

Lesson 3 September 25, 2024

Who IS That Woman?

Women in the Bible who got it right and those who didn't

Between Two Women

Genesis 12-23

1. _____ moved from her homeland (_____ in Mesopotamia/modern day Iraq) to Canaan with her husband Abraham (Abraham 75/Sarah 65) after he received a **call from the LORD**. The LORD promised Abraham He would make him into a **great nation, bless him, make him famous** (Genesis 12).
2. Life in Canaan, the Promised Land, was not easy because (1) Abraham was a _____; (2) Abraham and Sarah were _____ living among the Canaanites who had lived there for centuries; (3) _____ was a constant threat often necessitating a move to find food; (4) _____ often created issues pagan kings wanted her to be a part of their harems. She and Abraham often resorted to _____, saying that she was his sister; (5) _____ with his nephew Lot (Chs. 12-14, 20).
3. Throughout the first ten years of being in Canaan, the LORD had reassured Abraham that His promise was still good—that he would become a _____ and that a _____ would come from his own body, **but Sarah did not have those encounters with the LORD** nor was she promised she would be the _____. Consequently, she decided _____, following the custom of that day.
 - She insisted that Abraham have sex with _____, her Egyptian slave.
 - Hagar became pregnant and _____ erupted between the two women.
 - Sarah _____ Hagar causing her to _____ into the desert.
 - Hagar had an encounter with _____. He assured her that she would have a son, and his name would be _____.
 - The LORD commanded Hagar to _____ to Sarah and _____ to her. Hagar complied, and in a few months, **Ishmael** was born. Abraham was 86 years old (Chs. 15-16).

4. Thirteen years later (Abraham 99/Sarah 89), the LORD appeared to Abraham, telling him that He would indeed make him and Sarah _____.
Abraham laughed, knowing that he and Sarah were too old to conceive. He asked if Ishmael could have the covenant blessing. The LORD assured Abraham that he would bless _____, but Sarah would have a son named _____ (Ch. 17).

5. **Soon, three visitors (angels and the LORD) visited Abraham and Sarah, proclaiming that within a year Sarah would give birth to a son.** Listening from within the tent, Sarah _____ at such a preposterous idea. When she was confronted about her skepticism, she _____, denying she had laughed (Ch. 18).

6. Not long afterwards, Abraham and Sarah moved to Gerar. Once again, fearing for his life because of **Sarah's beauty**, Abraham and Sarah **lied** about their relationship, **putting Sarah in harm's way**. King Abimelech took Sarah into his harem, but God protected her by not allowing the king _____ (Ch. 20).

7. Sarah, age 90, gave birth to a son named Isaac which means _____ (Ch. 21).

8. However, a few years later at the celebration when Isaac was weaned, Sarah became _____ when she saw _____. She insisted that Abraham _____ Hagar and her son. Though **deeply distressed**, Abraham did as Sarah demanded. The LORD had assured him that **He would take care of Hagar and Ishmael**. (Ch 21).

9. Sometime later, God _____ Abraham, asking him to _____. However, when God saw Abraham's _____, He provided **another sacrifice**. Scripture does not indicate that **Sarah knew anything about this** (Ch. 22).

10. Sarah died at the age of _____. Abraham **bought a piece of property from the Hittites** and buried Sarah in **the cave of Machpelah** - the only property he ever owned in the Promised Land (Ch. 23).

What can I learn from Sarah?



"God's _____ is not our own, and we cannot measure his _____ by our clock or calendar." (Max Lucado in *Ten Women of the Bible*)



"We take one false step, **unsanctioned by God**; and when we begin to discover our mistake, we give way to **outbursts of wounded pride**. But instead of chiding ourselves, _____, whom we may have **instigated to take the wrong course**, and we **bitterly reproach them** for wrongs of which they at most were **only instruments**, whilst _____." (*Abraham or the Obedience of Faith* by F. B. Meyer)



God is _____. He keeps His promises. When doubt gets the best of me, I need to just _____. "Is anything too hard for the LORD?" (Genesis 18:13)

HOMework

Song: Keep Following Jesus **By:** Cain

Review: Review Genesis 12-23 and look for additional lessons we can learn from Sarah and Hagar.
Read: Genesis 24-27 about Rebekah