

The Journey of Faith Genesis 16:1-19:38

I. Following Human Wisdom – 16:1-4

1. Faith falters with passing time – 1
God's promise is unfulfilled, Sarah is barren
She is evidently convinced this is permanent
2. Use a servant girl as a surrogate – 2-3
This was evidently acceptable in that culture
It seemed like the only alternative they had
3. Abraham agreed with this plan – 2-4
He listened to Sarah's counsel - 2
He took Hagar as a second wife - 3
The plan worked - Hagar was expecting - 4

II. Consequences of Choice – 16:4-16

1. Trouble in the Family – 4-6
Conflict between Hagar and Sarah - 4
Hagar looked down on her mistress Sarah
Sarah complained to Abraham – 5
Abraham told her to deal with her servant – 6
When she dealt harshly, Hagar ran away
2. God intervened & sent Hagar back – 7-14
God promised her son many offspring
He will be a wild man with much conflict
3. Ishmael born to Abraham at 86 – 15,16
God is merciful in dealing with Abraham

III. Divine Revelation – 17:1-22

1. God appears to Abraham at age 99 – 1
God's direction now set against human wisdom
2. God renews His covenant promises – 2- 8
God will multiply his seed exceedingly - 2
Abraham will be a father of many nations – 4, 5
His name is changed to reflect that promise
Kings will come from Abraham's line – 6
God's covenant is an everlasting covenant - 7
God will give the land to his seed forever – 8
3. Covenant sign is circumcision – 9-14
Every male 8 days old is to be circumcised
4. Sarah will be mother to a son – 15-19
Her name is also changed – 15,16
Abraham laughed at such a possibility – 17
Asked for Ishmael to be the chosen one - 18
God's covenant will be with Isaac – 19
Sarah will be the mother of Isaac
5. God will also bless Ishmael – 20-22
In response to Abraham's request - 20
Ishmael will father a great nation - 20
He will father 12 princes
6. But the covenant will be with Isaac - 21

Sarah will give birth to him next year – 21
God's revelation is ended - 22

IV. Fellowship with God – 18:1-33

1. The Lord visited with Abraham – 1-8
God & two angels appear in human form – 1-2
Abraham invited them to rest & eat with him – 3-8
2. Confirmed, Sarah will be a mother – 9-15
Sarah laughed at such an idea at her age
God assured that nothing is too hard for Him
3. Lord stayed to talk about Sodom – 16-22
Lord cannot hide His plan from Abraham – 16-21
Justice must prevail on such a wicked city
Two angels went on to the city of Sodom – 22
4. Abraham asked God for mercy – 23-33
God will not destroy righteous with the wicked
Abraham begins request with 50 righteous–24
God will spare for sake of the righteous – 25-26
He continues down to only 10 – 27-32
Undoubtedly he was concerned for Lot's family
Abraham sees how wicked the city is - 33

V. Justice falls on Sodom – 19:1-38

1. Angels come to rescue Lot's family – 1-3
2. Wickedness of city is clearly seen – 4-11
Sodomites try to attack the angels and Lot
3. Lot tries to persuade others to go – 12-14
He was unable to convince them
4. Angels hurry Lot out of the city – 15-23
They are slow to leave the city – 15-17
Lot asks for entrance to small city – 18-23
5. Judgment comes upon Sodom – 24-25
City of Gomorrah is included
6. Lot's wife turns into a pillar of salt - 26
She looked back on the city – note verse 17
She couldn't bear to leave the city
7. Abraham saw from God's perspective – 27-29
God was merciful to Lot for Abraham's sake
8. His daughters bare his children – 30-38
Impact of city on Lot's daughters
Moab and Ammon will fight with Israel later