised." May every believer similarly place their trust in this faithful God.

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Scripture

Genesis 15:4

Genesis 16:1

Genesis 16:3

Genesis 16:4

Genesis 16:5

Genesis 16:6

Genesis 16:8

Genesis 16:9

Genesis 16:10

Genesis 16:11

Genesis 16:12

Genesis 16:13

Genesis 16:14

Genesis 16:15

Genesis 17:1

Genesis 17:9

Genesis 17:11

Genesis 17:12

Genesis 17:15

Genesis 17:17

Genesis 17:18

Genesis 17:20
Genesis 17:21
Genesis 17:23
Genesis 18:2
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Genesis 24:19
Genesis 24:21
Genesis 24:27

Genesis 24:36

Genesis 25:1

Genesis 25:2

Genesis 25:6

Genesis 25:9

Genesis 25:21

Genesis 25:21

Genesis 25:22

Genesis 25:28

Genesis 25:33

Isaiah 20:4

Ezekiel 3:3

Text Note

This is the first time he was told he would have a son of his own, in spite of his age, but it was not specified with Sarai.

At this point, had Abram told Sarai that the Lord had promised the an enormous number of heirs? Or since it had not happened yet, were they just succumbing to the norms of culture? I don't remember reading that there was any problem i their marriage until they made this move.

I'm pretty sure the promise was not going to be able to come through an Egyptian, but what was that? Were there other ethnicities involved in the bloodline? Why was it important to point out this ten years?

treated her with contempt because their culture considered a woman less than if she was not able to have children? I must say I've gotten this attitude before. Not so much in the last 5 years or so but....

how is she blaming Abram when she is the one that initiated the whole thing? Is this the first time Sarai mentions her relationship with God?

I'm not having a lot of sympathy for either one of them right now. As my grandma used to say, don't dish it out if you can't take it. Hagar started this war. She just was not prepared as she thought she was. She may have had a child but she still did not have a position of power. She did not count the cost before she started it. It doesn't say Sarai mistreated the child, perhaps because she thought it her heir? Will she change how she treats him after she has her own son?

interesting the way she is addressed, Hagar, Sarai's servant. Was this a reminder that she had forgotten her position? I know God did not ask his question because He didn't know but to make her connect with the truth. Notice she didn't say where she was going, she didn't know, she had no plan.

how those words must have stung, return AND submit. These are the types of words God gives us and we accuse Him of not answering our prayer. He answered, just not the way the flesh wanted. 😞 I wonder how many overflow blessings we've had just because we are related to someone. Even though Hagar was wrong, even though her son was not the son of promise, in spite of her station in life, God blessed her as a member of Abraham's household and as the mother of his son.

why did she get the same descendant promise?

she already knew she was pregnant, why did God tell her? Or was it to say you will have a son? And to tell her what to name him? Hmmm? Did she have the right to name the child or did she go back and tell Abram and he listened?

wow! Well at least there was no surprise when he started clowning. He won't get along with anyone? Did that go for his descendants too?

she called Him by what she knew about Him. What do you call Him? Where has He met you? Although she was an Egyptian slave, because she was in the house of Abram, she knew the Lord. This changed her relationship with Him, but she knew Him.

the living one who sees me, the only living God, one who could answer her in the midst of her circumstances, even circumstances of her own making. I don't think she cried out to him, or at least the text didn't say so, but I. his mercy and grace and purpose, He showed up for her because he saw her.

so either Hagar or God told Abram because the boy was named Ishmael as Hagar was told. So...he was 68 when Ishmael was born. How much longer did he have to wait on Isaac?

now He is 99 when the Lord gives him a new name to call Him. God keeps revealing himself to us, there is so much of Him to know and would that we could stand it all but He reveals as we can and as we need. That makes me happy! He lets me understand about Him just what I need when I need it. When I think about it, if He had told me he was Jehovah-Jireh before I knew and understood how much I needed to trust him for provision, would it have had the same staying power in my faith as it did when all I could do was depend on Him? When I had to recognize that I was not smart enough to make happen what was happening? No, I think not,

God's sovereignty, man's responsibility.

<https://evidence-for-the-bible.com/scientific-evidence-for-the-bible/scientific-evidence-for-circumcision-on-the-eighth-day/> <https://www.premierchristianradio.com/Topics2/Church/Bible/How-circumcision-shows-God-exists>

I need to remind that article I recently saw about why the circumcision was on the 8th day

can God change your name?

I never saw this before - Abraham and Sarah both laughed at the prospect of being parents in their old age. Now 100 and 90 respectively?

so, no, I will not punish Ishmael because of your mistake but he will not be the one that fulfills my plan. Hmmm-doesn't Isaac mean laughter? Two fold meaning because they both laughed at the idea of becoming parents and they laughed with joy when they did become parents. How could Abraham not believe when he had just fathered Ishmael in his old age.

I will bless Ishmael but I will be in covenant with Isaac, everlasting covenant.

While God did not leave Ishmael out of everything, he states clearly here that the covenant will be with the son of Abrahams own flesh. AND he gave Abraham the time the child would be born. Perhaps to keep he and Sarah from trying again to fix it themselves?

everyone was circumcised, Abraham at 99 and Ishmael at 13.

this makes it seem as if they were suddenly there, he never saw them approaching. I imagine if they had walked there, there would be a cloud of dust, or they would be sweating like mad, or something else to indicate human city rather than a supernatural visitation. Is this an appearance of Father, Son, Holy Spirit or Jesus and some angels?

how long does it take to cook a calf? Did they talk while they were waiting? Yogurt? What kind of milk? They had refrigeration? The meat was roasted.

This is a repeat of 17.21. God was already calling the son Isaac at that point. So Abraham knew what to name him. Here he did not call him by name but he said again, you will have a son.

Do we have any idea what the age of child bearing was at this time? Because...someone asked at the CM Bible Study if Noah and his wife were having children when he was 500, was his wife that age or was it someone younger. Sex is not bad, she said that it would be a pleasure. Sex was never bad, religion made it bad.

Whew! What do you do when you are called out by God! I still think it ironic [if that is the right word] that the child would be named laughter after all the laughing that went on leading up to his birth.

I have singled him out!

What does it mean He heard a great outcry? What does it mean He is going to see?

Should not the Judge of the whole earth do what is right? Yet, we question God's plans and motives AS IF he really doesn't know what is best.

This appears that we can 'negotiate' with God WHEN we are interceding for others lives.

Again, were these angels or was this the Father, Son and Holy Spirit that had come to see what was going on. Why did they have to come see? Or by now, were these the angels sent to rescue Lot? How did Lot end up in Sodom and not in his tents? We know he was there because he invited them into his house.

What in the world had been going on here? Was Lot involved with this lot (you see what I did there). ALL the men? All of them?

Brothers? What? Why did Lot call it wicked? Had God already given instructions about appropriate sex by this time?
Why is he offering his daughters? Virgin daughters?!
Ain't this what happens? You think you can judge us?
Why did they think he was joking? What kind of life had Lot and his family been living that these men would not believe him and thought him joking? Were these men at the door with the other men? Were these the only men in the city that didn't desire men or were they willing to marry and probably keep up their shenanigan's?
Why?!?!?! Why are you hesitating? They had to grab him, his wife AND his daughters?
I don't understand. They are rescuing you from destruction and you don't want to do whatever they tell you?
Utterly destroyed them and all vegetation - another reminder the full impact of sin. Why did she look back? Was she rubbernecking or longing?
Was this what Abraham was trying to do all along, save Lot? Did he know just from standing at his vantage point that Lot had been spared? Did he know what happened to Lot's wife?
Why was he afraid of the people there? Didn't the angels try to get him to go to the mountains in the first place? 19.17
Did they mean no men or no men from our line? Why did they know that they could get him drunk? Why did they know they could have sex with him while he was drunk? If Abraham was close enough to see the smoke rising, weren't these girls close enough to make their way to Abraham and have children with someone there? Or had the life they lived in Sodom reduce their morals?
Why was he that drunk RIGHT after God had just saved them?
He was unaware
here we go again?
It was important that King Abimelech not touch her because God had already said that , 'this time next year she would have a son - not be pregnant but already have the baby. it was critical there was no question who the father was.
Abimelech was a God worshiper? Or he knew about the God that Abraham served?
God protected him from sinning, not against Abraham and Sarah but against God!
No one should do this. Trust God for protection. What possessed you?

I'm going to have to do more research on this. I did not realize they had the same father.

He called Abraham her brother. He had witnesses to clear his name and hers. He compensated for what he might have done wrong - lots of folks won't do that.

When did the text tell us that they could not have children? Just here or when the dream warning was occurring? How long had Sarah been there that people had become infertile because of the situation? From the Bible Hub Commentary - The plague brought upon Abimelech's house, therefore, consisted of some disease which rendered the begetting of children (the coitus) impossible. This might have occurred as soon as Sarah was taken into the royal harem, and therefore need not presuppose any lengthened stay there. There is no necessity, therefore, to restrict וילדו to the women and regard it as equivalent to ותלדנה, which would be grammatically inadmissible; for it may refer to Abimelech also, since ילד signifies to beget as well as to bear.

Just as God said.

At what age is a child weaned?

So had Hagar not forgiven and had passed on her bitterness to her son? Seems she had forgotten the submission command.

Footnote: This was probably when the child was about three years of age. Samuel served in the sanctuary from the time that he was weaned (1 Sam 1:22-28), and a Hebrew mother is quoted in 2 Maccabees 7:27 as saying to her son that she nursed him for three years.

So it wasn't that Abraham just sent her away and said good luck, she wandered aimlessly. Perhaps when she left he had given her enough to get to the next town but because she didn't go straight there she ran out of food and water. As concerned as Abraham was for them, I don't think he just sent them out with barely enough

Funny how we can't see some things right in front of us until the Lord opens our eyes

What does it mean that God was with him?

There is a reason this was added to the narrative. What is the significance?

God tells us clearly here that this is a test. I don't think that He told Abraham at the time but He let us know. Perhaps so we would understand that it was never meant that Isaac be sacrificed?

I've heard it said that Abraham reasoned that if God was able to give him Isaac through Rebecca in the first place, he had made what was dead live so he expected that if he made the sacrifice God would bring Isaac back.

Was he asking because he was getting suspicious? Like, "Dude, we doing all this walking, I'm carrying this wood. Exactly what are we sacrificing?"

I find it interesting here that Abraham specifically called out WHAT they would be sacrificing. A sheep. Not just saying God would provide. Is this in some way a clue to us to be specific when we are asking God to provide?

It is worth clarifying at this point that Isaac was not the little boy the Sunday school flannel boards depicts. Even if he was, Abraham was well over 100 at this point. It would not have taken much for Isaac to resist. So this is interesting that he submitted to his father, allowed himself to be tied up and placed on the altar. Was his heart racing? Did they have some conversation at this point? Did Isaac clarify what was happening and submit in trust to his father? Things we wish the Bible told us.

You have not withheld your only son. But it wasn't his only son. But it was the son of promise, the son that God said his genealogy would be counted through. His only heir even though God promised to bless Ishmael, Ishmael was not going to inherit anything from Abraham.

Just to say, I am familiar with God and this name. Time and time again.

and he continued to live in the land of the Philistines.

Is this the Rebekah that Isaac married.

You can have it but it is worth 400 pieces of silver. LOL

Eventually, all of Canaan would belong to him and his descendants, correct?

So is this why we were told he had learned of his relatives in 22:20-23 about his relatives?

No, we are not going backwards. No, we are not going somewhere to get comfortable and not come back. No, don't give up any territory that we have gained. No, God said this land will be our land. After the supply of the ram in the bush, surely God can provide a wife for Isaac.

What does customs and manners say about the hand under the thigh?

This was VERY specific. Is this how specific we need to be in prayer? Why is this not a fleece like Gideon did?

See Gen 22:20-23

I've heard it said that camels drink a lot. I'll try to find documentation on this.

Why was he wondering? She had responded EXACTLY like he prayed. Perhaps his only hesitancy was what Abraham had said, "And if the woman is unwilling to follow you, then you are released from this oath of mine." 24:8 and the fact that he had not yet confirmed her to be among Abraham's people.

OK. Now he was sure he was with the right people.

So in 22.20-24 Abraham had heard about Nahor's family. Is it possible that they are just this moment hearing that Abraham and Sarah had a child? were they just hearing of their name changes as well?

Wait a minute?!?!? So at what age is this that he marries another woman and has children?

So we don't hear about Zimran, Medan, Ishbak or Shuah's children. Why?

So he had more concubines after he got rid of Sarah's maid Hagar? He had already seen this was problematic, I guess that is why he sent them and their sons far away from Isaac.

So it appears that Ishmael came back for the death of his father? Had not Abraham sent he and Hagar far away? How did he hear about Abraham's death?

Well at least he didn't have to go though what his dad did to have kids.

What is it with this family marrying women who cannot have children?!?!?

There is so much in this, she went to the one with the blueprint, the creator, for the answer to questions about what was going on with that He had created. Psalm 139.1-14.

Apparently their partiality was well known. Is this wrong or right to have a preferred child? How does it affect the child? Was this the same with Joseph? Did this create more discord than there might have been?

This fulfills the prophecy. God knew it would happen this way. However, there is still deceit and manipulation on both their parts because later, Esau tried to collect the birthright he had just sold.

This was the version Bruce Gore was reading from as I listened to his lesson on 7-18-17

What this says to me is fill yourself up with the things of God and His word BEFORE you open your mouth to speak to His people.

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Scripture

Genesis 20:2

Genesis 20:3

Genesis 20:4

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Genesis 20:10

Genesis 20:12

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Genesis 25:21

Genesis 25:22

Genesis 25:28

Genesis 25:33

Isaiah 20:4

Ezekiel 3:3

Text Note

here we go again?

