

— Genesis 16.1-6 —  
Genesis Series 47  
**Sarai, Abram, and Hagar**

Gn 16<sup>1</sup> Now Sarai, Abram's wife, had borne him no children. And she had an Egyptian maidservant whose name was Hagar. <sup>2</sup> So Sarai said to Abram, "See now, the LORD has restrained me from bearing children. Please, go in to my maid; perhaps I shall obtain children by her." And Abram heeded the voice of Sarai. <sup>3</sup> Then Sarai, Abram's wife, took Hagar her maid, the Egyptian, and gave her to her husband Abram to be his wife, after Abram had dwelt ten years in the land of Canaan. <sup>4</sup> So he went in to Hagar, and she conceived. And when she saw that she had conceived, her mistress became despised in her eyes. <sup>5</sup> Then Sarai said to Abram, "My wrong be upon you! I gave my maid into your embrace; and when she saw that she had conceived, I became despised in her eyes. The LORD judge between you and me." <sup>6</sup> So Abram said to Sarai, "Indeed your maid is in your hand; do to her as you please." And when Sarai dealt harshly with her, she fled from her presence.

\* **Abram & Sarai** are both in Faith's Hall of Fame (Hb11.8-11), but that doesn't mean they never \_\_\_\_\_.

\* **Their most** formidable and effective enemy was one within— \_\_\_\_\_ of faith while \_\_\_\_\_ on God's promises.

Hb 12<sup>3</sup> [Do not] become weary and discouraged in your souls ...  
<sup>12</sup> [S]trengthen the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees,  
<sup>13</sup> ... so that what is lame may not be dislocated, but rather be healed.

\* **With Abram**, the malady that weariness made him susceptible to was \_\_\_\_\_, which got the better of him in Egypt (Gn12.10-20).

\* **How old** are Abram & Sarai? (Gn16.3; 17.15-17, 21, 25)

\* **How long** did Sarai live, and about when did she likely leave childbearing years? (Gn23.1)

\* **How was** the view of children different then than now? What about the view of childlessness?

*Cf. Jn 9<sup>1</sup> Now as Jesus passed by, He saw a man who was blind from birth. <sup>2</sup> And His disciples asked Him, saying, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" <sup>3</sup> Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned, but that the works of God should be revealed in him."*

\* **What is** Sarai's frame of heart & mind when ch 16 opens? What gets the better of Sarai?

\* **What is** Sarai expressing in the 1<sup>st</sup> sentence of vs2?

*Vs 2 "[T]he LORD has restrained me from bearing children."*

\* **What custom** is she invoking in the 2<sup>nd</sup> sentence?

Vs 2 *“Please, go in to my maid; perhaps I shall obtain children by her.”*

\* **What is** Scripture signaling to us in vs 2-4?

Gn 3<sup>6</sup> *So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate.*

Gn 16<sup>3</sup> *Then Sarai ... took Hagar ... and gave her to her husband ... <sup>4</sup> So he went in to Hagar*

Gn 3<sup>17</sup> *Then to Adam He said, “Because you have heeded the voice of your wife”*

Gn 16<sup>2</sup> *And Abram heeded the voice of Sarai.*

\* **How does** Sarai’s plan turn out like Abram’s plan in Egypt?

\* **How does** Hagar react when she sees she is pregnant?

\* **How does** Sarai react to Hagar’s new attitude?

\* **How does** Abram react to Sarai?

\* **How does** Sarai treat Hagar, and how does Hagar react?

\* **What is** the end result of Sarai & Abram’s actions?

\* **Application:** How do we deal with weariness & discouragement of soul?

Gn 21<sup>1</sup> *And the LORD visited Sarah as He had said, and the LORD did for Sarah as He had spoken. <sup>2</sup>For Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age, at the set time of which God had spoken to him ... <sup>6</sup>And Sarah said, “God has made me laugh, and all who hear will laugh with me.”*

Hb 12<sup>3</sup> *[C]onsider Him who endured such hostility from sinners ... lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls ... <sup>6</sup>For whom the LORD loves He chastens, And scourges every son whom He receives.” ... <sup>11</sup>Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it. <sup>12</sup>Therefore strengthen the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees, <sup>13</sup>... so that what is lame may not be dislocated, but rather be healed.*

Ps 37<sup>1</sup> *Do not fret because of evildoers, Nor be envious of the workers of iniquity ... <sup>3</sup>Trust in the Lord, and do good; Dwell in the land, and feed on His faithfulness. <sup>4</sup>Delight yourself also in the LORD, And He shall give you the desires of your heart. <sup>5</sup>Commit your way to the LORD, Trust also in Him, And He shall bring it to pass. <sup>6</sup>He shall bring forth your righteousness as the light, And your justice as the noonday. <sup>7</sup>Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for Him; Do not fret because of him who prospers in his way, Because of the man who brings wicked schemes to pass. <sup>8</sup>Cease from anger, and forsake wrath; Do not fret—it only causes harm. <sup>9</sup>For evildoers shall be cut off; But those who wait on the LORD, they shall inherit the earth.*