

HAGAR AND ISHMAEL  
(Genesis 16:1-16)

- I. Hagar's MARRIAGE to ABRAM (Gen. 16:1-3)
  - A. The WEAK FAITH of Sarai and Abram
    - 1. Recognized their ADVANCING AGE
    - 2. Acted according to THEIR OWN COUNSEL (cf. Prov. 3:5-6)
  - B. The DISOBEDIENCE of Abram (cf. Heb. 6:12; 10:35-36)
    - 1. Sought a human SOLUTION to a divine DIFFICULTY
    - 2. Compromised PRINCIPLE to achieve a desired END
      - a. SEVERAL examples of polygamous marriage that God ALLOWED
      - b. NO examples of polygamous marriage that was HAPPY
      - c. Lack of recorded REBUKE does not mean God CONDONED it
- II. Hagar's INSOLENT Toward SARAI (Gen. 16:4-6)
  - A. Hagar's CONCEPTION of a CHILD
  - B. Hagar's CONTEMPT toward her MISTRESS
  - C. Sarai's ACCUSATION against ABRAM
    - 1. INCORRECTLY fixed ALL BLAME on him
    - 2. CORRECTLY charged him with ULTIMATE responsibility (cf. 3:17)
  - D. Sarai's HARSH treatment of HAGAR

- III. Hagar's MEETING with the "ANGEL of the LORD" (Gen. 16:7-14)
  - A. He found her on the way BACK to EGYPT
    - 1. Called her "SARAI'S MAID" to address her PRIDE
    - 2. Commanded her to RETURN and SUBMIT
  - B. He promised her MANY DESCENDANTS
  - C. He promised she would BEAR a SON
    - 1. Told her to name him Ishmael, meaning "GOD HEARS"
    - 2. Said he would be a "WILD DONKEY of a man"
    - 3. Foretold PERPETUAL HOSTILITY
  - D. Hagar WORSHIPED the MESSENGER
    - 1. Recognized the IDENTITY of the LORD
    - 2. Recognized the OMNISCIENCE of the LORD
- IV. Hagar's DELIVERY of a SON (Gen. 16:15-16)
  - A. Indicates her SUBMISSION to the Lord's AUTHORITY
  - B. Indicates the TRUTHFULNESS of the Lord's WORD
  - C. Indicates the OBEDIENCE of ABRAM
    - 1. Named the boy on the basis of HAGAR'S WORD
    - 2. Received him as a SON