20:1–2 Abraham traveled from Mamre to Gerar, a Philistine settlement west of the Dead Sea between Kadesh and Shur, perhaps to get farther away from the devastated area where Sodom had been. **Then, less than three months after God had promised that Sarah would bear Abraham a son (18:10)**, the patriarch gave his wife to Abimelech! Abraham had previously told pharaoh that his wife was his sister (12:12–15); later his son would try the same trick (26:7).

Robert D. Bergen, “Genesis,” in CSB Study Bible: Notes, ed. Edwin A. Blum and Trevin Wax (Nashville, TN: Holman Bible Publishers, 2017), 39.

It was important that King Abimelech not touch her because God had already said that , 'this time next year she would have a son - not be pregnant but already have the baby. it was critical there was no question who the father was.

Abimelech was a God worshiper? Or he knew about the God that Abraham served?

God protected him from sinning, not against Abraham and Sarah but against God!

No one should do this. Trust God for protection. What possessed you?

I'm going to have to do more research on this. I did not realize they had the same father.

(see on ch. 11:31.) Terah must have been a polygamist, or a widower who had contracted a second marriage, if Sarah was sister to Abraham. But Sarah (= Iscah) is called not the daughter, but the daughter-in-law of Terah (ch. 11:13), and she is represented as Abraham's niece (ch. 11:29), the daughter of Haran, who might be Terah's son by a first wife, and consequently Sarah and Abraham were descended from Terah by different wives; or, it may be that the word “sister” is used here in the same latitude of meaning as “brother” is (ch. 14:14).

David Brown, A. R. Fausset, and Robert Jamieson, A Commentary, Critical, Experimental, and Practical, on the Old and New Testaments: Genesis–Deuteronomy, vol. I (London; Glasgow: William Collins, Sons, & Company, Limited, n.d.), 167.

When God called me to leave my father's home I asked her to say I'm your brother??? What the what??? So it was not just when they ran into what he perceived as trouble, it was from the get go?!?!?

He called Abraham her brother. He had witnesses to clear his name and hers. He compensated for what he might have done wrong - lots of folks won't do that.

When did the text tell us that they could not have children? Just here or when the dream warning was occurring? How long had Sarah been there that people had become infertile because of the situation? From the Bible Hub Commentary - The plague brought upon Abimelech's house, therefore, consisted of some disease which rendered the begetting of children (the coitus) impossible. This might have occurred as soon as Sarah was taken into the royal harem, and therefore need not presuppose any lengthened stay there. There is no necessity, therefore, to restrict וילדו to the women and regard it as equivalent to ותלדנה, which would be grammatically inadmissible; for it may refer to Abimelech also, since ילד signifies to beget as well as to bear.

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But it wasn't his only son, was it? But it was the only son of promise.

Abraham did not hesitate to obey. THE NEXT MORNING he got up and got about it. Lord help us have this kind of faith.

I've heard it said that Abraham reasoned that if God was able to give him Isaac through Rebecca in the first place, he had made what was dead live so he expected that if he made the sacrifice God would bring Isaac back.

Was he asking because he was getting suspicious? Like, "Dude, we doing all this walking, I'm carrying this wood. Exactly what are we sacrificing?"

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Why was he wondering? She had responded EXACTLY like he prayed. Perhaps his only hesitancy was what Abraham had said, " And if the woman is unwilling to follow you, then you are released from this oath of mine." 24.8 and the fact that he had not yet confirmed her to be among Abraham's people.

OK. Now he was sure he was with the right people.

So in 22.20-24 Abraham had heard about Nahor's family. Is it possible that they are just this moment hearing that Abraham and Sarah had a child? were they just hearing of their name changes as well?

Wait a minute?!?!? So at what age is this that he marries another woman and has children?

So we don't hear about Zimran, Medan, Ishbak or Shuah's children. Why?

So he had more concubines after he got rid of Sarah's maid Hagar? He had already seen this was problematic, I guess that is why he sent them and their sons far away from Isaac.

So it appears that Ishmael came back for the death of his father? Had not Abraham sent he and Hagar far away? How did he hear about Abraham's death?

Well at least he didn't have to go though what his dad did to have kids.

What is it with this family marrying women who cannot have children?!?!? A marring of faith is shown here in Isaac in that he did not get a concubine but cried out to God. Rebekah was barren for 20 years.

There is so much in this, she went to the one with the blueprint, the creator, for the answer to questions about what was going on with that He had created. Psalm 139.1-14.

Apparently their partiality was well known. Is this wrong or right to have a preferred child? How does it affect the child? Was this the same with Joseph? Did this create more discord than there might have been?

This fulfills the prophecy. God knew it would happen this way. However, there is still deceit and manipulation on both their parts because later, Esau tried to collect the birthright he had just sold.

This was the version Bruce Gore was reading from as I listened to his lesson on 7-18-17

What this says to me is fill yourself up with the things of God and His word BEFORE you open your mouth to speak to His people.

Date and Version

June 29 at 7:17 PM | NLT Delete

July 5 at 4:45 PM | NLT Delete

June 29 at 7:18 PM | NLT Delete

June 29 at 7:19 PM | NLT Delete

June 29 at 7:20 PM | NLT Delete

June 29 at 7:20 PM | NLT Delete

July 31 at 4:52 PM | NLT Delete
June 29 at 7:22 PM | NLT Delete
July 5 at 4:46 PM | NLT Delete
July 11 at 7:48 AM | NLT Delete
July 11 at 7:50 AM | NLT Delete
July 12 at 4:20 PM | NLT Delete
July 14 at 4:48 PM | AMP Delete
July 12 at 4:21 PM | NLT Delete
July 12 at 4:21 PM | NLT Delete
July 12 at 4:19 PM NLT Delete
July 12 at 4:19 PM NLT Delete
July 12 at 4:22 PM NLT Delete
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July 14 at 4:36 PM NLT Delete
July 14 at 4:41 PM NLT Delete
July 14 at 4:42 PM NLT Delete
July 14 at 4:44 PM NLT Delete
July 18 at 1:03 PM NRSV Delete
September 4 at 12:55 PM NASB Delete

category_name	type	highlighter_name	title
Annotations	Highlight	Green	Gen 20:17 Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible
Annotations	Highlight	Pink	Gen 20:18 HCSB Free
Annotations	Note		Gen 20:17 HCSB Free
Annotations	Highlight	Purple	Gen 20:3 Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible
Annotations	Highlight	Green	Gen 20:2 Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible
Annotations	Highlight	Pink	Gen 20:2 Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible
Annotations	Note		Gen 19:25 HCSB Free
Annotations	Highlight	Pink	Gen 19:25 HCSB Free
Annotations	Highlight	Pink	Gen 19:19 HCSB Free
Annotations	Highlight	Pink	Gen 19:16 HCSB Free
Annotations	Highlight	Green	Gen 19:31 Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible
Annotations	Highlight	Purple	Gen 19:26 Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible
Annotations	Highlight	Green	Gen 19:8 NKJV Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible Notes
Annotations	Highlight	Blue	Gen 19:8 NKJV Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible Notes
Annotations	Highlight	Green	Gen 19:18 Jamieson, Fausset, and Brown Commentary

Annotations	Highlight	Purple	Gen 19:12 Jamieson, Fausset, and Brown Commentary
Annotations	Highlight	Green	Gen 19:3 Jamieson, Fausset, and Brown Commentary
Annotations	Highlight	Purple	Gen 19:1 The New Manners and Customs of the Bible
Annotations	Highlight	Purple	Gen 18:25 Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible
Annotations	Highlight	Purple	Gen 19:4 NKJV Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible Notes
Annotations	Highlight	Pink	Gen 18:25 HCSB Free
Annotations	Highlight	Pink	Gen 18:14 HCSB Free
Annotations	Highlight	Purple	Gen 18:9 Jamieson, Fausset, and Brown Commentary
Annotations	Highlight	Purple	Gen 18:7 Jamieson, Fausset, and Brown Commentary
Annotations	Highlight	Purple	Gen 18:2 Jamieson, Fausset, and Brown Commentary
Annotations	Highlight	Pink	Gen 18:7 The New Manners and Customs of the Bible
Annotations	Highlight	Green	Gen 18:7 The New Manners and Customs of the Bible

Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	Gen 17:5 NKJV Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible Notes
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	Gen 12:4-5 HCSB Free
Annotations	Highlight	Green	Gen 10:1 Matthew Henry's Concise Commentary on the Whole Bible
Annotations	Highlight	Pink	Gen 9:3 HCSB Free
Annotations	Highlight	Purple	Gen 8:13-14 HCSB Free
Annotations	Highlight	Green	Gen 8:5 HCSB Free
Annotations	Highlight	Green	Gen 8:5 HCSB Free
Annotations	Highlight	Pink	Gen 8:4 HCSB Free
Annotations	Highlight	Pink	Gen 7:24 Jamieson, Fausset, and Brown Commentary
Annotations	Highlight	Pink	Gen 7:24 HCSB Free
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	Gen 7:21 HCSB Free
Annotations	Highlight	Green	Gen 7:16 HCSB Free
Annotations	Highlight	Pink	Gen 7:15 HCSB Free
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	Gen 7:11 HCSB Free
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	Gen 7:6 HCSB Free
Annotations	Highlight	Pink	Gen 7:2 Jamieson, Fausset, and Brown Commentary
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	Gen 6:21 HCSB Free

Annotations	Highlight	Purple	Gen 5:32 Jamieson, Fausset, and Brown Commentary
Annotations	Highlight	Purple	Gen 5:5 Jamieson, Fausset, and Brown Commentary
Annotations	Highlight	Purple	Gen 7:2 NKJV Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible Notes
Annotations	Highlight	Purple	Gen 7:7 Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible
Annotations	Highlight	Pink	Gen 7:2-3 HCSB Free
Annotations	Highlight	Pink	Gen 6:14 The New Manners and Customs of the Bible
Annotations	Highlight	Purple	Gen 6:14 The New Manners and Customs of the Bible
Annotations	Highlight	Green	Gen 6:17 Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible
Annotations	Highlight	Purple	Gen 6:2 Jamieson, Fausset, and Brown Commentary
Annotations	Highlight	Purple	Gen 6:2 NKJV Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible Notes
Annotations	Highlight	Green	Gen 6:4 NKJV

Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	Gen 4:14 Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible
Annotations	Highlight	Purple	Gen 4:7 Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible
Annotations	Highlight	Pink	Gen 4:5 Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	Gen 3:22-23 HCSB Free
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	Gen 3:17 HCSB Free
Annotations	Highlight	Pink	Gen 3:22 Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible
Annotations	Highlight	Purple	Gen 3:16 Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible
Annotations	Note		Gen 3:7
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	Gen 3:7 HCSB Free
Annotations	Note		Gen 3:6 HCSB Free
Annotations	Highlight	Green	Gen 3:6 HCSB Free
Annotations	Note		Gen 3:6 HCSB Free
Annotations	Note		Gen 3:5 HCSB Free
Annotations	Highlight	Purple	Gen 3:5 HCSB Free
Annotations	Highlight	Pink	Gen 3:6 Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	Gen 3:6 Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible

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Annotatio ns	Highlight	Yellow	Gen 3:2 Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible
Annotatio ns	Highlight	Yellow	Gen 2:24 Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible
Annotatio ns	Highlight	Pink	Gen 2:24 Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible
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Annotatio ns	Highlight	Purple	Gen 2:18 Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible
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Annotatio ns	Highlight	Pink	Gen 2:20 HCSB Free
Annotatio ns	Note		Gen 2:19-20 HCSB Free

Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	Gen 2:17 Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible
Annotations	Highlight	Pink	Gen 2:17 Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible
Annotations	Highlight	Pink	Gen 2:9 HCSB Free
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	Gen 2:8 HCSB Free
Annotations	Highlight	Pink	Gen 1:27 Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible
Annotations	Highlight	Pink	Gen 1:5 Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible
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Annotations	Highlight	Pink	Gen 1:1 Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible
Annotations	Highlight	Pink	Gen 1:11 NKJV Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible Notes
Annotations	Highlight	Pink	Gen 1:1 NKJV Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible Notes
Annotations	Highlight	Pink	Jer 23:6 HCSB Free
Annotations	Highlight	Purple	Jam 1:14 HCSB Free
Annotations	Highlight	Green	Jn 17:17 HCSB Free
Annotations	Note		Jn 17:11 HCSB Free
Annotations	Highlight	Green	Jn 17:5 HCSB Free
Annotations	Note		Jn 17:4 HCSB Free
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Annotations	Highlight	Pink	Jn 17:2 HCSB Free
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	Isa 55:11 HCSB Free
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	Act 2:38-39 HCSB Free
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	2Ti 3:15 HCSB Free
Annotations	Highlight	Pink	Psa 119:99 HCSB Free
Annotations	Highlight	Pink	Exo 15:17 HCSB Free
Annotations	Highlight	Pink	Exo 15:13 HCSB Free
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	1Co 6:9-10 HCSB Free
Annotations	Highlight	Pink	1Co 6:8 HCSB Free
Annotations	Highlight	Purple	1Co 5:12-13 HCSB Free
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	Jn 14:16-17 ESV

Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	Psa 73:25-26 NKJV
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	Jn 1:1 Matthew Henry's Concise Commentary on the Whole Bible
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Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	1Pe 1:8 NIV
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	1Co 11:32 NIV
Annotations	Highlight	Pink	2Sa 6:22 NIV
Annotations	Highlight	Pink	Rom 11:6 NIV
Annotations	Note		Gal 5:12 NIV
Annotations	Highlight	Pink	Gal 5:2 NIV
Annotations	Highlight	Pink	1Th 4:16 NIV
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	1Th 4:8 NIV
Annotations	Highlight	Pink	1Th 4:4 KJV
Annotations	Highlight	Purple	Rom 8:2 KJV
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	1Co 15:4 KJV
Annotations	Highlight	Pink	1Co 15:3 KJV
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	Mat 7:1 Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible

Annotations	Highlight	Pink	Mat 7:1 Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible
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Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	Mat 7:1 Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible
Annotations	Note		Note Title
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	2Ki 18:5 KJV
Annotations	Highlight	Pink	2Ki 18:4 Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible

Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	"(The New Manners and Customs of the Bible) 10:21 DARKNESS THAT COULD BE FELT Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand toward the sky so that darkness will spread over Egypt - darkness tha
Annotations	Note		Isa 55:11 KJV
Annotations	Note		Exo 12:17 NKJV
Annotations	Note		Exo 12:9 KJV

Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	"(Charles Spurgeon: Preaching Through Adversity) Causeless depression cannot be reasoned with, nor can David's harp charm it away by sweet discourings. As well fight with the mist as with this shape
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	"(Charles Spurgeon: Preaching Through Adversity) It's even worse, he says, if the calculating observer is one of your deacons. "Thou shalt not yoke the ox and the ass together was a merciful precept:
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	"(Charles Spurgeon: Preaching Through Adversity) He typically read six substantial books a week and could remember what he read and where to find it"
Annotations	Note		"(Charles Spurgeon: Preaching Through Adversity) Calvinism"
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	"(Charles Simeon: Meditations on the Life) Repentance is in every view so desirable, so necessary, so suited to honor God, that I seek that above all. The tender heart, the broken and contrite spirit
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	"(Charles Simeon: Meditations on the Life) just as Aaron confessed all the sins of all Israel whilst he put them on the head of the scapegoat"
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	"(Charles Simeon: Meditations on the Life) Simeon was utterly unlike most of us today who think that we should get rid once and for all of feelings of vileness and unworthiness as soon as we can."

