

**Series "In The Beginning...God"**  
**"Promise Fulfilled"**  
**Genesis 21:1-21**  
**Study-45**

**Genesis 21:1-14**

**Genesis 21** The fulfillment of a promise God made to Abraham 25 years earlier. There is nothing more joyful when a promise comes to fulfillment. **Proverbs 13:12**

**Romans 4:19-22**

**The promise fulfilled brings a conflict between Ishmael and Isaac. The Flesh Versus The Spirit, Law Versus Grace! (Works Versus Faith)**

**Genesis 18-21 Records Details of Abraham's Family:**

**Thought Of Our Passage:** "Even When God's Plans And Promises Seem Impossible, He Fulfills Them - And Forgives Our Doubts And Fears."

- 1. Verses 1-7 Fulfillment Of The Promise:**
- 2. Verses 8-21 Conflict With The Promise:**

**1. Verses 1-7 Fulfillment Of The Promise:**

**Genesis 21:1 Then Context** - We left off in **Genesis 20**. Abraham went down to the capital city of the Philistines. The sin was a lie that Abraham and Sarah were brother and sister. Abraham could save his own neck. (Sarah in danger)

**Lesson In Faith: Only God Knows The Future: the LORD took note of Sarah as He had said,** (What had God said?) God made a promise to Abraham that went back 25 years. Sarah, at the time, was a "Baby Believer" at the age of 65 (now 90), and Abraham was 75 years of age (now 100).

**as He had said,**

God had called Abraham, knew his heart, and made Abraham a nation.

**Lesson In Faith: God's Promises Are Sure: and the LORD did for Sarah as He had promised.**

God did what He said He would do. **Genesis 17:17, 21 Genesis 18:10 at this time next year;** Sarah laughed – **Genesis 18:13-15**  
**Matthew 5:18**

**Genesis 21:2 Lesson In Faith: Only God Is All-Powerful: So Sarah conceived and bore a son to Abraham in his old age, Hebrews 11:11**

**Genesis 18:14 "Is anything too difficult for the LORD?"**

Gabriel came to Mary said, **Luke 1:37 "For nothing will be impossible with God."**

**at the appointed time of which God had spoken to him.**

God had appeared to Abraham and Sarah in **Genesis 17-18**.  
God said that in a year they would have a child.

**Lesson In Faith: God's Timing Is Always Perfect:  
at the appointed time of which God had spoken to him.  
(Our Disappointments are His Appointments)**

**Verses – 3-4 Abraham Obeys God's Word:**

**Genesis 21:3 Isaac** – "*Laughter*" God announced to Abraham and Sarah that they would have a son the next year. Sarah laughed, so God said his name would be called "*laughter, to laugh*" **Genesis 17:17-19; 18:12**

**Genesis 21:4** God had set a seal or a sign by which Abraham's descendants belonged to God, and Abraham obeyed. **Genesis 17:12**

**Lesson In Faith: God's Faithfulness Should Motivate Our Faithfulness And Obedience: Then Abraham circumcised his son Isaac**

Circumcision was a sign that the person belonged to Abraham's family.  
**Romans 4:11**

**Genesis 21:5 Genesis 18:19 "For I have chosen him, (Abraham) so that he may command his children and his household after him**

**Verses 6-7 Overjoyed Over God's Gift: Genesis 21:6 everyone who hears will laugh with me."** Sarah laughed – **Genesis 18:13-15**

Sarah was overjoyed over what the Lord has done.

God blessed her supernaturally with a child.

**Genesis 21:7** Who would imagine that a 90-year-old woman would be nursing a child?

**Yet I have borne him a son in his old age."** "It's the Lord!"

## **2. Verses 8-21 Conflict With The Promise:**

**Genesis 21:8 The child grew and was weaned,** Isaac about the age of 2-3.

**Lesson In Faith: We Should Celebrate God's Faithfulness:  
Abraham made a great feast on the day that Isaac was weaned.**

It was to celebrate the growth

Christians grow up through the milk of the Word, then transition to the meat of the Word. **Hebrews 6:1-2**

**Verses 9-19 Expulsion:**

**Genesis 21:9 Now** Things are going to change drastically!

**Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham,**  
This was Abraham's son Ishmael 16-17 **Genesis 16:16.**

**mocking.** *"to laugh at in an evil way, ridicule"*

**This mocking is much more than sibling rivalry.**  
**Galatians 4 Law and Grace, Flesh, and the Spirit.**

**The son Ishmael knew that Isaac was the son of promise (Heir). He had no respect for that promise and mocked or made fun of him.**

**Galatians 4:21-29**

**The problems began at the new birth of Isaac.**  
**Galatians 4:30-31**

We must receive salvation by faith in God's promise. **Ephesians 2:8-9**

**Lesson In Faith: Spirituality Is The Result Of A Spiritual Birth, Not Physical Birth:** Ishmael came through Abraham (Flesh) and was even circumcised. He still had an evil heart. He was mocking God. **John 3:6**

**Genesis 21:10 "Drive out this maid and her son, (Disinheriting)**

**Difficult as separation is at times, it must take place! Old Nature and Works (Ishmael, Hagar) must be cast out forever! Romans 7:18**

**Genesis 21:11 The matter distressed Abraham greatly because of his son.**

**Genesis 21:12 "Do not be distressed because of the lad and your maid;**  
(The Cross Is The Answer)

**whatever Sarah tells you, listen to her,**  
Abraham was in trouble because he listened to his wife.  
**Husbands need to listen to their wives;**

**for through Isaac your descendants shall be named.**  
(Spiritual, Not Natural. Faith, Not Works.) God's Covenant.

**Lesson In Faith: God's Will Can Be Extremely Difficult:**

It was the **only son** of Abraham that was to be the sacrifice.

**Genesis 21:13 "And of the son of the maid**  
That through Ishmael came the Arab people.  
**Genesis 16:10; 25:12-18** 12 Princes

**Genesis 21:14** (Uninhabited area)

**So Abraham rose early in the morning**, Abraham obeyed God

**1<sup>st</sup> Single Mother In Scripture: gave her the boy, and sent her away.**

In despair, with no place to turn. **Romans 13:14 (Hagar had God's promise)**

**Genesis 21:15-16 (Prayed) God wanted to bring them to the end of themselves—their dependence upon Him.**

**Genesis 21:17** The term **angel of God** – "*Theophany, Christophany, the appearance of Jesus prior to Bethlehem*" **Genesis 16:7 angel of the LORD**

**Do not fear, for God has heard the voice of the lad where he is.**

**"What is the matter with you, Hagar?** It is a reference to the promise made by God in **Genesis 16:10** that he would have many descendants. **Genesis 21:13**

**Genesis 21:18** Go and get him up because God had great plans for him.

**Genesis 21:19** Was the well always there and she missed it? Or did God create it

**Verses 20-21 Ishmael's Future: Genesis 21:20-21** It is during this period that Ishmael became a great nation of the Arabs (Noah Son Ham cursed). Sinai Peninsula.

### **Application:**

1. God's Fulfilled Promise To Abraham And Sarah, Regarding Isaac, Reveals God's Promises Are Sure, Only God Is All-Powerful, And God's Timing Is Always Perfect.
2. Regeneration (Born Again) Is Not The Change Of The Old Nature, But The Introduction Of The New Nature. Which Always Results In Conflict .
3. Difficult As Separation Is At Times, It Must Take Place!  
(Old Nature And Works, Ishmael, Hagar) Must Be Cast Out Forever: