

“Genesis 15–18”

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BIG SANDY, Texas—At our Bible study on Wednesday night, I gave a presentation titled “Genesis 15-18.” Here are some of the scriptures that I read.

God promised Abram a son

- Genesis 15:2-3—Abram told God: Since you have not given me a son, Eliezer of Damascus is heir of my house.
- Genesis 15:4-5—God told Abram: Eliezer will not be your heir because you will have a son—and your descendants will be like the stars.

Genesis 15:6—“And he believed in the LORD, and He accounted it to him for righteousness.”

Did you know that Genesis 15:6 is quoted three times in the New Testament? (Check it out in Romans 4:3, Galatians 3:6 and James 2:23.)

Sarai offered Hagar to Abram

- Genesis 16:1-2—Sarai recommended Abram impregnate Hagar (the Egyptian maidservant of Sarai).
- Genesis 16:4—After Hagar conceived, Sarai despised Hagar.
- Genesis 16:5—Sarai blamed Abram.
- Genesis 16:6—Abram told Sarai to handle it. When Sarai dealt harshly with Hagar, Hagar fled.
- Genesis 16:7-9—An angel told Hagar to return.
- Genesis 16:10-12—The angel told Hagar about the blessing involving Ishmael.

God repeated son promise to Abram

- Genesis 17:1-8—God called Abram the father of many nations and changed his name to Abraham.
- Genesis 17:9-14—God introduced the covenant of circumcision.
- Genesis 17:15-16—God called Sarai the mother of nations and changed her name to Sarah.

- Genesis 17:17—Abraham laughed at the idea of them having a child in their advanced years. (God did not hold this reaction against Abraham being called a man of faith.)
- Genesis 17:18—Abraham asked God if Ishmael could fulfill the covenant prophecy. (God did not hold this question against Abraham being called a man of faith and being mentioned in Hebrews 11.)
- Genesis 17:19—God assured Abraham that a son would be born, that his name would be Isaac and that the covenant would continue with Isaac.
- Genesis 17:20-21—God informed Abraham that He would bless Ishmael, but the covenant would be with Isaac.
- Genesis 18:11-12—Since Abraham and Sarah were past the age of having children, Sarah laughed internally.
- Genesis 18:15—Sarah denied laughing. (God did not hold this reaction against Sarah being mentioned in Hebrews 11.)

Abraham negotiated with God

- Genesis 18:16-21—God told Abraham about the coming destruction.
- Genesis 18:22-33—Abraham negotiated with God—starting with 50 people and finally getting down to 10 people.

Notice some of the interesting things that Abraham said to God.

Genesis 18:25—“Far be it from You to do such a thing as this, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous should be as the wicked; far be it from You! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?”

Genesis 18:30—“Let not the LORD be angry, and I will speak: Suppose thirty should be found?”

Genesis 18:31— “Indeed now, I have taken it upon myself to speak to the LORD: Suppose twenty should be found there?”

Genesis 18:32— “Let not the LORD be angry, and I will speak but once more: Suppose ten should be found there?”