Annotations	Book Ribbon		Title
Annotations	Highlight	Purple	"(Charles Simeon: Meditations on the Life) animadversion"
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	"(Charles Simeon: Meditations on the Life) The Blind Eye and the Deaf Ear." The"
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	"(Charles Simeon: Meditations on the Life) When historians list the character traits of the last third of twentieth century America, commitment, constancy, tenacity, endurance, patience, resolve and
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	"(Charles Simeon: Meditations on the Life) We are easily hurt. We pout and mope easily. We break easily. Our marriages break easily. Our faith breaks easily. Our happiness breaks easily. And our comm
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	"(Charles Simeon: Meditations on the Life) And one of the pervasive marks of our times is emotional fragility"
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	"(Charles Simeon: Meditations on the Life) We need help here. When you are surrounded by a society of emotionally fragile quitters, and when you see a good bit of this ethos in yourself, you need to
Annotations	Note		1Ti 3:12 ESV
Annotations	Note		1Ch 13:11 ESV
Annotations	Note		2Sa 6:13 NKJV

Annotations	Note		2Sa 6:7 NKJV
Annotations	Note		2Sa 6:7 Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	2Sa 6:7 Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible
Annotations	Highlight	Pink	2Sa 6:7 Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible
Annotations	Note		2Sa 6:7 Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	2Sa 6:7 Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	2Sa 6:7 Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible
Annotations	Note		2Sa 6:7-8 NKJV
Annotations	Highlight	Green	"(George Mueller's Strategy for Showing God) He was sustained in this extraordinary life by his deep convictions that God is sovereign over the human heart and can turn it where he wills in answer to

Annotations	Highlight	Highlighter	"(George Mueller's Strategy for Showing God) He was sustained in this extraordinary life by his deep convictions that God is sovereign over the human heart and can turn it where he wills in answer to
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	"(George Mueller's Strategy for Showing God) The aim of George Mueller's life was to glorify God by helping people take God at his word"
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	"(George Mueller's Strategy for Showing God) What is the food of the inner man? Not prayer, but the word of God; and . . . not the simple reading of the word of God, so that it only passes through ou
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	"(George Mueller's Strategy for Showing God) the secret of all true effectual service is joy in God, having experimental acquaintance and fellowship with God Himself"
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	"(George Mueller's Strategy for Showing God) ut everything flowed from the soul that is first satisfied in the gracious, sovereign God"
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	"(George Mueller's Strategy for Showing God) The Lord never lays more on us," he said, "in the way of chastisement, than our state of heart makes needful; so that whilst He smites with the one hand,
Annotations	Highlight	Pink	"(George Mueller's Strategy for Showing God) Mueller did not think he had any biblical ground for being certain that God would spare his wife Mary. He admits that a few times in his life he was given

Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	"(George Mueller's Strategy for Showing God) the grace of faith is needed to believe that the Lord will give me the necessities of life, if I first seek the kingdom of God and His righteousness: for
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	"(George Mueller's Strategy for Showing God) but was the grace of faith that all Christians should have."
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	"(George Mueller's Strategy for Showing God) at rest." "I am satisfied with God." "All this comes from taking God at his word"
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	"(George Mueller's Strategy for Showing God) God is sovereign over life and death. If it is good for her and for me, she will be restored again. If not she won't." "My heart is at rest"
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	"(George Mueller's Strategy for Showing God) Therefore, if it is really good for me, my darling wife will be raised up again; sick as she is. God will restore her again. But if she is not restored ag
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	"(George Mueller's Strategy for Showing God) no good thing will he withhold from them that walk upright!"
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	"(George Mueller's Strategy for Showing God) He had read his Bible from end to end almost 200 times. He had prayed in millions of dollars (in today's currency) for the Orphans and never asked anyone
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	Col 2:23 ESV
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	Psa 80:17 NKJV

Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	Psa 80:17-19 NKJV
Annotations	Highlight	Pink	"(Charles Spurgeon: Preaching Through Adversity) And I would add, plead personally the Lord's purifying blood upon it too, because none of our best labors is untainted."
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	"(Charles Spurgeon: Preaching Through Adversity) Be yourself, dear brother, for, if you are not yourself, you cannot be anybody else; and so, you see, you must be nobody ... Do not be a mere copyist,
Annotations	Highlight	Highlighter	"(Charles Spurgeon: Preaching Through Adversity) Be yourself, dear brother, for, if you are not yourself, you cannot be anybody else; and so, you see, you must be nobody ... Do not be a mere copyist,
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	"(Charles Spurgeon: Preaching Through Adversity) One of the great perils of living under continual criticism is that this is a constant call for you to be other than what you are."
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	"(Charles Spurgeon: Preaching Through Adversity) I would say with Spurgeon that in the darkest hours it is the sovereign goodness of God that has given me the strength to go on--the granite promise t
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	"(Charles Spurgeon: Preaching Through Adversity) I tell you the story, brethren, because you sometimes may not understand your own experience, and the perfect people may condemn you for having it; bu

Annotations	Highlight	Pink	"(Charles Spurgeon: Preaching Through Adversity) Where that atmosphere begins to take over the pulpit and the church, defection from truth and weakness in holiness are not far behind"
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	"(Charles Spurgeon: Preaching Through Adversity) He characterized it like this: if a person raises a question to discuss, and another reads a relevant Bible verse, the class communicates, "Now we hav
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	"(Charles Spurgeon: Preaching Through Adversity) How do you do heart work when the heart is under siege and ready to fall?"
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	1Ki 13:3 NKJV Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible Notes
Annotations	Highlight	Pink	Mat 15:9 Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	Psa 60:8 NKJV Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible Notes
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	Psa 60:1 Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible
Annotations	Note		SODOMITES
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	Ezk 8:16 ESV
Annotations	Highlight	Pink	Ezk 13:10 NKJV Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible Notes
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	Ezk 13:10 NKJV Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible Notes

Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	Eph 6:14 Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	Eph 6:12 Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	2Pe 2:18 ESV
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	2Pe 2:12 ESV
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	2Pe 2:12 ESV
Annotations	Note		2Pe 2:9 ESV
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	2Pe 2:9 ESV
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	2Pe 2:2-3 ESV
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	2Pe 2:1 ESV
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	2Pe 1:21 ESV
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	2Pe 1:16 ESV
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	2Pe 1:10 ESV
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	2Pe 1:8 ESV
Annotations	Highlight	Green	Mal 2:6 ESV

Annotations	Highlight	Green	Mal 2:7 ESV
Annotations	Highlight	Purple	Mal 2:3 Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	Mal 2:11 NKJV Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible Notes
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	Mal 1:8 NKJV Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible Notes
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	Mal Intro ESV
Annotations	Highlight	Yellow	Eph 6:18-19 NKJV
Annotations	Highlight	Pink	Eph 5:2 NKJV

content	reference _start	reference _end
(Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible) How long had Sarah been in Abimelech’s house? (20:17–18) Apparently long enough for Abimelech to notice a disturbing pattern: Ever since she arrived, none of Abimelech’s wives were able to conceive.	Genesis:2 0:17	Genesis:2 0:17
(HCSB) 18 for the LORD had completely closed all the wombs in Abimelech’s household on account of Sarah, Abraham’s wife.	Genesis:2 0:18	Genesis:2 0:18
So I have to wonder how long Sarah was there that everyone realized everyone was barren because of her.	Genesis:2 0:17	Genesis:2 0:17
(Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible) Romans 2:11–16).	Genesis:2 0:3	Genesis:2 0:3
(Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible) In reality, though, people often fail at the same point more than once.	Genesis:2 0:2	Genesis:2 0:2
(Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible) Also, kings married for reasons other than youth and beauty. It signified power and wealth to have many wives. Or perhaps Abimelech hoped to establish a bond or treaty with the wealthy and powerful Abraham by marrying his sister.	Genesis:2 0:2	Genesis:2 0:2
Again, other non-human parts of creation suffered as a result of human sin	Genesis:1 9:25	Genesis:1 9:25
(HCSB) 25 He demolished these cities, the entire plain, all the inhabitants of the cities, and whatever grew on the ground.	Genesis:1 9:25	Genesis:1 9:25
(HCSB) But I can’t run to the mountains; the disaster will overtake me, and I will die.	Genesis:1 9:19	Genesis:1 9:19
(HCSB) 16 But he hesitated.	Genesis:1 9:16	Genesis:1 9:16
(Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible) Apparently Lot’s daughters had themselves been affected by their culture so that their consciences were not bothered by what they proposed.	Genesis:1 9:31	Genesis:1 9:31
(Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible) When forced to flee, he still preferred to stay in a neighboring town rather than follow God’s advice.	Genesis:1 9:26	Genesis:1 9:26
(NKJV Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible Notes) Such a comment is not suggesting they will really do that.	Genesis:1 9:8	Genesis:1 9:8
(NKJV Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible Notes) An alternative is that his suggestion implied a more subtle, “I would as soon have you violate my family members as violate those whom I have taken in and offered hospitality!”	Genesis:1 9:8	Genesis:1 9:8
(Jamieson, Fausset, and Brown Commentary) What a strange want of faith and fortitude, as if He who had interfered for his rescue would not have protected Lot in the mountain solitude.	Genesis:1 9:18	Genesis:1 9:18

(Jamieson, Fausset, and Brown Commentary) Apostolic authority has declared Lot was "a righteous man" (2Pe 2:8), at bottom good, though he contented himself with lamenting the sins that he saw, instead of acting on his own convictions, and withdrawing himself and family from such a sink of corruption.	Genesis:1 9:12	Genesis:1 9:12
(Jamieson, Fausset, and Brown Commentary) But he was gradually drawn in, dwelt in the city, and he and his family were connected with the citizens by marriage ties.	Genesis:1 9:3	Genesis:1 9:3
(The New Manners and Customs of the Bible) Lot sitting at the gate may have meant that he was an elder or judge in the city.	Genesis:1 9:1	Genesis:1 9:1
(Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible) He was asking for God to judge individuals.	Genesis:1 8:25	Genesis:1 8:25
(NKJV Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible Notes) all the people. Though the designation "œall"œ	Genesis:1 9:4	Genesis:1 9:4
(HCSB) Won't the Judge of all the earth do what is just?"œ	Genesis:1 8:25	Genesis:1 8:25
(HCSB) At the appointed time I will come back to you, and in about a year she will have a son.œ	Genesis:1 8:14	Genesis:1 8:14
(Jamieson, Fausset, and Brown Commentary) An inquiry about his wife, so surprising in strangers, the subject of conversation, and the fulfilment of the fondly cherished promise within a specified time, showed Abraham that he had been entertaining more than ordinary travellers (	Genesis:1 8:9	Genesis:1 8:9
(Jamieson, Fausset, and Brown Commentary) Animal food is never provided, except for visitors of a superior rank when a kid or lamb is killed.	Genesis:1 8:7	Genesis:1 8:7
(Jamieson, Fausset, and Brown Commentary) When the visitor is an ordinary person, the host merely rises; but if of superior rank, the custom is to advance a little towards the stranger, and after a very low bow, turn and lead him to the tent, putting an arm round his waist, or tapping him on the shoulder as they go, to assure him of welcome.	Genesis:1 8:2	Genesis:1 8:2
(The New Manners and Customs of the Bible) To serve such a rare delicacy to unexpected guests in the middle of the day showed that Abraham well knew who had come to visit him, for almost never was a meal eaten in the heat of the day (	Genesis:1 8:7	Genesis:1 8:7
(The New Manners and Customs of the Bible) His knowledge of the nature of his visitors is shown also by the fact that he apparently did not consider himself worthy to eat with them, and stood by and watched while they ate (Genesis 18:8).	Genesis:1 8:7	Genesis:1 8:7

