

THE BIRTH OF ISAAC
(Genesis 21:1-34)

- I. Abraham RECEIVES the Child of PROMISE (Gen. 21:1-7)
 - A. God proves His FAITHFULNESS (21:1-2)
 - B. Abraham demonstrates his OBEDIENCE (21:3-5)
 - C. Sarah REJOICES (21:6-7)

- II. Abraham EXPELS the Child of the FLESH (Gen. 21:8-22)
 - A. Isaac was WEANED (21:8)
 - B. Ishmael was MOCKING (21:9)
 - C. Sarah DEMANDED their EXPULSION (21:10; cf. Gal. 4:30)
 - 1. Distinguished between HER status and HAGAR'S
 - 2. Distinguished between Ishmael's and Isaac's SONSHIP
 - D. Abraham was DISTRESSED (21:11)
 - E. God told Abraham to do WHATEVER SARAH SAID (21:12-13)
 - 1. Necessary to establish Isaac in the COVENANT (cf. Rom. 9:7)
 - 2. Necessary to God's PLAN for Ishmael (cf. Gen. 25:13-15; Gal. 4:21-31)
 - F. Hagar DESPAIRED (21:14-16)
 - 1. She FAILED to GO where she was SENT
 - 2. She FAILED to BELIEVE God's PROMISE (cf. 16:10-12)

- G. God PROVIDED (21:17-21)
 - 1. He HEARD the cry of ISHMAEL
 - 2. He RESTATED His PROMISE
 - 3. He PROVIDED for their IMMEDIATE needs
 - 4. He SECURED their FUTURE

- III. Abraham Makes PEACE with Abimelech (Gen. 21:22-32)
 - A. Abimelech wanted an OATH of PEACE between them (**21:22-23**)
 - B. Abraham AGREED, but had a grievance over a WELL (21:24-30)
 - 1. Gently REBUKED him for WRONGDOING
 - 2. ACCEPTED his EXPLANATION
 - 3. Cleared the TITLE at his own EXPENSE
 - C. They RESOLVED the matter and made a COVENANT (21:31-32)

- IV. Abraham WORSHIPS the God of ETERNITY (Gen. 21:33)

- V. Abraham established a HOME where Isaac GREW UP (Gen. 21:34)

- VI. Paul's COMMENTARY (Romans 4, Galatians 3)
 - A. God attributed RIGHTEOUSNESS to Abraham by FAITH (Rom. 4:1-8)
 - 1. Before CIRCUMCISION (Rom. 4:9-12)
 - 2. Before the LAW (Gal. 3:16-18)
 - B. Abraham is the "FATHER" of all who BELIEVE (Rom. 4:11, 13-16; Gal. 3:7. 9)
 - C. Isaac was both the REWARD of faith *and* the RESULT of promise