

# Genesis 17:15-18:15 - Lesson 28

## Sarah and Isaac

### 1. 17:15-16

- a. 3 parts to God's visit "as for me", "thou shalt keep", "as for Sarai thy wife"
- b. The importance of Sarah and Isaac is introduced in this section - Isa 51:2
- c. Man and woman marriage is important because it honors the woman.
- d. Jehovah adds part of his name to theirs in this covenant: Abraham, and Sarah
- e. Sarah's name reflects her promise to be a mother of nations - Gal 4:26 & Ro 4:16-18

### 2. 17:17-27

- a. He pleads for Ishmael, and God blesses him, but names Isaac (laughter) as the heir
- b. God does not give it to Ishmael, because of his elect purpose - Rom 9:6-11
- c. "went up" - God leaves after the instructions, and returns when Abram obeys
- d. Why would his whole house submit to this? They were blessed through Abraham.
- e. What about women? They were not circumcised. Were they in the covenant? Sarah.
- f. God's people to perpetuate through circumcised males, women had a choice in this; it was after the shed blood of a man there would be a miraculous new birth

### 3. 18:1-8

- a. "The LORD appeared" - Another theophany, now with two angels.
- b. There is a difference between Abraham's life in the plain, and Lot's in the city.
- c. This is not the trinity of the Muslims or the Mormons, but God and two angels.
- d. Abraham prepares a table for the Lord (a picture of the kingdom?) as a servant.
- e. Angel food apparently is not the angel food cake, but they are like men - Lk 24:42
- f. Some have entertained angels unawares: all men, no wings - Heb 13:2

### 4. 18:9-15

- a. 18:10 - Abraham and Sarah were dead in their flesh, so they laughed - Rom 4:19-20
- b. Sarah here laughs within herself, but God knows - Heb 4:12, Psa 139:2, Jer 17:10
- c. Jesus freely exercised his deity attributes - Matt 9:4, John 1:47-49; 2:24-25; 1 Cor 4:5
- d. What he heard was Sarah calling Abraham lord - 1 Pet 3:5-6, Heb 11:11
- e. Abraham and Sarah both had faith in God, both were sinners, and both had doubts
- f. Laughter often follows when people hear God's purpose/plan.
- g. God's way seems foolish, but there is a purpose and it is wiser than men - 1 Cor 1:19, 27; 3:18-19
  - i. The LORD did not avoid trying to be laughed at.
- h. "is anything too hard for the LORD?" - He has shown his power already, but now in the mundane he shows his grace and miraculous ability.
- i. Sarah denies laughing, and the LORD calls her out on it; and shows her grace.
- j. Unbelief in God creates fools and cowards; faith in the LORD gives you strength.