(NKJV Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible Notes) Reference to "father"	Genesis:1 7:5	Genesis:1 7:5
(HCSB) Abram was 75 years old when he left Haran. 5 He	Genesis:1 2:4	Genesis:1 2:5
(Matthew Henry's Concise Commentary on the Whole Bible) No nation but that of the Jews can be sure from which of these seventy it has come.	Genesis:1 0:1	Genesis:1 0:1
(HCSB) 3 Every living creature will be food for you; as I gave the green plants, I have given you everything.	Genesis:9: 3	Genesis:9: 3
(HCSB) 13 In the six hundred and first year, in the first month, on the first day of the month, the water that had covered the earth was dried up. Then Noah removed the ark's cover and saw that the surface of the ground was drying. 14 By the twenty-seventh day of the second month, the earth was dry.	Genesis:8: 13	Genesis:8: 14
(HCSB) first day of the month, the tops of the mountains were visible.	Genesis:8: 5	Genesis:8: 5
(HCSB) 5 The waters continued to recede until the tenth month; in the tenth month, on the	Genesis:8: 5	Genesis:8: 5
(HCSB) 4 The ark came to rest in the seventh month, on the seventeenth day of the month, on the mountains of Ararat.	Genesis:8: 4	Genesis:8: 4
(Jamieson, Fausset, and Brown Commentary) a period of five months.	Genesis:7: 24	Genesis:7: 24
(HCSB) 24 And the waters surged on the earth 150 days.	Genesis:7: 24	Genesis:7: 24
(HCSB) 21 Every creature perished " those that crawl on the earth, birds, livestock, wildlife, and those that swarm on the earth, as well as all mankind.	Genesis:7: 21	Genesis:7: 21
(HCSB) 16 Those that entered, male and female of all flesh, entered just as God had commanded him. Then the LORD shut him in.	Genesis:7: 16	Genesis:7: 16
(HCSB) 15 Two of all flesh that has the breath of life in it entered the ark with Noah.	Genesis:7: 15	Genesis:7: 15
(HCSB) 11 In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month, on that day all the sources of the watery depths burst open, the floodgates of the sky were opened,	Genesis:7: 11	Genesis:7: 11
(HCSB) 6 Noah was 600 years old when the flood came and water covered the earth.	Genesis:7: 6	Genesis:7: 6
(Jamieson, Fausset, and Brown Commentary) and the reason was that their rapid multiplication was a matter of the highest importance, when the earth should be renovated, for their utility either as articles of food or as employed in the service of man.	Genesis:7: 2	Genesis:7: 2
(HCSB) 21 Take with you every kind of food that is eaten; gather it as food for you and for them.	Genesis:6: 21	Genesis:6: 21

(Jamieson, Fausset, and Brown Commentary) Moses does not here record their first-born sons, but only the succession from Adam through Seth to Abraham.	Genesis:5:32	Genesis:5:32
(Jamieson, Fausset, and Brown Commentary) We can, however, trace some of the important uses to which, in the early economy of Providence, it was subservient. It was the chief means of reserving a knowledge of God, of the great truths of religion, as well as the influence of genuine piety. So that, as their knowledge was obtained by tradition, they would be in a condition to preserve it in the greatest purity.	Genesis:5:5	Genesis:5:5
(NKJV Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible Notes) Nevertheless, the designation "clean"	Genesis:7:2	Genesis:7:2
(Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible) What did Noah and his family eat while in the ark? (7:7) People and animals originally ate a vegetarian diet (1:29-30). Noah stored up seeds, fruits and grains for the people and the animals to eat on the ark. After the flood, which destroyed all vegetation, Noah's family ate meat from animals born from those on the ark. In Genesis 9:3-4, God gives Noah permission to eat animal flesh.	Genesis:7:7	Genesis:7:7
(HCSB) 2 You are to take with you seven pairs, a male and its female, of all the clean animals, and two of the animals that are not clean, a male and its female, 3 and	Genesis:7:2	Genesis:7:3
(The New Manners and Customs of the Bible) It took Noah 100 years to build the ark - he was about 500 years old when he started (Genesis 5:32), and 600 years old when he finished (Genesis 7:6). (	Genesis:6:14	Genesis:6:14
(The New Manners and Customs of the Bible) The ark had a ratio (length x width x height) of 30 x 5 x 3. According to modern shipbuilders, this ratio represents an advanced knowledge of shipbuilding since it is the optimum design for stability in rough seas.	Genesis:6:14	Genesis:6:14
(Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible) Human wickedness had contaminated everything God had made (see Romans 8:20).	Genesis:6:17	Genesis:6:17
(Jamieson, Fausset, and Brown Commentary) Mixed marriages between parties of opposite principles and practice were necessarily sources of extensive corruption.	Genesis:6:2	Genesis:6:2
(NKJV Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible Notes) Gilgamesh is portrayed as two-thirds god and one-third man (Gilgamesh Epic, 1.48)	Genesis:6:2	Genesis:6:2
(NKJV) 4 There were giants on the earth in those days, and also afterward, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of men and they bore children to them. Those were the mighty men who were of old, men of renown.	Genesis:6:4	Genesis:6:4

(NKJV) 3 And the LORD said, "My Spirit shall not strive with man forever, for he is indeed flesh; yet his days shall be one hundred and twenty years."	Genesis:6:3	Genesis:6:3
(NKJV) 2 that the sons of God saw the daughters of men, that they were beautiful; and they took wives for themselves of all whom they chose.	Genesis:6:2	Genesis:6:2
(NKJV) 32 And Noah was five hundred years old, and Noah begot Shem, Ham, and Japheth.	Genesis:5:32	Genesis:5:32
(NKJV) 29 And he called his name Noah, saying, "This one will comfort us concerning our work and the toil of our hands, because of the ground which the LORD has cursed."	Genesis:5:29	Genesis:5:29
(NKJV) 22 After he begot Methuselah, Enoch walked with God three hundred years, and had sons and daughters.	Genesis:5:22	Genesis:5:22
(NKJV) one hundred and thirty years, and begot a son in his own likeness, after his image, and named him Seth.	Genesis:5:3	Genesis:5:3
(NKJV) them Mankind in	Genesis:5:2	Genesis:5:2
What was the indication that the offering was rejected?	Genesis:4:5	Genesis:4:5
(The A to Z Guide to Bible Signs and Symbols Understanding Their Meaning and Significance) In his Gospel, John also incorporated two sevenfold sets of "el am"		
(The A to Z Guide to Bible Signs and Symbols Understanding Their Meaning and Significance) The Gospel of John includes seven major miracles or signs that display the glory of God in Jesus (2:11, 18-19; 4:54; 6:2, 14, 26; 9:16; 12:18).		
(Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible) The dependence on God found in Seth's line is here contrasted with the proud self-reliance so characteristic of Cain's line.	Genesis:4:26	Genesis:4:26
(Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible) though some speculate that God may have created other human beings besides Adam and Eve).	Genesis:4:17	Genesis:4:17
What does he mean hide himself from God's presence?	Genesis:4:14	Genesis:4:14
(HCSB) 14 Since You are banishing me today from the soil, and I must hide myself from Your presence and become a restless wanderer on the earth, whoever finds me will kill me."	Genesis:4:14	Genesis:4:14

(Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible) Others speculate that God perhaps created other humans besides Adam and Eve; Cain could have been afraid of other races.	Genesis:4:14	Genesis:4:14
(Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible) a desire and a decision to do so by God's grace.	Genesis:4:7	Genesis:4:7
(Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible) It was not Cain's offering itself that was wrong; grain offerings and harvest offerings would later be legitimate expressions of worship. But God is pleased with a pure heart, which Cain's was not.	Genesis:4:5	Genesis:4:5
(HCSB) 22 The LORD God said, "Since man has become like one of Us, knowing good and evil, he must not reach out, take from the tree of life, eat, and live forever."	Genesis:3:22	Genesis:3:23
(HCSB) Because you listened to your wife's voice and ate from the tree about which I commanded you, "Do not eat from it":	Genesis:3:17	Genesis:3:17
(Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible) But the essence of Satan's deception was that it relied on partial truth. Though their experience expanded their knowledge, Adam and Eve did not achieve divinity or immortality.	Genesis:3:22	Genesis:3:22
(Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible) Others see desire as a source of conflict between husbands and wives, just as sin desires to dominate and control (	Genesis:3:16	Genesis:3:16
Not that they were blend befor but now they had a different understanding of things	Genesis:3:7	Genesis:3:7
(HCSB) 7 Then the eyes of both of them were opened,	Genesis:3:7	Genesis:3:7
The serpent said nothing to Adam.it does not even seem that - Eve said anything she simply gave it to him and he ate.	Genesis:3:6	Genesis:3:6
(HCSB) 6 Then the woman saw that the tree was good for food and delightful to look at, and that it was desirable for obtaining wisdom.	Genesis:3:6	Genesis:3:6
This shows us again why we must take every thought captive to the word of God! Granted, Adam and Eve did not have the printed word but they had the presence of God in the Garden. He spent time with them at the end of each day IT was a normal thing and they hid from him when they heard his usual approach	Genesis:3:6	Genesis:3:6
The enemy always tempts us with something we already have. All men had already been made like God!	Genesis:3:5	Genesis:3:5
(HCSB) 5 "In fact, God knows that when you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."	Genesis:3:5	Genesis:3:5
(Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible) He disobeyed without any sinister pressure from the serpent.	Genesis:3:6	Genesis:3:6
(Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible) Since Adam had walked and talked with God in the garden, some assume he wouldn't have been tricked as easily as one who was untaught.	Genesis:3:6	Genesis:3:6

(Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible) Spiritual death	Genesis:3:2	Genesis:3:2
(Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible) The second death	Genesis:3:2	Genesis:3:2
(Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible) They became spiritually dead in â€	Genesis:3:2	Genesis:3:2
(Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible) God intended that the fullest and most satisfying expression of two becoming one flesh would be found in the marital covenant.	Genesis:2:24	Genesis:2:24
(Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible) Sex is not technically necessary to create marriageâ€Joseph did not have sexual relations with Mary until after Jesusâ€™ birth, yet Matthew says they were married (Matt. 1:24â€25).	Genesis:2:24	Genesis:2:24
(Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible) Then, she was his partner in reproduction. God designed that both sexes, male and female, were needed to bring forth the human race.	Genesis:2:18	Genesis:2:18
(Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible) Often God himself is designated by the term helper or strength (see, for example, Psalm 33:20). God, therefore, made woman for the man as his partner in life.	Genesis:2:18	Genesis:2:18
(Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible) Often God himself is designated by the term helper or strength (see, for example, Psalm 33:20). God, therefore, made woman for the man as his partner in life.	Genesis:2:18	Genesis:2:18
(Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible) The word helper may more accurately mean a strength or a power, and thus women correspond to men.	Genesis:2:18	Genesis:2:18
(Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible) the Lord allowed Adam to come to the self-realization that he needed fellowship, friendship and intimacy from a creature corresponding to himself.	Genesis:2:18	Genesis:2:18
(Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible) While the animals and other creatures had been created in pairs,	Genesis:2:18	Genesis:2:18
(HCSB) but for the man no helper was found as his complement.	Genesis:2:20	Genesis:2:20
So it seems to me that Adam was created and put to work before Eve was created. I donâ€™t think God didnâ€™t realize none of the animals were like him, I think God waited until Adam realized that nothing was like him then God gave him something like him. Adams statement AT LAST indicates to me that when he saw Eve he immediately realized that finally, therewas someone like himself to relate to. He had named the animals but realized he could not communicate with them, they did not possess the same level of intelligence he did. There was no Dr. Dolittle situation, these animals [with the exception later of the serpent] did not talk back to him	Genesis:2:19	Genesis:2:20

(Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible) Devotion is real only when unfaithfulness is possible.	Genesis:2:17	Genesis:2:17
(Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible) God wanted human beings to love him freely but gave them the ability to resist him.	Genesis:2:17	Genesis:2:17
(HCSB) including the tree of life in the middle of the garden, as well as the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.	Genesis:2:9	Genesis:2:9
(HCSB) 8 The LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and there He placed the man He had formed.	Genesis:2:8	Genesis:2:8
(Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible) But God designed the whole of a person (body and soul) to reflect what he is like in many ways: intelligence, capacity to rule and live in relationship to him and fellow human beings.	Genesis:1:27	Genesis:1:27
(Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible) The Hebrew calendar calculates dates from sunset to sunset.	Genesis:1:5	Genesis:1:5
(Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible) Many understand the six days of creation to represent long periods of time, simply because 24-hour days were not created until the fourth day.	Genesis:1:1	Genesis:1:1
(Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible) It tells us that there is intelligence, meaning and purpose behind all existence. In other words, the word of God is seen in the method of creation as well as the source of creation (Psalm 33:6, 9; Heb. 11:3).	Genesis:1:1	Genesis:1:1
(NKJV Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible Notes) What is being created by God is a function whereby the land regularly and characteristically produces vegetation—the principle of fecundity whereby agriculture can exist and food can be grown.	Genesis:1:11	Genesis:1:11
(NKJV Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible Notes) In Mesopotamia one way to accomplish this was to name something, because a name designated a thing's function or role.	Genesis:1:1	Genesis:1:1
(HCSB) Yahweh Our Righteousness.	Jeremiah:23:6	Jeremiah:23:6
(HCSB) 14 But each person is tempted when he is drawn away and enticed by his own evil desires.	James:1:14	James:1:14
(HCSB) Sanctify them by the truth; Your word is truth.	John:17:17	John:17:17
What does it really mean that we may be one as He and the Father are one? Of the same mind and purpose or something more?	John:17:11	John:17:11
(HCSB) 5 Now, Father, glorify Me in Your presence with that glory I had with You before the world existed.	John:17:5	John:17:5
This too is how we can glorify Him, doing and completing the work He sent us to do	John:17:4	John:17:4
(HCSB) 4 I have glorified You on the earth by completing the work You gave Me to do.	John:17:4	John:17:4

(HCSB) 3 This is eternal life: that they may know You, the only true God, and the One You have sent “ Jesus Christ.	John:17:3	John:17:3
(HCSB) 2 for You gave Him authority over all flesh; so He may give eternal life to all You have given Him.	John:17:2	John:17:2
(HCSB) 11 so My word that comes from My mouth will not return to Me empty, but it will accomplish what I please and will prosper in what I send it to do.	Isaiah:55:11	Isaiah:55:11
(HCSB) Repent,	Acts:2:39	Acts:2:39
(HCSB) 15 and you know that from childhood you have known the sacred Scriptures, which are able to give you wisdom for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.	2 Timothy:3:15	2 Timothy:3:15
(HCSB) 99 I have more insight than all my teachers because Your decrees are my meditation.	Psalms:119:99	Psalms:119:99
(HCSB) 17 You will bring them in and plant them on the mountain of Your possession; LORD, You have prepared the place for Your dwelling; Lord, Your hands have established the sanctuary.	Exodus:15:17	Exodus:15:17
(HCSB) 13 You will lead the people You have redeemed with Your faithful love; You will guide them to Your holy dwelling with Your strength.	Exodus:15:13	Exodus:15:13
(HCSB) 9 Don’t you know that the unrighteous will not inherit God’s kingdom? Do not be deceived: No sexually immoral people, idolaters, adulterers, or anyone practicing homosexuality, 10 no thieves, greedy people, drunkards, verbally abusive people, or swindlers will inherit God’s kingdom.	1 Corinthians:6:10	1 Corinthians:6:10
(HCSB) 8 Instead, you act unjustly and cheat “ and you do this to believers!	1 Corinthians:6:8	1 Corinthians:6:8
(HCSB) 12 For what business is it of mine to judge outsiders? Don’t you judge those who are inside? 13 But God judges outsiders.	1 Corinthians:5:13	1 Corinthians:5:13
(ESV) 16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, 17 even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.	John:14:17	John:14:17

(NKJV) 25 Whom have I in heaven but You? And there is none upon earth that I desire besides You. 26 My flesh and my heart fail; But God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.	Psalms:73: 25	Psalms:73: 26
(Matthew Henry's Concise Commentary on the Whole Bible) All things were made by him, and not as an instrument.	John:1:1	John:1:1
(Matthew Henry's Concise Commentary on the Whole Bible) so was the Son of God sent in order to reveal his Father's mind to the world.	John:1:1	John:1:1
(NIV) 8 Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy,	1 Peter:1:8	1 Peter:1:8
(NIV) 32 Nevertheless, when we are judged in this way by the Lord, we are being disciplined so that we will not be finally condemned with the world.	1 Corinthians:11:32	1 Corinthians:11:32
(NIV) 22 I will become even more undignified than this, and I will be humiliated in my own eyes. But by these slave girls you spoke of, I will be held in honor.	2 Samuel:6: 22	2 Samuel:6: 22
(NIV) 6 And if by grace, then it cannot be based on works; if it were, grace would no longer be grace.	Romans:1 1:6	Romans:1 1:6
Did he just say, "all don't need to have no children?"	Galatians: 5:12	Galatians: 5:12
(NIV) 2 Mark my words! I, Paul, tell you that if you let yourselves be circumcised, Christ will be of no value to you at all.	Galatians: 5:2	Galatians: 5:2
(NIV) and the dead in Christ will rise first.	1 Thessalonians:4:16	1 Thessalonians:4:16
(NIV) 8 Therefore, anyone who rejects this instruction does not reject a human being but God, the very God who gives you his Holy Spirit.	1 Thessalonians:4:8	1 Thessalonians:4:8
(KJV) That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour;	1 Thessalonians:4:4	1 Thessalonians:4:4
(KJV) For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.	Romans:8: 2	Romans:8: 2
(KJV) And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:	1 Corinthians:15:4	1 Corinthians:15:4
(KJV) For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures;	1 Corinthians:15:3	1 Corinthians:15:3
(QuestSB) We have a moral responsibility to judge the behavior of others "but only if we are humbly aware that we will sometimes be dead wrong and never totally right.	Matthew: 7:1	Matthew: 7:1

(QuestSB) by the letter, not the spirit of the law.	Matthew: 7:1	Matthew: 7:1
(QuestSB) who judged others as if they themselves were beyond judgment.	Matthew: 7:1	Matthew: 7:1
(QuestSB) themselves	Matthew: 7:1	Matthew: 7:1
When our family is fighting, and the intercessor grows weary, come along side them, help them lean more on the rock Christ Jesus and left up their hands, support them, stay with them, pray with them, and help them as they are before the Lord on behalf of the nation. All they did was hold up his hands. Doesn't say they said anything..they were just there. Do only that which God tells you and nothing more. You don't always have to say anything I'd find anything to say. Got it!		
(KJV) He trusted in the Lord God of Israel; so that after him was none like him among all the kings of Judah, nor any that were before him.	2 Kings:18:5	2 Kings:18:5
(QuestSB) In this case, Nehushtan illustrates the tendency humans have to worship things God gives rather than to worship him alone.	2 Kings:18:4	2 Kings:18:4

<p>(The New Manners and Customs of the Bible) 10:21 DARKNESS THAT COULD BE FELT</p> <p>Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand toward the sky so that darkness will spread over Egypt - darkness that can be felt." Once the editor and his family were deep in a cavern in Georgia, and the guide told everyone that he was going to turn off the lights so they could experience true darkness. He warned everyone to stand still and not to panic, that the lights would be off for only a few seconds. When he turned off the lights, the darkness was so absolute that it literally could be felt - it pressed against your eyes as you strained to see a minuscule of light somewhere, and surrounded you like some black, living, thing. The increasingly heavy breathing of those in the cavern became the breathing of something monstrous drawing near. The impulse to panic was almost overwhelming and it took all your mental discipline to fight it. Seconds that were hours passed, and then somewhere in the dark there was a broken sob, and the guide turned the lights back on. There were great sighs of relief from everyone, and embarrassed grins on every face, for all had been afraid of this darkness that they had never before known. The darkness that God brought upon Egypt, so thick and heavy that it could be felt, was like that - a living darkness that swallowed the light and blinded every person and animal in the land. Fear and panic raced through Egypt and thousands of voices cried out and begged for help from Ra, their Egyptian god of the sun. But Ra could not help them, he had been challenged by Yahweh and found to be no god at all. This the Egyptians learned, and their fear of the God of the Israelites increased.</p>		
<p>The key here is "HIS word"</p>	<p>Isaiah:55:11</p>	<p>Isaiah:55:11</p>
<p>Interesting that God refers to people who have been under oppression as having armies. Is this like untapped potential because they never had to fight before? Or did they fight before? Where did they get their warrior skills that they used later?</p>	<p>Exodus:12:17</p>	<p>Exodus:12:17</p>
<p>Why did it have to be roasted? What is the significance of raw, boiled, or roasted?</p>	<p>Exodus:12:9</p>	<p>Exodus:12:9</p>

<p>(Charles Spurgeon: Preaching Through Adversity) "Causeless depression cannot be reasoned with, nor can David's harp charm it away by sweet discourings. As well fight with the mist as with this shapeless, undefinable, yet all-beclouding hopelessness ... The iron bolt which so mysteriously fastens the door of hope and holds our spirits in gloomy prison, needs a heavenly hand to push it back"</p>		
<p>(Charles Spurgeon: Preaching Through Adversity) It's even worse, he says, if the calculating observer is one of your deacons. "Thou shalt not yoke the ox and the ass together was a merciful precept: but when a laborious, ox-like minister comes to be yoked to a deacon who is not another ox, it becomes hard work to plough"</p>		
<p>(Charles Spurgeon: Preaching Through Adversity) He typically read six substantial books a week and could remember what he read and where to find it.</p>		
<p>So perhaps we have created our own monster to feed.... Why must we label eve thing? Our goal is Christ likeness...why donâ€™t we just say we are Christian? Calvin was a man like us who may have documented and explained things a specific way but it was, or should have been, the Gospel of Jesus Christ which is the power of salvation. Period! So I propose from this point forward, I am a Christian, not Pentecostal, non-denominational, Calvinist, Methodist, Catholic, or otherwise...just a Christian!!! I want to be like Christ!</p>		
<p>(Charles Simeon: Meditations on the Life) "Repentance is in every view so desirable, so necessary, so suited to honor God, that I seek that above all. The tender heart, the broken and contrite spirit, are to me far above all the joys that I could ever hope for in this vale of tears. I long to be in my proper place, my hand on my mouth, and my mouth in the dust. . . . I feel this to be safe ground. Here I cannot err. . . . I am sure that whatever God may despise . . . He will not despise the broken and contrite heart." (Moule, 133f)</p>		
<p>(Charles Simeon: Meditations on the Life) just as Aaron confessed all the sins of all Israel whilst he put them on the head of the scapegoat.</p>		
<p>(Charles Simeon: Meditations on the Life) Simeon was utterly unlike most of us today who think that we should get rid once and for all of feelings of vileness and unworthiness as soon as we can.</p>		

(Charles Simeon: Meditations on the Life) animadversion		
(Charles Simeon: Meditations on the Life) The Blind Eye and the Deaf Ear." The		
(Charles Simeon: Meditations on the Life) When historians list the character traits of the last third of twentieth century America, commitment, constancy, tenacity, endurance, patience, resolve and perseverance will not be on the list.		
(Charles Simeon: Meditations on the Life) We are easily hurt. We pout and mope easily. We break easily. Our marriages break easily. Our faith breaks easily. Our happiness breaks easily. And our commitment to the church breaks easily. We are easily disheartened, and it seems we have little capacity for surviving and thriving in the face of criticism and opposition.		
(Charles Simeon: Meditations on the Life) And one of the pervasive marks of our times is emotional fragility.		
(Charles Simeon: Meditations on the Life) We need help here. When you are surrounded by a society of emotionally fragile quitters, and when you see a good bit of this ethos in yourself, you need to spend time with people--whether dead or alive--whose lives prove there is another way to live. Scripture says, "Be imitators of those who through faith and patience inherit the promises" (Hebrews 6:12).		
Is. This referring to having only been married once or having only one wife not multiple wives as the culture may have allowed?	1 Timothy:3:12	1 Timothy:3:12
Angry at God or angry at himself? Given the follow up in 1 Chron14 where he confesses they did it wrong the first time, perhaps himself. If not, how do we put ourselves in a position to be mad with God when we don't do what He said???	1 Chronicles:13:11	1 Chronicles:13:11
This is what I call learning from his mistakes, carry it like the Lord said! God help us to learn and not repeat, especially when we're leaders and our actions can have such serious consequences as to cost someone their life.	2 Samuel:6:13	2 Samuel:6:13

Don't get too comfortable. Reminds me of Samson...he got too comfortable with his gift, anointing and calling. When he really needed it, his own choices and irreverent actions caused him to be without it. Do we become too comfortable with the gifts and anointing in our life or someone else's life that we become irreverent about it or them? Do we mishandle what is in essence the presence of God?	2 Samuel:6: 7	2 Samuel:6: 7
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(QuestSB) had grown too familiar with the sacred object and consequently lacked appropriate reverence for it.	2 Samuel:6: 7	2 Samuel:6: 7
(QuestSB) his good intentions notwithstanding.	2 Samuel:6: 7	2 Samuel:6: 7
When leadership steers us wrong.	2 Samuel:6: 7	2 Samuel:6: 7
(QuestSB) God's instructions, they were all irreverent.	2 Samuel:6: 7	2 Samuel:6: 7
(QuestSB) When David and his 30,000 men moved the ark in a manner contrary to	2 Samuel:6: 7	2 Samuel:6: 7
This just reminded me again that God's ways are not like ours. He has a specific way He wants things done and we don't always understand the ramifications of NOT doing it His way. We don't understand the consequences and yet we get mad when we get the consequences. However, in this example, they all knew the Ark was to be carried, that's how it was built. Why did David get mad? Also makes me think of Cain and Able; don't be angry do what is right and be accepted. Lord teach us to handle Your things properly, to do things Your way, to be led by Your Spirit and not fulfill the flesh. Let us not try to help You! We can't.	2 Samuel:6: 8	2 Samuel:6: 8
(George Mueller's Strategy for Showing God) He was sustained in this extraordinary life by his deep convictions that God is sovereign over the human heart and can turn it where he wills in answer to prayer;		

<p>(George Mueller's Strategy for Showing God) He was sustained in this extraordinary life by his deep convictions that God is sovereign over the human heart and can turn it where he wills in answer to prayer;</p>		
<p>(George Mueller's Strategy for Showing God) The aim of George Mueller's life was to glorify God by helping people take God at his word.</p>		
<p>(George Mueller's Strategy for Showing God) What is the food of the inner man? Not prayer, but the word of God; and . . . not the simple reading of the word of God, so that it only passes through our minds, just as water runs through a pipe, but considering what we read, pondering over it, and applying it to our hearts.</p>		
<p>(George Mueller's Strategy for Showing God) the secret of all true effectual service is joy in God, having experimental acquaintance and fellowship with God Himself.</p>		
<p>(George Mueller's Strategy for Showing God) But everything flowed from the soul that is first satisfied in the gracious, sovereign God.</p>		
<p>(George Mueller's Strategy for Showing God) The Lord never lays more on us," he said, "in the way of chastisement, than our state of heart makes needful; so that whilst He smites with the one hand, He supports with the other." In the face of painful circumstances he says, "I bow, I am satisfied with the will of my Heavenly Father, I seek by perfect submission to His holy will to glorify Him, I kiss continually the hand that has thus afflicted me."</p>		
<p>(George Mueller's Strategy for Showing God) Mueller did not think he had any biblical ground for being certain that God would spare his wife Mary. He admits that a few times in his life he was given "something like the gift (not grace) of faith so that unconditionally I could ask and look for an answer," but he did not have that rare gift in Mary's case. And so he prayed for her healing conditionally--namely, if it would be good for them and for God's glory. But most deeply he prayed that they would be satisfied in God whatever he did. And God did answer that prayer by helping Mueller believe Psalm 84:11. No good thing will God withhold. God withheld no good thing from him, and he was satisfied with God's sovereign will. All this, he says, "springs from taking God at his word, believing what he says."</p>		

(George Mueller's Strategy for Showing God) the grace of faith is needed to believe that the Lord will give me the necessities of life, if I first seek the kingdom of God and His righteousness: for there is a promise to that effect. Matthew 6:33.		
(George Mueller's Strategy for Showing God) but was the grace of faith that all Christians should have.		
(George Mueller's Strategy for Showing God) at rest." "I am satisfied with God." "All this comes from taking God at his word."		
(George Mueller's Strategy for Showing God) God is sovereign over life and death. If it is good for her and for me, she will be restored again. If not she won't." "My heart is at rest." "		
(George Mueller's Strategy for Showing God) Therefore, if it is really good for me, my darling wife will be raised up again; sick as she is. God will restore her again. But if she is not restored again, then it would not be a good thing for me. And so my heart was at rest. I was satisfied with God.		
(George Mueller's Strategy for Showing God) no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly."		
(George Mueller's Strategy for Showing God) He had read his Bible from end to end almost 200 times. He had prayed in millions of dollars (in today's currency) for the Orphans and never asked anyone directly for money. He never took a salary in the last 68 years of his ministry, but trusted God to put in people's hearts to send him what he needed. He never took out a loan or went into debt. And neither he nor the orphans were ever hungry. The eccentric pastor and orphan-lover was gone.		
(ESV) 23 These have indeed an appearance of wisdom in promoting self-made religion and asceticism and severity to the body, but they are of no value in stopping the indulgence of the flesh.	Colossians :2:23	Colossians :2:23
(NKJV) 17 Let Your hand be upon the	Psalms:80: 17	Psalms:80: 17

<p>(NKJV) man of Your right hand, Upon the son of man whom You made strong for Yourself. 18 Then we will not turn back from You; Revive us, and we will call upon Your name. 19 Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; Cause Your face to shine, And we shall be saved!</p>	Psalms:80: 17	Psalms:80: 19
<p>(Charles Spurgeon: Preaching Through Adversity) And I would add, plead personally the Lord's purifying blood upon it too, because none of our best labors is untainted.</p>		
<p>(Charles Spurgeon: Preaching Through Adversity) Be yourself, dear brother, for, if you are not yourself, you cannot be anybody else; and so, you see, you must be nobody ... Do not be a mere copyist, a borrower, a spoiler of other men's notes. Say what God has said to you, and say it in your own way; and when it is so said, plead personally for the Lord's blessing upon it". And</p>		
<p>(Charles Spurgeon: Preaching Through Adversity) Be yourself, dear brother, for, if you are not yourself, you cannot be anybody else; and so, you see, you must be nobody ... Do not be a mere copyist, a borrower, a spoiler of other men's notes. Say what God has said to you, and say it in your own way; and when it is so said, plead personally for the Lord's blessing upon it".</p>		
<p>(Charles Spurgeon: Preaching Through Adversity) One of the great perils of living under continual criticism is that this is a constant call for you to be other than what you are.</p>		
<p>(Charles Spurgeon: Preaching Through Adversity) I would say with Spurgeon that in the darkest hours it is the sovereign goodness of God that has given me the strength to go on--the granite promise that he rules over my circumstances and means it for good no matter what anyone else means.</p>		
<p>(Charles Spurgeon: Preaching Through Adversity) I tell you the story, brethren, because you sometimes may not understand your own experience, and the perfect people may condemn you for having it; but what know they of God's servants?</p>		

(Charles Spurgeon: Preaching Through Adversity) Where that atmosphere begins to take over the pulpit and the church, defection from truth and weakness in holiness are not far behind.		
(Charles Spurgeon: Preaching Through Adversity) He characterized it like this: if a person raises a question to discuss, and another reads a relevant Bible verse, the class communicates, "Now we have heard what Jesus thinks, what do you think?"		
(Charles Spurgeon: Preaching Through Adversity) How do you do heart work when the heart is under siege and ready to fall?		
(NKJV CBSB) The test of a prophet's veracity was whether or not the prediction came true,	1 Kings:13:3	1 Kings:13:3
(QuestSB) Worship can also be vain when it consists of a rote adherence to human rules and teachings"without honest, thoughtful, heartfelt praise to God.	Matthew: 15:9	Matthew: 15:9
(NKJV CBSB) Casting a sandal is a symbolic, legal gesture employed in those situations where a levir refuses to accept his responsibility to a widow. She in turn removes his sandal, the symbol of ownership and inheritance, and casts it at him. This signifies his loss of inheritance rights to the lands of his relative (	Psalms:60: 8	Psalms:60: 8
(QuestSB) But David's defeats were temporary, perhaps because he constantly sought God's favor in prayers such as these.	Psalms:60: 1	Psalms:60: 1
(ESV) 16 And he brought me into the inner court of the house of the Lord. And behold, at the entrance of the temple of the Lord, between the porch and the altar, were about twenty-five men, with their backs to the temple of the Lord, and their faces toward the east, worshipping the sun toward the east.	Ezekiel:8:1 6	Ezekiel:8:1 6
(NKJV CBSB) It reflects the tendency to hide structural problems with cosmetic solutions.	Ezekiel:13: 10	Ezekiel:13: 10
(NKJV CBSB) people delude themselves into believing that a wound is not serious or a wall is sturdy.	Ezekiel:13: 10	Ezekiel:13: 10

(QuestSB) How do we put on spiritual armor? (6:14-17) By daily absorbing Scriptural truth, living in obedience, sharing the gospel and trusting Christ. This spiritual armor will protect us from spiritual attack. Only when we overcome temptation in the spiritual realm can we play out that victory in the physical world.	Ephesians: 6:14	Ephesians: 6:14
(QuestSB) Spiritual warfare for believers, therefore, is fought in the mind, emotions and the will. Scriptural truth is our primary line of defense.	Ephesians: 6:12	Ephesians: 6:12
(ESV) 18 For, speaking loud boasts of folly, they entice by sensual passions of the flesh those who are barely escaping from those who live in error.	2 Peter:2:18	2 Peter:2:18
(ESV) which they are ignorant, will also be destroyed in their destruction,	2 Peter:2:12	2 Peter:2:12
(ESV) 12 But these, like irrational animals, creatures of instinct, born to be caught and destroyed, blaspheming about matters of	2 Peter:2:12	2 Peter:2:12
Implication being that the godly will have trials and the righteous will endure punishment	2 Peter:2:9	2 Peter:2:9
(ESV) 9 then the Lord knows how to rescue the godly from trials, and to keep the unrighteous under punishment until the day of judgment,	2 Peter:2:9	2 Peter:2:9
(ESV) 2 And many will follow their sensuality, and because of them the way of truth will be blasphemed. 3 And in their greed they will exploit you with false words. Their condemnation from long ago is not idle, and their destruction is not asleep.	2 Peter:2:3	2 Peter:2:3
(ESV) who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing upon themselves swift destruction.	2 Peter:2:1	2 Peter:2:1
(ESV) 21 For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.	2 Peter:1:21	2 Peter:1:21
(ESV) 16 For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty.	2 Peter:1:16	2 Peter:1:16
(ESV) 10 Therefore, brothers, be all the more diligent to confirm your calling and election, for if you practice these qualities you will never fall.	2 Peter:1:10	2 Peter:1:10
(ESV) 8 For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they keep you from being ineffective or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.	2 Peter:1:8	2 Peter:1:8
(ESV) 6 True instruction was in his mouth, and no wrong was found on his lips. He walked with me in peace and uprightness, and he turned many from iniquity.	Malachi:2: 6	Malachi:2: 6

(ESV) 7 For the lips of a priest should guard knowledge, and people should seek instruction from his mouth, for he is the messenger of the Lord of hosts.	Malachi:2:7	Malachi:2:7
(QuestSB) This word is addressed to the priests who were failing to fulfill their duties. The generation to come, having only seen the corrupt model, would likely continue in corrupt worship. Therefore, they too would be guilty, in need of rebuke. Spiritual leadership has greater responsibilities than we imagine. If leaders carry out their responsibilities faithfully, the people of God grow in their relationship to God; if leaders serve half-heartedly and unfaithfully, the people of God suffer.	Malachi:2:3	Malachi:2:3
(NKJV CBSB) The practice of deserting and divorcing Hebrew women for the purpose of marrying non-Hebrew women was probably motivated by economics, since intermarriage was a requisite for entering the well-established mercantile guilds of postexilic Palestine already in place when the Hebrews returned from exile.	Malachi:2:11	Malachi:2:11
that the burden of cultic and imperial taxation became so heavy that compromising the temple sacrificial rituals and ignoring the tithe requirements became a pragmatic solution for maintaining the barest standards of subsistence living in the face of persistent economic depression due to drought and blight (	Malachi:1:8	Malachi:1:8
Malachi, writing a short time later, called the people to repentance with respect to: the priesthood, which had become corrupt; worship, which had become routine; divorce, which was widespread; social justice, which was being ignored; and tithing, which was neglected. œ	Malachi:2:20	Malachi:2:20
praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saintsœ” and for me, that utterance may be given to me, that I may open my mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the gospel,	Ephesians:6:19	Ephesians:6:19
nd walk in love	Ephesians:5:2	Ephesians:5:2

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Holman Christian Standard Bible - Free Version (HCSB)	2022-05-03T07:34:37-04:00	2022-05-03T07:41:36-04:00	

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NKJV Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible Notes	2022-05-03T07:07:02-04:00	2022-05-03T07:07:03-04:00	
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Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible	2019-10-05T06:20:22-04:00	2019-10-05T06:20:22-04:00	
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The New Manners and Customs of the Bible	2018-08-22T06:53:42-04:00	2018-08-22T06:53:42-04:00	
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Charles Spurgeon: Preaching Through Adversity	2018-05-25T05:13:22-04:00	2018-05-25T05:13:22-04:00	
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Charles Spurgeon: Preaching Through Adversity	2018-05-25T05:02:17-04:00	2018-05-25T05:06:33-04:00	
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Charles Simeon: Meditations on the Life	2018-05-25T04:46:31-04:00	2018-05-25T04:46:31-04:00	

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Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible	2018-05-17T05:07:13-04:00	2018-05-17T05:07:13-04:00	
Quest Study Bible Notes: The Question and Answer Bible	2018-05-17T05:06:26-04:00	2018-05-17T05:06:46-04:00	
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George Mueller's Strategy for Showing God	2018-04-27T04:58:39-04:00	2018-04-27T04:58:39-04:00	
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George Mueller's Strategy for Showing God	2018-04-27T04:49:34-04:00	2018-04-27T04:49:34-04:00	
George Mueller's Strategy for Showing God	2018-04-25T05:32:24-04:00	2018-04-25T05:32:24-04:00	
George Mueller's Strategy for Showing God	2018-04-25T05:31:37-04:00	2018-04-25T05:31:37-04:00	
George Mueller's Strategy for Showing God	2018-04-25T05:30:46-04:00	2018-04-25T05:30:46-04:00	
George Mueller's Strategy for Showing God	2018-04-25T05:23:31-04:00	2018-04-25T05:23:31-04:00	

George Mueller's Strategy for Showing God	2018-04-25T05:22:48-04:00	2018-04-25T05:22:48-04:00	
George Mueller's Strategy for Showing God	2018-04-25T05:21:47-04:00	2018-04-25T05:21:47-04:00	
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George Mueller's Strategy for Showing God	2018-04-25T05:15:34-04:00	2018-04-25T05:15:34-04:00	
George Mueller's Strategy for Showing God	2018-04-25T05:15:06-04:00	2018-04-25T05:15:06-04:00	
George Mueller's Strategy for Showing God	2018-04-25T05:14:54-04:00	2018-04-25T05:14:54-04:00	
George Mueller's Strategy for Showing God	2018-04-25T05:10:50-04:00	2018-04-25T05:10:50-04:00	
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Charles Spurgeon: Preaching Through Adversity	2018-02-08T05:58:26-05:00	2018-02-08T05:58:26-05:00	
Charles Spurgeon: Preaching Through Adversity	2018-02-08T05:57:11-05:00	2018-02-08T05:57:11-05:00	
Charles Spurgeon: Preaching Through Adversity	2018-02-08T05:48:20-05:00	2018-02-08T05:48:20-05:00	
Charles Spurgeon: Preaching Through Adversity	2018-02-08T05:47:29-05:00	2018-02-08T05:47:29-05:00	

Charles Spurgeon: Preaching Through Adversity	2018-02-07T05:49:20-05:00	2018-02-07T05:49:20-05:00	
Charles Spurgeon: Preaching Through Adversity	2018-02-07T05:49:01-05:00	2018-02-07T05:49:02-05:00	
Charles Spurgeon: Preaching Through Adversity	2018-02-07T05:43:36-05:00	2018-02-07T05:43:36-05:00	
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	2017-11-03T05:01:20-04:00	2017-11-03T05:01:20-04:00	SODOMITES
English Standard Version (ESV)	2017-10-31T05:20:57-04:00	2017-10-31T05:20:57-04:00	
NKJV Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible Notes	2017-10-31T05:14:00-04:00	2017-10-31T05:14:00-04:00	
NKJV Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible Notes	2017-10-31T05:13:38-04:00	2017-10-31T05:13:38-04:00	

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English Standard Version (ESV)	2017-09-25T05:49:46-04:00	2017-09-25T05:49:46-04:00	
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NKJV Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible Notes	2017-09-14T05:54:12-04:00	2017-09-14T05:54:12-04:00	
NKJV Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible Notes	2017-09-14T05:47:05-04:00	2017-09-14T05:47:05-04:00	
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Genesis 20

From the tragedy of Lot's life we move on to another tragedy in the life of Abraham. Abraham's sin may not have been as serious as the failure of Lot, but we can hardly say that we make spiritual progress if we move from chapter 19 into chapter 20. Abraham's accountability was greater than Lot's because he knew God so much better.

It would make more sense if the record of chapter 20 could be placed earlier in Abraham's life, but there is no indication that there is a reversal of chronology. So we take it that these events took place after God had appeared to Abraham and Sarah to announce the coming birth of Isaac. Sarah was probably pregnant at this time.

Adam Clarke suggests that the destruction of the cities may have been such a depressive sight that the patriarch could not stand it any longer there. Abraham moved away from the Dead Sea area towards the South in the direction of the Negev desert. But the main story of this chapter plays in Gerar which is closer to the Mediterranean coast in Philistine country.

While in Gerar, Abraham tells the same lie as when he was in Egypt. Some critics therefore believe that this story is a double of chapter 12. There we read in vs.11-13 "As he was about to enter Egypt, he said to his wife Sarai, 'I know what a beautiful woman you are. When the Egyptians see you, they will say, 'This is his wife.' Then they will kill me but will let you live. Say you are my sister, so that I will be treated well for your sake and my life will be spared because of you.'" The settings of the two events are so different from one another, that this theory does not hold at all unless we allow for a major fraud in Scripture. We suppose that Abraham told the same story because he had the same fears. Abraham admits so much to Abimelech in vs.11.

Several questions pop up in relation to this account. It is hard for us to imagine that Abraham's life would be in danger because of the beauty of his ninety year old wife. But then the Bible tells us that Sarah lived to be one hundred twenty seven. So it is quite possible that at the age of ninety she was still a striking beauty.

The big problem though is the complete moral failure of Abraham at this point. It is as if his supernatural encounters have left no trace on his character.

In earlier stages the excuse has been that the Lord would not allow Abraham to be killed because of the promise of offspring. But now that Sarah is pregnant, Abraham may have thought that he had become disposable. If this is what Abraham thought, he must have ascribed a certain callousness to God, a callousness which he would have condemned in himself.

Abraham's second mistake was that he supposed that there was no fear of God among the Philistines. Gerar was not like Sodom. We get the impression that Abraham was received courteously since he was even treated well after the discovery of the fraud. It amazes us to see how much knowledge of God there still was in the land. Melkizedek and Abimelech may not have been the only ones to have a certain knowledge of the true God. The fact that Abraham had been on such good terms with Eshcoland Aner, as we read in ch. 14:13, indicates that these people may not have been the exception. The destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah may have given Abraham the idea that soon the whole country would be turned upside down because of similar conditions.

But the worst thing was of course Abraham's selfishness and his complete disregard for Sarah's safety and honor, which should have become even more important to him if Sarah was indeed pregnant. It may be significant that in this case it is Abraham who says "she is my sister" and not Sarah who says "he is my brother." Sarah may not have been willing to play the game any more, but Abraham forced her in to it.

Satan must have played a part in this also. He plays a part in every sin, but he would have been especially interested in letting Abimelech have sex with Sarah since that would have thrown doubt on the child she would bring into the world. And we see several times that the devil tries to cut the line which leads to the coming of the Messiah into this world. In the days of Esther he tries to exterminate the whole Jewish race. And after the captivity in the days of Ezra and Nehemiah, he entices the returned captives to intermarry with the heathen nations, so that the Jewish identity would be wiped out. He had the same purpose in the days of Malachi. From Malachi 2:11,14,15 we understand that the coming of the Messiah according to the line God promised was endangered by Israel's practice of divorcing their Jewish wives and marrying heathen ones. The last belated effort was of course the massacre of the infants in Bethlehem.

Probably none of these thoughts played through Abraham's head at this time. His only concern was his own safety. How truly, says the author to the Hebrews, the fear of death makes us slaves of the devil. Heb.2:15 - "And (Jesus came to) free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death."

We do not know any of the details of what happened. Abraham must have had an audience with Gerar or with some one of his officials, maybe even with Sarah present. So Abimelech heard of Sarah and sent for her. There seems to have been no remonstrance from Abraham's side. Yet the whole atmosphere of the chapter seems to be one of respect for Abraham; there is nothing that sounds life-threatening. **The lie seems to have been a matter of routine.**

Verse 3 through 8 recount Abimelech's dream in which God warns him of the impending judgment. In the dream we find a mixture of moral concepts that are both acceptable and unacceptable to us. Adultery is presented as a deadly sin,

but nothing is said about polygamy. Even in the New Testament we do not find any condemnation and then only implicit, of polygamy. In I Tim 3:2 Paul says: "Now the overseer must be above reproach, the husband of but one wife, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach." It is this implied condemnation that makes us understand that a Christian should only be married to one women.

It would of course be quite wrong to built a dogma favoring polygamy based on an omission in these verses. But it strikes us as strange that polygamy is one of the "gray" areas of the Bible.

Another strange thing is the lack of condemnation of Abraham's sin. **The dream only condemns Abimelech.** It is true that it is his dream and his conscience. Here again we cannot draw the conclusion that God's chosen ones would be free to sin as they please. **The key to understanding this dilemma is probably in the fact that God protected Sarah and Isaac, not so much Abraham.** Abraham told the lie in order to protect himself. His life may have been much more in danger by his telling of the lie than without it. Of this side of the problem we read nothing though. This chapter deals mainly with Abimelech, not with Abraham.

We do not read how long Sarah was in Abimelech's harem. As we read in connection with the similar incident at Pharaoh's court in chapter 12, the time of preparation for a woman who was to be led to the king could be quite lengthy. In this case we only read that God appeared to Abimelech in a dream "one night." This must have been at least several weeks after Sarah moved in to Abimelech's, **long enough to discover that a sickness was going around in the harem and maybe in the men's quarters too.**

As we said, God does not condemn Abimelech for his polygamy; but he warns him about the consequences of committing adultery. In verse 7 we read: "Now return the man's wife, for he is a prophet, and he will pray for you and you will live. But if you do not return her, you may be sure that you and all yours will die." There is a touch of irony in the fact that God sends Abimelech to Abraham to be prayed for. This must have pricked Abraham's conscience deeply. His deceit is exposed, and God orders him to pray for those whom he deceived so that they will be healed. It would have been impossible for Abraham to pray effectively without confessing his sin before God and probably before Abimelech first. As Ps 66:18 says: "If I had cherished sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened." Abraham needed as much healing as Abimelech, and God provided this for both of them through Abraham's prayer.

Abimelech's following conversation with Abraham in vs.9-15 is very interesting. The king asks for an explanation and Abraham gives a rather lame one. Here we learn that the arrangement between Abraham and Sarah had been made in the beginning of their marriage as they set out together to follow the Lord's call. Abraham's excuse here was that he thought there would be "no fear of the Lord

in this place." It turns out that Abimelech fears not only the Lord and obeys Him promptly but behaves more 'like a Christian' than Abraham. Verse 15 is proof of this: "And Abimelech said, 'My land is before you; live wherever you like.'"

The Bible gives no further explanation about the blood relationship between Abraham and Sarah. Abraham calls her the daughter of his father but not of his mother. In mentioning this, Abraham says to Abimelech that he did not really tell a lie. Adam Clarke asks the pertinent question: "What is a lie?" In the literal sense of the word Abraham was right in that he had not said anything that was not true. But in keeping part of the truth back Abraham meant to deceive. A lie is made up not only of words but of attitudes and intentions also. Obviously Abraham had lied to Abimelech. But the problem went much deeper. The lie had been part of Abraham's marriage ever since the beginning. Truth is first of all "truth in the inner parts," as David puts it in Psalm 51:6.

There are situations, however, when we are dealing with evil people, where telling the whole truth would endanger people's lives and bring about disaster. I have to think of cases during World War II where it would have meant the death of Jews if the Germans had been told the truth about Jews being hidden at certain places. Some Christians have been able to save lives without telling lies - and yet they did not tell the whole truth either. All the ethical applications of such things have never been worked out yet.

Abimelech's reaction is quite different from Pharaoh's. In Ch. 12:19,20 we read: "'Now then, here is your wife. Take her and go!' Then Pharaoh gave orders about Abram to his men, and they sent him on his way, with his wife and everything he had." But Abimelech wants Abraham to stay. Ch. 20:15 tell us: "And Abimelech said, 'My land is before you; live wherever you like.'" Abimelech must have seen something in Abraham that made him jealous. He may have had other, more down to earth reasons for his request too. It could be that Abraham's presence with his wealth and prestige would mean a boost to the image and economy of the country. Most likely Abimelech was afraid after what God had told him in the dream about Abraham. He may have thought that he would incur the wrath of the Lord upon himself and his people even further if he expelled Abraham.

It sounds ironic that Abimelech, speaking to Sarah, calls Abraham "your brother." There may be a whole world of ancient politeness hidden behind those words. In some cultures any reference to a marriage relationship cannot be mentioned by a man in front of a woman.

Another interesting feature is Sarah's public vindication. Abimelech pays a fine, much in the same way as some of the mountain tribes people in Irian Jaya would pay in similar cases. It makes one wonder if some of the same animistic superstitions that are customs in Indonesia were already alive here. Then Sarah is pronounced free of any blame in the affair although she is reported to have told the lie also according to verse 5. The only innocent party, according to the culture

of that time, was Abimelech; and he is the one who has to pay! If a comparison with the above mentioned tribal philosophy is correct, **Abimelech must have believed that Abraham could have used his spiritual powers to harm the Philistine king and his people.** If that is true, it would explain why Abraham is treated with so much respect. Pharaoh, who was considered a son of the gods himself, possessing spiritual powers, had no reason to fear Abraham, the Nomad. That is why Abraham was expelled from Egypt.

If the above is true, it shows how much the religion of Canaan had deviated from the truth, such as Abraham knew it. God was still known and there were pockets of true service to God as we found in the story of Melchizedek, but generally speaking; the God the Philistines knew was not the God Who had revealed Himself before in history. That is probably why four centuries later the moral practices of the Canaanites have made the country ripe for destruction. Prov.29:18 says: "Where there is no revelation, the people cast off restraint; but blessed is he who keeps the law." Mans' knowledge of God is dependent upon God's revelation.

Then Abraham prays for Abimelech, his wife and his concubines, and they are healed of their infertility. **As The Pulpit Commentary suggests, probably a sickness that was known to cause infertility had broken out in the king's palace.** It would have taken several months to discover that the women were barren and under the circumstances, with Sarah being probably pregnant, she could hardly have spent more than a couple of weeks in the king's harem, without giving birth or showing signs of pregnancy.

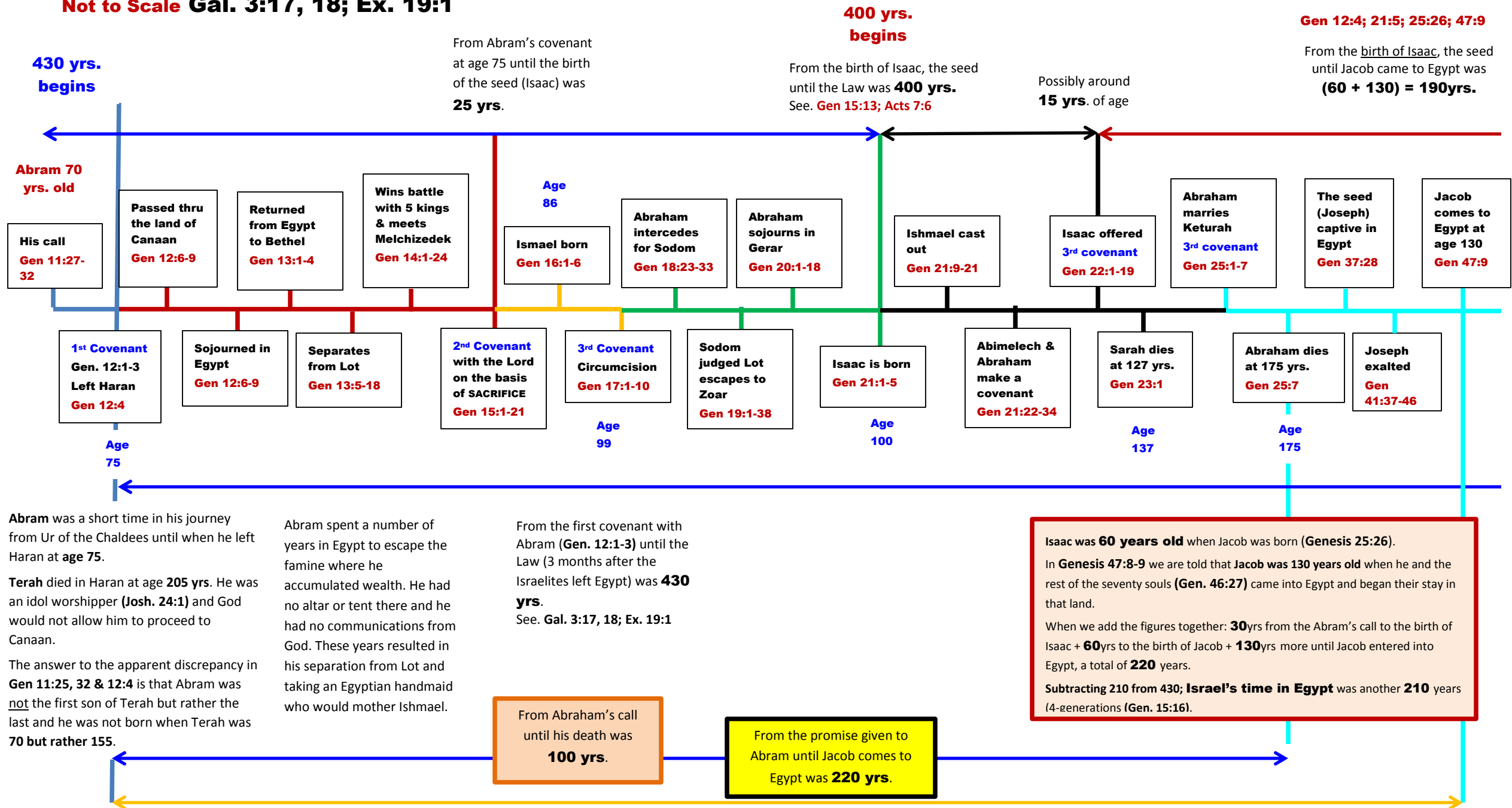
As we mentioned before, Abraham's prayer must have been a moral chastisement for himself. His relationship with God must have been broken during this episode. Abraham's prayer was meant to bring healing just as much to Abraham as to Abimelech.

Linked to this event is the treaty between Abraham and Abimelech, which is mentioned at the end of the next chapter.

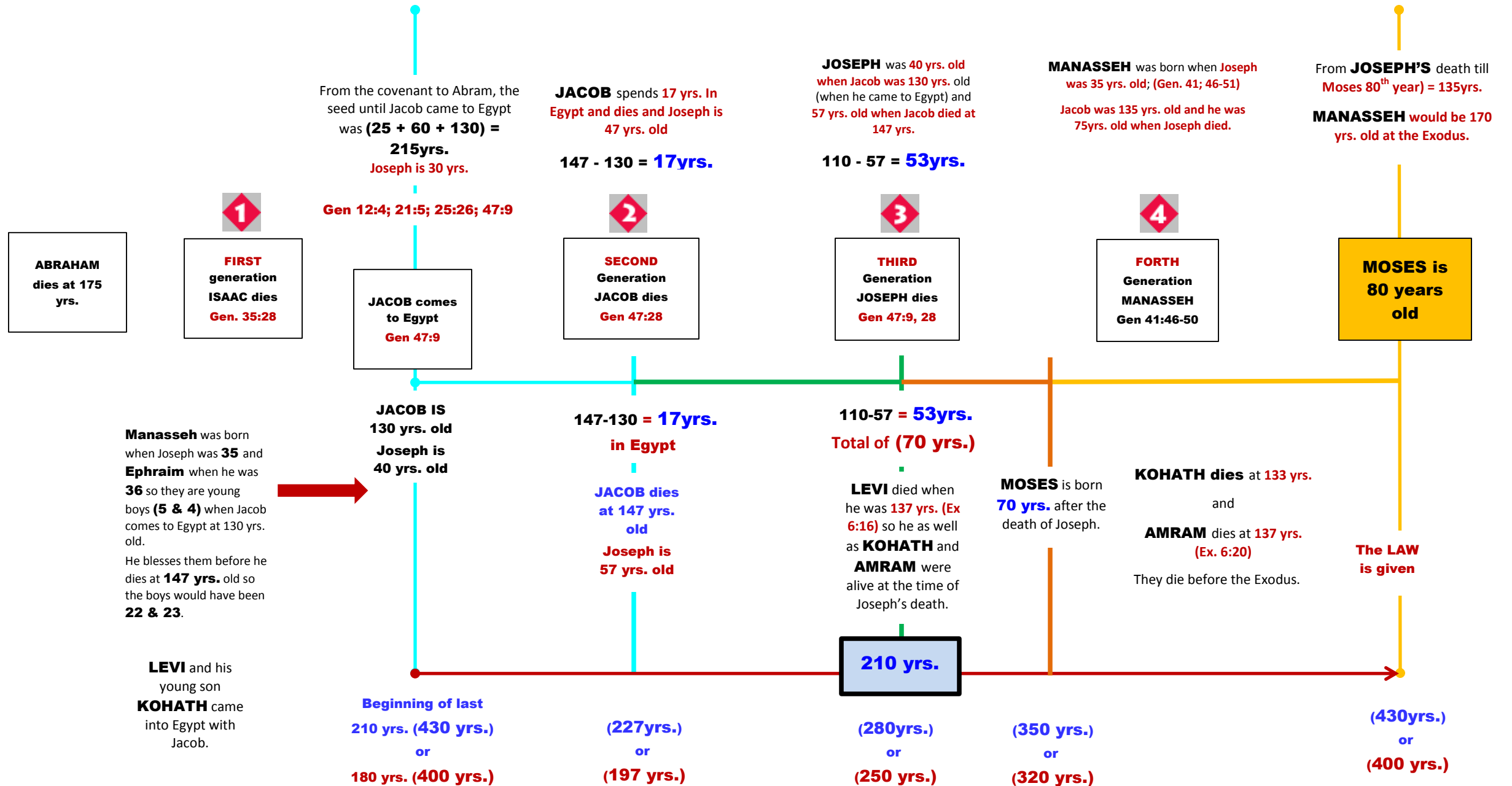
<https://www.bible-commentaries.com/source/johnschultz/genesis/20.html>

TIMELINE FOR ABRAM (ABRAHAM) from the promise given at age 70 (Gen. 12:1-4) until JACOB ARRIVES IN EGYPT - 220 YEARS

Not to Scale Gal. 3:17, 18; Ex. 19:1



TIMELINE FROM WHEN JACOB ARRIVES IN EGYPT UNTIL THE LAW - 2 YEARS - 4 - GENERATIONS (Genesis 15:16)



How Long Were the Israelites in Egypt?

Have you, like me, assumed the Israelites were in Egypt for 430 years? After all, the Scripture seems to clearly say that. Notice **Exodus 12 verses 40 and 41**.

*“Now the sojourning of the children of Israel, who dwelt in Egypt, [was] four hundred and thirty years. And it came to pass at the end of the **four hundred and thirty years**, even the selfsame day it came to pass, that all the hosts of the LORD went out from the land of Egypt.”*

So at first reading it sure seems to say they were there for 430 years. But, to make the situation seem even more confusing, notice what Abram was told in **Genesis 15:13**.

*“And he said unto Abram, Know of a surety that thy seed shall be a stranger in a land [that is] not theirs, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them **four hundred years**;”*

How long were the Israelites actually in Egypt? Was it 400 years, 430 years or possibly a different number of years?

There are a few other verses that contain vital information that will enable us to understand. One of those is **Galatians 3:17**.

This verse states, *“And this I say, that the covenant, that was confirmed before of God in Christ, the law, which was **four hundred and thirty years** after, cannot disannul, that it should make the promise of none effect.”*

This verse tells us the law, the 10 Commandments that were given at Mt. Sinai just 3 months after the departure from Egypt (**Exodus 19:1**), was *“four hundred and thirty years after”* after the making of the promise to Abram. That promise, as shown in **verse 18**, was the one made first with Abraham at age 70 before he left Ur of the Chaldees, and reconfirmed with him his son and his grandson. *“For if the inheritance [be] of the law, [it is] no more of promise: but God gave [it] to Abraham by promise”, Galatians 3:18*

We find that promise that God made with Abraham was confirmed to him in **Genesis 12: 1-3; 22:16-19**; to Isaac in **Genesis 26:3**; and to Jacob in **Genesis 28:13-15; Ps. 105:10**. Abram (later changed to Abraham) was **75 years old** when this covenant was confirmed at Haran. Twenty-five years later, when Abraham was 100 years old, Isaac was born (**Genesis 21:5**).

Isaac was 60 years old when Jacob was born (**Genesis 25:26**).

In **Genesis 47:8-9** we are told that Jacob was 130 years old when he and the rest of the seventy souls (**Gen. 46:27**) came into Egypt and began their stay in that land.

- **30 yrs.** from the Abram’s call to the birth of Isaac (100-70)
- **60 yrs.** to the birth of Jacob
- **130 yrs.** more until Jacob entered into Egypt

TOTAL 220 yrs. (See chart 1)

Subtracting 220 from 430 we find that the time in Egypt was another 210 years. (See chart 2)

But, what about the verse we read in **Genesis 15** mentioning 400 years? How is that reckoned? Notice that verse again. *“And he said unto Abram, Know of a surety that thy seed shall be a stranger in a land that is not theirs, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them **four hundred years.**”*

We find another account from Stephen, **Acts 7:6**. It states, *“And God spake on this wise, That his seed should sojourn in a strange land; and that they should bring them into bondage, and entreat them **evil four hundred years.**”*

Both verses very specifically indicate the four hundred years is to be regarding **“thy seed”** or **“his seed”**.

As we just read in Genesis 21 Isaac was born when **Abraham was 100 years old**.

Before we go through this let us go back to **Exodus 12:41**. It is stated in this verse that the event took place *“even the selfsame day.”*

The covenant with Abraham occurred on the very same day, **the 14th day of the first month at even**.

And, as we will see, **the sacrifice of Isaac** also was at the time of the later to be commanded Passover sacrifice.

It also appears that it was in the springtime when Jacob and his family entered Egypt to live there. Undoubtedly this event occurred on “the same day.” (**See Gen. 45:6**)

The day Isaac was “selected” to be the sacrifice I believe was the 10th day of the first month. That was the day the Passover lamb was to be selected (**Ex. 12:3**) and the same day Jesus Christ rode into Jerusalem and was “selected” by the Father (**see John 12:28**).

God does things on schedule at His appointed times. He had promised to take the descendants of Abraham from the land in which they would be **enslaved 430 years** after His promise to Abraham. And, we have seen that He was doing it EXACTLY to the very day. God had been very definitely watching and vigilantly working all events out so that it happened on His timetable.

God spoke to Moses from the *“burning bush.”* He said that He had seen the affliction of His people and *“I am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians...”* (**Ex. 3:8**)

He had not forgotten them and everything was on schedule per the time God had prophesied. He had prepared Moses. He had worked it out so that Moses would have the necessary training for the Exodus; acquired in the palace of Egypt and backside of the desert (40 + 40 yrs.)

Exodus 3:1 tells us that Moses kept the flocks of his father in law, Jethro, in *“the backside of the desert, and came to the mountain of God, even to Horeb.”* Horeb and Sinai are used almost interchangeably, although there is some discussion as to whether Horeb may have been the name of the mountain range and Sinai the specific mount. Nevertheless, it was in this very area that Moses had spent time with the flocks and had become very familiar with the territory.

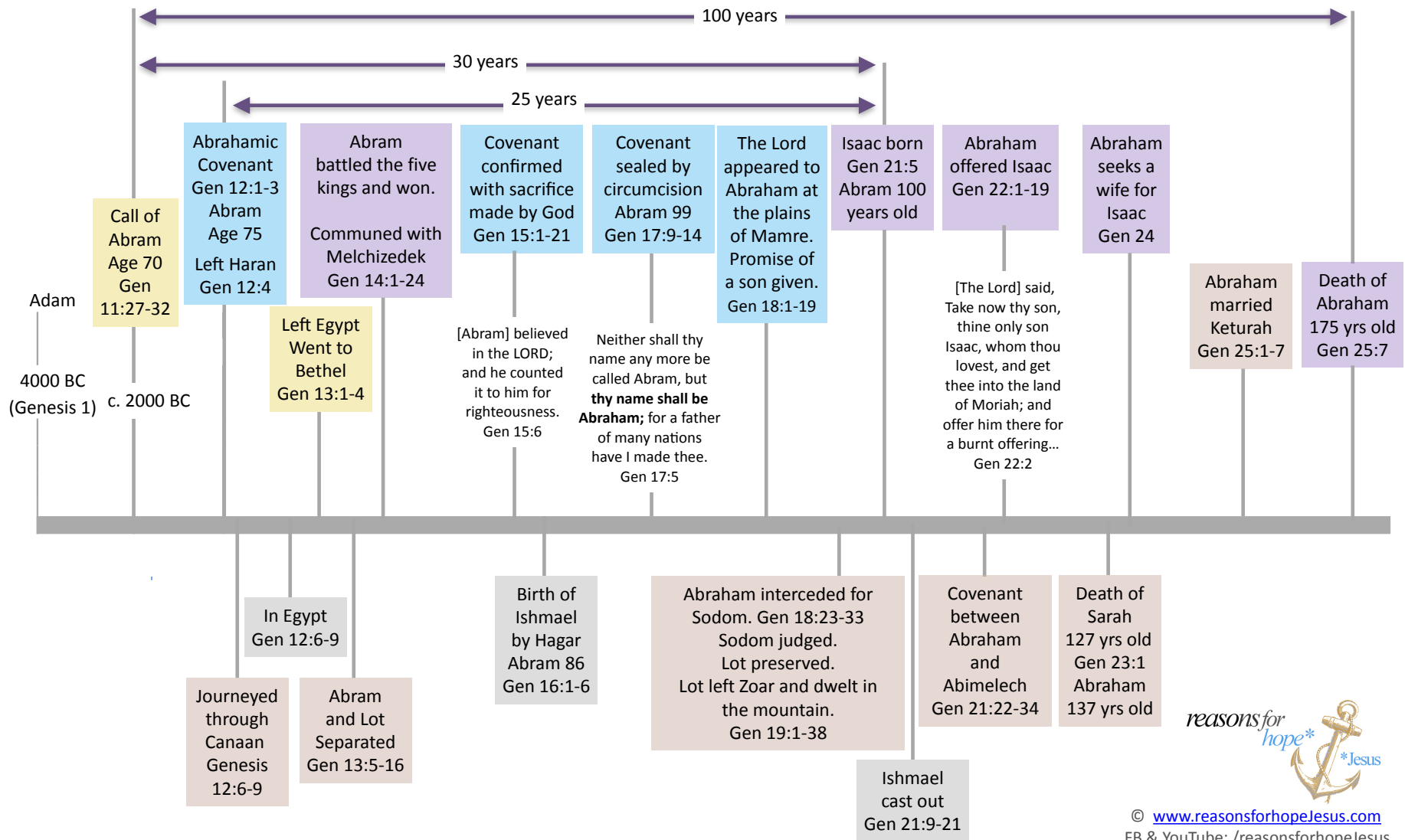
In addition to *“bringing Israel out of Egypt”* God also was committed to fulfill His promise to Abraham to judge *“that nation, whom they shall serve,”* (**Gen. 15:14**).

Also, He had promised that after He had done that, the people would *“come out with great substance.”* When God spoke to Moses from the burning bush He repeated this promise, that the people would be given favor in the sight of the Egyptians and they would *“not go empty.”* (**Ex. 3:21**)

It all came down to *“the selfsame day.”* (**Ex. 12:41**) What a marvelous and wonderful God who was continually vigilant and observing His people, who was working out ALL the many events that took place **over 430 years**. A magnificent God who had everything culminate on the exact day the 430 years, the 400 years and the last 210 years were up. It is the same for you and I beloved!

The Life of Abraham

Gen 12:1-3 Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will show thee: And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.



ABRAHAM'S TIMELINE

GEN 12:1

GEN 16:1

GEN 21:1

GEN 23:1

GEN 25:7

AGE 75 - GOD'S PROMISES

86 - ISHMAEL BORN

100 - ISAAC BORN

137 - SARAH DIES

175 - ABRAHAM DIES

